



Sandfield Close Primary School



Summer 1 2026 Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a pleasure to see our pupils engaged in such a rich variety of enrichment activities this half term. From educational visits to special celebrations and visitors to school, our community has embraced every opportunity to broaden horizons and create memorable learning experiences.

Well done to Year 6 for showing resilience and commitment to their learning during SATs week.

As we approach the end of the academic year, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Khan, who will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. We are grateful for her commitment to our pupils and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

As we now enter the half term break, I encourage all families to enjoy this well-deserved rest and return to school refreshed and ready for the final half of the academic year. Thank you for your continued support.

*Kind regards
Mrs S Lad*

Playground Markings

The children in Reception and KS1 are enjoying our new playground markings; helping making playtime more fun.



Important Dates

- 25th – 29th May – Half Term Break
- 1st June – Year 4 MTC begins
- 8th June – Year 1 Phonics Screen Check begins
- 12th June – Year 5 Cossington Sharing Learning Afternoon
- 16th June - KS2 Sports Day -pm
- 17th June - Reception/KS1 Sports Day -pm
- 26th June – Reports to parents
- 1st July – Year 6 Transition Day and in school transition to meet new teacher
- 8th July – Year 6 Leaver's Performance to parents 2pm
- 10th July – Last day of term

New School Logo

In the new academic year, we will be launching our new school logo. As we continue moving forward with a renewed vision for our school and an exciting new chapter in our journey, we hope our new identity reflects our aspirations, values, and commitment to growth while continuing to uphold the principles that make our school community special.

Uniform Direct will begin stocking jumpers and book bags featuring the new logo from late June, and we will share further details with you as soon as we receive them.

We would like to reassure families that there is absolutely no expectation to purchase new logo uniform items immediately. Children can continue wearing their current jumpers and cardigans with the existing logo, and these will remain perfectly acceptable throughout next academic year and beyond. The change will be introduced gradually, allowing families to replace items naturally as children outgrow them.

Within school, you will also see the new logo introduced gradually across signage, letters, and other school materials over time. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



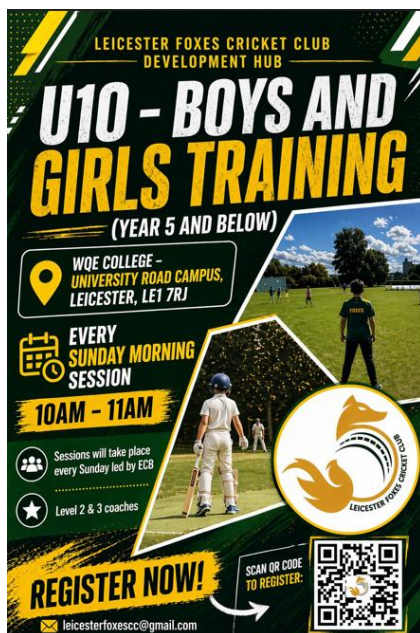
Attendance

How wonderful to see that every class has achieved over 95% this Summer half term. Well done to the Sunshine room for the best attendance figures.

Sunshine Room	99.1 %
Reception Bradgate	97.8 %
Year 1 Abbey	97.0 %
Year 2 Watermead	97.7 %
Year 3 Appleton	95.5%
Year 4 Victoria	97.0 %
Year 5 Beacon	96.1%
Year 5 Cossington	98.2 %
Year 6 Swithland	95.7 %

Green	Amber	Red
Attendance is 95% and above	Attendance is 91%-94%	Attendance is 90% and below

Cricket Opportunity



If your child (Year 5 and under) is interested in playing more cricket please see the flyer.

U10 Boys and Girls Cricket

At WQE College, LE1 7RJ

Every Sunday 10.00-11.00am

Space Centre Camp

The children in Year 5 enjoyed a spectacular night at the National Space Centre. They watched a live experiment show, explored the galleries, watched an amazing astronaut and tour of the night sky show in the planetarium and took part in a range of space themed activities. It was a wonderful experience for all sleeping in the galleries of this wonderful Leicester visitor attraction.



