



**Sandy Hill Academy**

*Aspiring to achieve, determined to succeed.*



# Half Termly Newsletter Autumn 2021 - 2022



**Sandy Hill  
Academy**



## Forthcoming events:

### **January**

**5th** Return to school for Spring Term

**12th** Year 1 Hearing Screening

**15th** Deadline for applications for reception class (Sept 2022)

**20th** Special Lunch Menu - Chinese New Year

### **February**

**8th** Special Lunch Menu - Hot Dog Day

**18th INSET** Day

**Half Term:** Monday 21st - Friday 25th February

### **March**

**1st** Special Lunch Menu - Cornish Pasty

**3rd** World Book Day - 25th anniversary

**3rd** Special Lunch Menu - World Book Day Story Burger

**21st - 22nd** Shakespeare Explorer Workshops (KS1 and KS2)

### **April**

**8th** End of Spring Term. Early finish at 2:00. (Kids Club open as normal).

### **Notifying change of circumstances**

Please tell us of any changes to you or your child's personal details (i.e name, address, telephone numbers, emergency contact details, medical details, email address or relationship change).

Certain changes may be updated directly via the Arbor Parent Portal, however if you have any difficulty please email the school office at: [hello@sandyhill.org.uk](mailto:hello@sandyhill.org.uk)

# Head of School Welcome



It's with great pleasure, I welcome you to our Autumn term newsletter - a super opportunity to share some photos and great memories from across this term. Recently we enjoyed celebrating nativity plays with you, inviting parents across KS1 and Early Years in to school to share this with us. Our KS2 nativities are available for you to enjoy on Google Classroom. We are equally as proud of all the children's performances, singing and enthusiasm for these special events - an abundance of true Sandy Hill STARS!

We have been keen to ensure our festive, fun Christmas events that usually happen in school at this time of year continue to be enjoyed with Christmas crafts, lunch, music, singing, dancing, games and jumper day all happening with lots of laughter all round - shared by staff and children alike! With a fantastic sense of community and Christmas spirit, we couldn't be more proud of our pupils; their Cornish phrases and translations, messages and cheery pictures delivered to local care homes as well as bringing smiles to faces of local residents who may be alone this Christmas. Our pupils have all been resoundingly positive and keen to spread their Christmas cheer.

Finally, on behalf of the entire staff team at Sandy Hill, I would like to wish all our pupils, and their families, a wonderful Christmas and a healthy, happy new year. Nadelik Lowen!





# Nursery - Acorn Class



HEALTHY MOVERS! 😊



OUR NATIVITY STARS! ☀️



VISITING OUR EARLY YEARS LIBRARY 📖



CORNWALL MUSIC TRUST WORKSHOPS! 🎵



FIRE BRIGADE VISIT 🚒



WATERCOLOUR ARTWORK 🎨

# Nursery - Acorn Class



What an exciting half term it has been in Acorn class! It has been wonderful to observe the children building confidence within our learning environment and with each other.

This half term we have had many fantastic experiences that have been wonderful opportunities to enhance the children's learning! It has been a busy half term full of celebrations too, including: Diwali, Christmas, Children in Need and Remembrance Day. Within our learning we have taken the time to talk about these special occasions and why they are important to remember.

The children have loved visiting our Early Years Library twice a week to choose a new book to take home and share with their families! This opportunity has been a great way for the children to share their love for stories.

We were very lucky to be able to experience a visit from the local Fire Brigade! The children heard about the role of Firefighters and how they help keep people safe. The children loved looking at a real fire engine too!

It was lovely to be able to invite families in this year to watch our Nursery Nativity performance! The children had been working really hard to practice their singing ready for the big day! All of the children did a fantastic job and should be very proud of themselves.

Well done Acorn Class - you have had another super half term in Nursery! We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



# Reception - Apple Class



FIRE ENGINE VISIT



CHOOSING OUR  
READING PETS



NATIVITY STARS



WE LOVE GUIDED READING



DIWALI DANCE WORKSHOP



CELEBRATING DIWALI WITH RANGOLI PATTERNS





# Reception - Cherry Class



NATIVITY STARS



FIRE SAFETY



HAVING A 'HOOT' WITH SCREECH  
OWL SANCTUARY



FESTIVE FUN



PUZZLES AND PLUDSEY





# Reception - Apple and Cherry Classes



What an exciting half term it has been in our Reception classes. It is lovely to observe the children building confidence within the setting and with each other.