Culture Day

We celebrated culture day in school to promote understanding, respect and appreciation for diverse cultural backgrounds across the world. Each class learnt about a country and then went to another class to learn about another country. Some of the countries we looked at were Australia, Scotland, Jamaica, India, Mexico, France and Slovakia. A variety of activities took place including producing artwork, food tasting, traditional sports, making flags and researching famous landmarks.

It was lovely to see our children dress up in their cultural clothing too.



Dance Days

The children enjoyed a wonderful opportunity to have a company called Dance Days come into school and run a workshop with each class. We had an international dance theme linked to culture day. Children learnt dancing from Spain, New Zealand, USA Brazil and India.



School News

Bollywood Dancing After School Club

We are so grateful to Mrs Teli who has given up her time to run the after-school Bollywood dance club. The children are showing so much enthusiasm and having a great time learning the dance routine for 'Dance pe chance mar le'. We are looking forward to seeing them perform in assembly in June.



Vaisakhi Celebrations

On 14th April 2026, our Sikh community celebrated Vaisakhi. The children talked eagerly about going to the gurdwara and eating delicious samosas and jelebisi. In school we dressed up for this special festival.



Cheerleading Performance

What an achievement for our school cheerleaders.

Our school cheerleading club never stop, their most recent performance was in front of over 450 people over 2 sell out shows at Wreake Valley Theatre on Sunday 3rd May, part of the Dynamite cheerleader's annual show.

Since performing at Leicestershire county cricket last year, the team have been developing their skills and working extremely hard, with more exciting new stunts and learning 2 extra dance routines specially for the show. In total the team put together 3 routines.

The performance was show stopping. The audience was clapping along, and the smiles on everyone's faces made all the hard work worthwhile. The performers and parents back stage had a great time too. Everyone pulled together with costumes, hair and makeup to make sure everyone looked their very best.

We are very proud of all 15 members of our cheerleading club. As well as having a great time every Thursday at the after-school club they are constantly improving and working hard towards exciting performance opportunities within the local community.

If you would like to join our cheerleading club, please contact Amy on 07921768449.



The Sunshine Room

Welcome to the first half of the summer term in the Sunshine Room!

This term our learners have continued working on their curiosity, personal and social development and challenging themselves within the wider curriculum, connecting more with the world around them.



Handling baby chicks



Planting seeds



Save the earth!



Jamaica Day

Children have been learning about how to look after the earth by exploring the text "What a waste" by Jess French. They learned that there is too much waste being generated by people which is hurting the environment including the animals. They then explored different ways they could help the planet. They created posters and planned letters to persuade people to look after the earth and the creatures in it.

In Geography we continued learning about how wonderful our world is by looking at the physical and human geography features. We learned about the different seasons and how that impacts the changes in plants in the environment.

In Science we continued to encourage children's curiosity and enquiring minds. Children planted some radishes to compliment learning what plants need and how to care for them. They are also carrying out an investigation to see if seeds can grow into plants without light or water.

We joined in with the wider school to watch chicks hatch out of their eggs which were incubated in school. Everyone took great care in handling the baby chicks, asking questions and researching what they needed to live and grow.

Finally, we celebrated 'Culture Day' by exploring and learning about Jamaica – it's history, music, dance, language and food. Children danced, sang and ate Jamaican patties, watermelon, mangoes and looked at how coconuts were traditionally opened and eaten. We have had a great half term! Well done everyone.

Mrs Lynch and the Sunshine Room Team 😊

Reception – Bradgate Class

Bradgate Class have been learning all about the life cycle of a bean. The children learnt the different stages of planting a bean. First, they put some soil into a small plant pot, then they planted the bean, next the children sprinkled a little more soil on top of the bean, watered it and put it in the sunshine to grow. Bradgate class did a science experiment to see if the bean would grow in a bag on a wet paper towel without any soil. The class noticed that the bean started to germinate and were fascinated to see that the bean needed water but not any soil. As part of our healthy learning, we have been thinking about how vegetables help keep us fit and healthy. The children chitted potatoes and planted them in our class garden.



Our class had a wonderful day out at Stonehurst Farm. The children cuddled guinea pigs, fed the sheep, peeped over the fence at the lambs, visited Tina the calf and spotted the little piglets. It was really exciting seeing hens walking freely around the farm! We all went into the huge hen house and saw lots of chicks which was fantastic! The farmer allowed us to stroke the chicks, they were really fluffy and soft. Just before lunch. We went on a tractor ride and listened to a talk about the crops that were growing in the field.



Our class have been delighted with the new furniture in the room. We have got a brand-new kitchen. The children have been happily organising it, and cooking up some lovely food.



We had a wonderful culture afternoon! The children learnt some facts about India, listened to a story, practiced some fabulous bhangra dancing and tasted some Indian snacks.

Year 1 – Abbey Class

Sharing Learning Afternoon

Year 1 were delighted to welcome parents to our recent Sharing Learning afternoon. The children proudly showcased their Design and Technology work from our textile's unit, demonstrating how to make simple stitches. Parents also helped to support the children with their stitching, making the experience even more special. It was a lovely opportunity to celebrate learning together and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.



Stonehurst Farm Trip

Year 1 had a fantastic time on our trip to Stonehurst Farm. The children fed and observed a range of animals, learning about how they are cared for and asking thoughtful questions throughout the day. They enjoyed an informative talk about farm life and took an exciting tractor ride to a local crop field, where they saw how food is grown. A highlight for many was the cuddle corner, where they gently petted smaller animals. The children behaved brilliantly, showed great enthusiasm and represented the school wonderfully. It was a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone!



We also hatched
chicks this half
term!!



Year 2 – Watermead Class

Year 2 Assembly: A Sweet Adventure with Jampires!

Year 2 recently delighted us all with their fantastic class assembly, inspired by the much-loved story *Jampires* by Tracey Corderoy and Sarah McIntyre. The children's hard work, creativity and confidence truly shone through in a performance full of imagination and fun.

During the assembly, they used expressive voices, clear narration and wonderful teamwork to bring the story to life for the audience. Everyone was impressed with how confidently they spoke and how enthusiastically they took part.

As part of their performance, the children also shared some of the descriptive writing they have been working on in their English lessons. Inspired by *Jampires*, they used their imaginations to transform the story's world into a brand new setting—Chocoland! The *Jampires* even became *Chocopires*, creating a deliciously creative twist on the original tale.

In class, the children carefully explored how to write detailed setting descriptions. They thought about what they might see, hear, smell and taste in Chocoland, using ambitious vocabulary and imaginative ideas. From rivers of melted chocolate to mountains of cocoa powder, their descriptions were vivid and engaging. They then used these ideas to begin writing their own unique stories set in this magical world.

We are incredibly proud of Year 2 for their enthusiastic performance and the wonderful writing they have produced. Their assembly was a fantastic celebration of both storytelling and creativity—well done, Year 2!

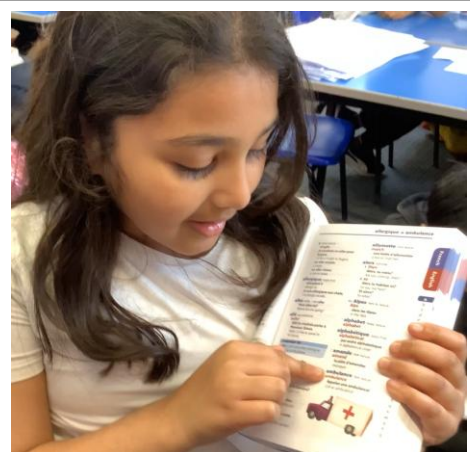


Year 3 Appleton

For their Geography topic, the children walked to Appleton Park. They looked at how the land is used. They spotted recreational, residential and commercial uses along the way. They also looked at modes of transport. They were able to make connections between the route planned on the OS map and route actually taken. They were very interested in the differences between how the land in their local area was used 100 years ago and how it is used nowadays.



On Culture Day, the children learned about France and Kenya. They learned some facts about both countries and enjoyed becoming Claude Monet during a 12-minute drawing challenge! They learned about the Channel Tunnel, and had countless questions about it! They used a dictionary to find some French words they didn't know they already knew!