This half term we have had many learning experiences that have captured the children's imaginations to foster the love of learning. It has been a half term of celebrations, with Diwali and Christmas, Children in Need and Remembrance. Within our learning we have taken the time to reflect on others and what these times mean for them.

We have been working on following our school rules. Working together and trying our best, showing respect for others and everything. We have been awarding a 'Star of the Week' certificate at school, to someone who has been a Sandy Star and shone.

The children are going from strength to strength with our reading and phonics. We have been working hard on our segmenting and blending skills and were thrilled to take home our reading pets, who we are enjoying reading to at home.

We have recently enjoyed a visit from the local Fire Brigade who explained their role in society. The children heard about the job that they do and how they help others. They even had the opportunity to look closely at the Fire Engine, exploring the different parts and their functions.

It was lovely to be able to invite families in this year to watch the Nativity performance. The children did a great job with singing and signing each song for the performance - all true Sandy Hill Stars!

All the adults in Apple and Cherry Class would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 🌟🎄🎅



# Year 1 - Chestnut Class



CHRISTMAS NATIVITY



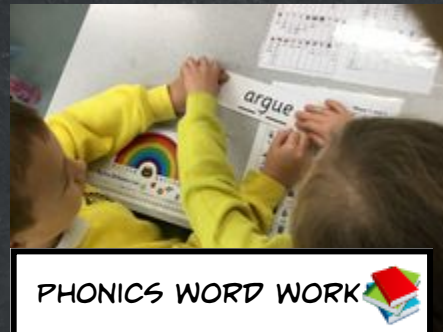
CINEMA TRIP -  
INTO FILM FESTIVAL



# Year 1 - Holly Class



ENJOYING OUR NEW  
READING PETS 🐶



PHONICS WORD WORK 📖



COIN SORTING



MAKING EQUAL GROUPS 12 34



CHILDREN  
IN NEED  
BAKE SALE 🍰



KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE  
ONLINE 💻

CELEBRATING ADDITIONAL  
HOME LEARNING 🍦



FABRIC PORTRAITS



OUR TRIP TO WATCH PAW PATROL



BEING WEATHER  
FORECASTERS ☁️



SHINING STARS ON  
STAGE IN OUR NATIVITY ✨



# Year 1 - Chestnut and Holly Classes



Chestnut Class and Holly Class have had a brilliant Autumn term in Year One.

The children have transitioned amazingly into their new learning environment. They have loved learning about their topic 'Seasonal Changes', and they have shown themselves to be Sandy Stars in all areas of learning. Year One have shown great resilience when taking on new learning and shown how they can be supportive friends.

Year One loved visiting the White River Cinema to see Paw Patrol this term, along with the rest of Key Stage One.

It has been a busy term of celebrations, with European Languages Day, Black History Month, Harvest, Children in Need, Remembrance Day and the children's first official Nativity.

A huge congratulations to Year One for performing an amazing Christmas Nativity. You all worked extremely hard on learning lines, songs and actions.

All the adults in Chestnut and Holly Class would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year★

Miss Brandreth, Miss Bussandri, Mrs Needham, Mrs James, Mrs Cahill, Mrs Chapman, Mrs Parsons, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Whetter and Mrs Triggs. 🎄👶

# Year 2 - Maple Class



MAKING TUDOR HOUSES AND RECREATING THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON!



CREATING A FIRE DANCE



CELEBRATING HOME TOPIC LEARNING!



ENJOYING A TRIP TO THE CINEMA



# Year 2 - Willow Class



YEAR 2 CINEMA TRIP



FIREMEN VISIT TO BURN OUR  
TUDOR HOUSES DOWN.



LOOKING INSIDE THE FIRE  
ENGINE.



MAKING OUR FANTASTIC HALL  
DECORATIONS.



ODD SOCKS DAY FOR 'ANTI-  
BULLYING WEEK'



POP-UP BOOK MAKING.

# Year 2 - Maple and Willow Classes



It has been an extremely exciting and busy time in Year 2 this half-term!

We fully immersed ourselves into our Fire topic and enjoyed becoming historians; using clues from the past to find out about The Great Fire of London. To help us understand how the fire spread so quickly, we made Tudor houses and recreated The Great Fire with the help of St Austell Community Fire station. It was a fantastic experience and we even got to go onto the fire engine! In music/PE (dance) we appraised a piece of music and worked in small groups to choreograph a short dance to represent the The Great Fire. The children enjoyed performing their dances to the rest of the class.

Maple and Willow Class thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to visit White River cinema and watch Paw Patrol. It was extremely exciting to walk into St Austell with the rest of KS1 and all children proved themselves to be real Sandy Stars!

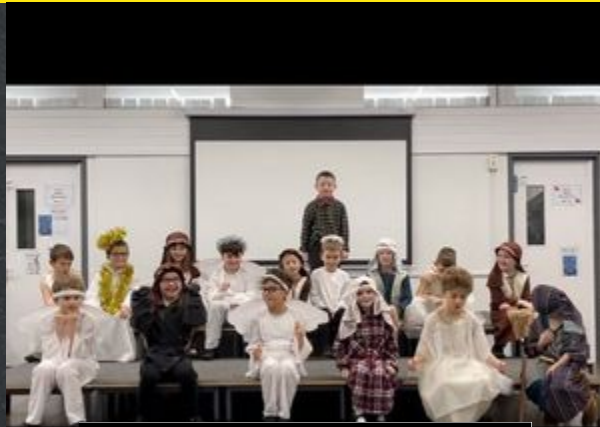
Year 2 also worked incredibly hard throughout this term rehearsing for their nativity 'Hey Ewe'. All the children were absolutely amazing in the performance performing their lines and songs beautifully and should be very proud of themselves!

We have rounded off the term immersing ourselves into a variety of Christmas crafts including making Cornish themed Christmas cards for our local care homes. What busy term and we are all excited to get going again in January with our new topic 'Sensational Safari!'

Merry Christmas to you all,  
From the Year 2 team



# Year 3 - Ash Class



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE



EXAMPLES OF WORK FROM OUR CLASS FLOOR BOOK

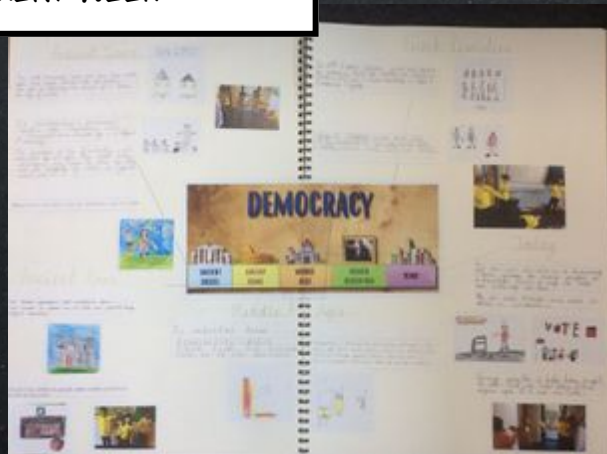


# Year 3 - Elm Class



YEAR 3 CINEMA VISIT

PARLIAMENT WEEK



SCIENCE





# Year 3 - Ash and Elm Classes



Year 3 have had an exciting, fun-filled half term learning all about Ancient Egypt!

In English, the children have learnt about instruction writing. As well as looking at different examples of instructions, the children also had to identify the features they have (including subheadings and expanded noun phrases) and how to use these within their own work. Using all of the skills they had been taught, the children did a fantastic job of writing their own set of instructions about how to build a pyramid.

Within maths, whilst also doing weekly arithmetic tests, we have focussed on addition and subtraction. The children have been working extremely hard and have learnt new methods to work out answers, using both abstract and pictorial representations. Now, the children are beginning to transfer these methods to multiplication.

Throughout our history lessons, the children have been really enthused to become historians and learn all about Ancient Egypt. Putting their skills to the test, the children had to follow instructions to create a piece of papyrus paper. Once they had successfully created the paper, the children were tasked with the challenge to write a sentence using hieroglyphics. On top of this, the children developed their research skills by researching all about the different pharaohs of this ancient civilisation. To finish off their Ancient Egypt topic, the children have created their own pyramid and learnt about how they were made and why they were successful.

In science, the children have been learning about animals including humans, focussing on our diet and what a healthy diet consists of. They have learnt that humans need the correct amount of nutrients which come from the food that we eat. Because of this, the children designed their own meals, which included their favourite foods, and then compared them to their peers. Using this information, they then created a graph to show what type of food was the most popular in the class.

Recently, we have been rehearsing our Christmas performance. The children have worked tirelessly to learn the lyrics to all the songs as well as lines to their part where required. The children showed fantastic resilience and were very supportive of one another when rehearsing.