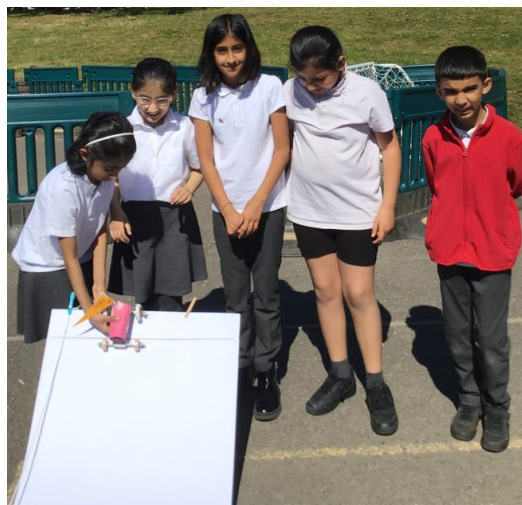


Year 4 Victoria

In Design technology, the children have been learning about how designers design, test and adapt their prototypes. They have researched construction methods and applied the ideas to their work. The first project was to design a cycle helmet for Hugzilla so that she could learn to ride a bike without hurting her head if she fell off. As you can see in the photos, she kept a close eye on the children's work! The children used papier mache to make the basis for their shell structure helmet.



Our second project in design technology was to design a toy car that could be assembled from a simple kit by a year four child. We also had a problem statement that said our car should be able to go the furthest distance possible using a ramp to power it. In groups, the children had great fun designing and testing their cars, trying to adapt the design so that it would go further each time they tested it. Finally, they added some decorations which would make it appeal to a year 4 child customer wanting to play with it. We enjoyed the whole process and have learnt a little about how the car industry works through our project.

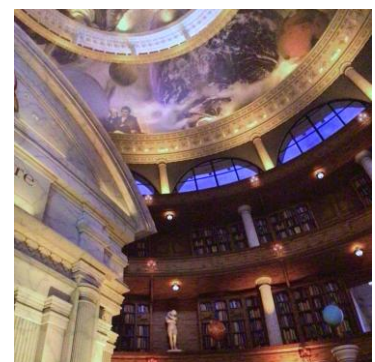


Year 5 Beacon

Beacon Class have had a very busy start to the final term of the year! For Culture Day this year, Beacon Class were given Scotland as our focus country. As it was P.E. day, we decided to hold our very own version of the Highland Games. Tossing the caber was an extremely popular event with some pupils managing to get two or three rotations of their 'caber' by the end! The children took part in several other events: shot put, hammer throw, team races and, the most popular event of all, the Tug-o-war. We ended our games with a whole class contest – it was fantastic fun!

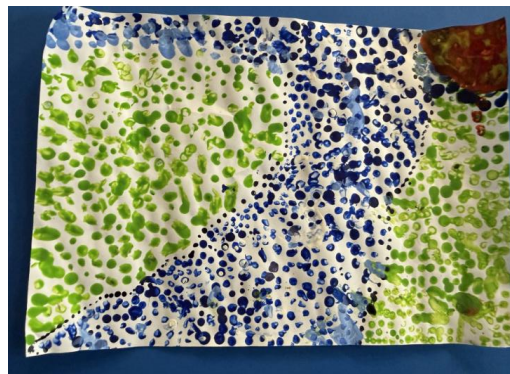


Year 5's Space Camp sleepover was a little different this year – instead of staying over at school, we spent the night at the fabulous National Space Centre! It was incredible! Scientist, David, gave a fascinating talk about rocket fuel, he even demonstrated how it works using a large plastic bottle, some fuel and a lighter. We spent some time in the gift shop, buying small presents for ourselves and our families, and we were able to explore all of the wonderful exhibits. The very best part of the night (apart from getting to sleep amongst one of the actual displays) was the awe-inspiring planetarium. We really felt as though we were flying through the stars!

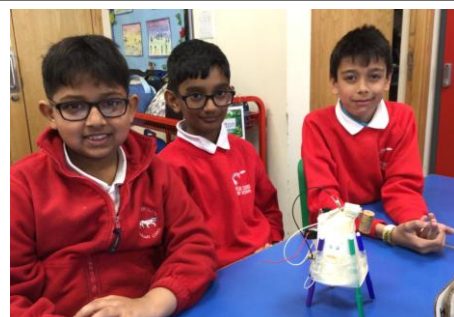


Year 5 Cossington

Cossington Class have had such a fabulous first half of the Summer Term and have produced some fantastic work, as well as showing so much enjoyment in some of the activities they have taken part in! For Culture Day, we looked at the country of Australia and specifically focused on Aboriginal Art and how they use dots to form their artwork. The class loved taking part in this activity and produced some beautiful artwork themselves inspired by this style



This term, in DT, the class created Doodlers! Using batteries and motors, they designed a doodler with paper cups and pens and they had so much fun. They were able to test out and investigate different designs to see which would work best before they created their own. They were so proud!

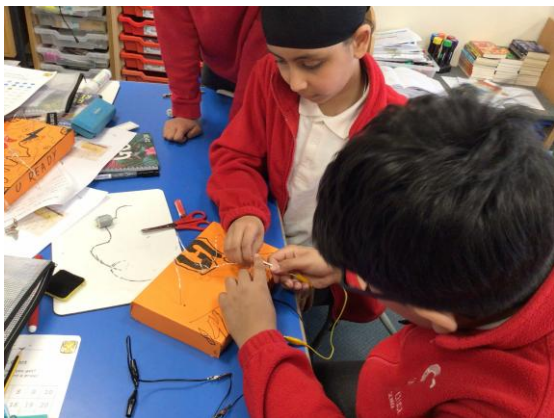


Year 6 – Swithland Class

In May, Year 6 children completed their SATs tests. They have worked incredibly hard through the year and we are so proud of them all. The children enjoyed some toast when they arrived to school in the morning, enjoyed sharing riddles and jokes after the tests and also completed some mindfulness art which helped them to destress and unwind.



In Design Technology, children designed and made their own 'Steady Hand Game'. They created the base of their game using card and decorated it to suit the theme of their game. They then used their scientific knowledge to help them create a circuit that would either buzz or light up when the wire shape of their game made contact with the wire loop.



SEND and Inclusion



As you are aware the Government are preparing to Legislate changes to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system, this is part of the schools White Paper; **Every Child Achieving and Thriving**. I thought it would be useful to support parents in having a better understanding of the SEND changes ahead.

What is changing overall?

The government is planning a **new, simpler SEND system** to help children get support **earlier and more easily**. These are in the planning stage and not fully in place yet.

What is new?

Individual Support Plans (ISPs):

Every child with SEND will have an **Individual Support Plan (ISP)** which is a **record** showing:

- Your child's needs
- What support they get day-to-day
- Parents and teachers will **view and update it together**.

What level of support will my child receive in school?

Most children will be supported in school through what we call the '**graduated system**' as follow:

1. **Universal support (for all children)** -Good teaching, calm classrooms, early help
2. **Targeted support** -Small group and 1:1 support (e.g. speech & language)
3. **Targeted Plus** -Support from specialists (e.g. Education psychologists, Specialist Teaching Service)
4. **Specialist support** -For pupils with complex needs (includes EHCPs)

What about EHCPs?

EHCPs are not being removed. They will still support children with **higher needs**. They will become **digital** and work alongside ISPs

Important: Most children will keep their EHCP until they are at least 16 years. There will be no changes to EHCP support before September 2030.

Will my child lose support?

No – there are protections in place to make sure 1) no child loses the support they need. 2) changes happen gradually and safely.

Will teachers receive more training?

Yes! All staff will be trained to support SEND pupils. The Government planned legislation includes funding to £200 million across all schools.

What are inclusion bases?

Spaces in mainstream schools for extra support can be used for:

Small group learning
Specialist teaching

What is 'Experts at Hand'?

This is a new service intended to give schools access to:

Speech Therapists
Education Psychologists

This service is designed to support children without always needing an EHCP.

When will this happen? There are no specific deadlines for all of the proposals but some have longer targets and may be delivered sooner. The goal is, **earlier help, clearer support and better access to specialists.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office for a discussion with the SENDCo.