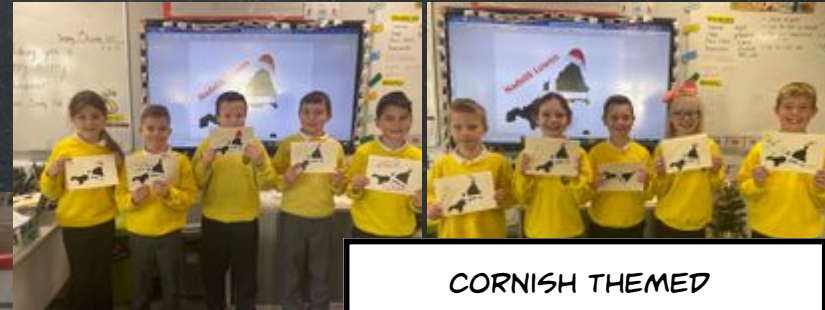
We hope you have a lovely Christmas and look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year!



# Year 4 - Beech Class



CINEMA TRIP TO SEE THE  
ADDAMS FAMILY.



CORNISH THEMED  
CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR  
LOCAL CARE HOMES.



LIGHTS, CAMEL, ACTION!  
CHRISTMAS  
PERFORMANCE.



DIWALI DANCE WORKSHOP!



REMEMBRANCE DAY ART.





# Year 4 - Sycamore Class



DEFENSIVE FORMATION  
DURING THE ROMAN DAY



SYCAMORE AT THE CINEMA!



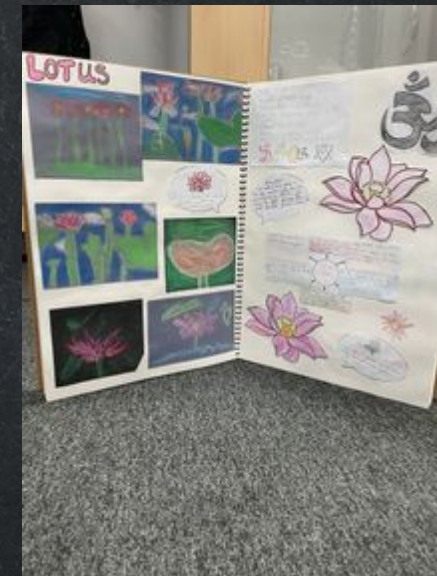
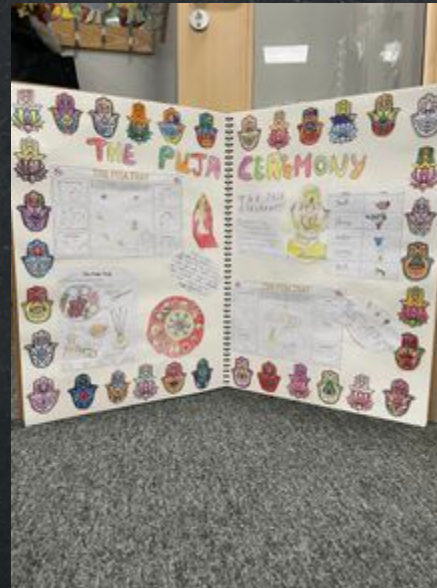
DIWALI DANCE PROJECT



POPPY WREATHS



EXAMPLES OF WORK IN OUR FLOOR  
BOOKS



# Year 4 - Beech and Sycamore Classes



Year 4 have had a wonderful, jam packed half term! We started the term with a fantastic Diwali dance workshop as part of our R.E topic of Hinduism. This was a great way to introduce the new learning. We commemorated Remembrance Day by reading the book, Where the Poppies Now Grow, by Hilary Robinson and the children then created some beautiful water colour poppy wreaths.

In English, we have been writing escape stories in the style of our English text, Escape from Pompeii. Our innovated story was titled, Escape from Lapland and our final Big Write was about somewhere local to us: Escape From Charlestown. The children have been very imaginative and loved creating a story about somewhere so close to home.

In topic lessons, we have continued to find out about the Rotten Romans and what the Celtic tribes did to try to protect Britain. The children have been making their own books on Book Creator about the life of Queen Boudicca from the Iceni Tribe - you can check them out by using their Wonde login details. We were also lucky enough to take part in the Into Film Festival where we watched The Addams Family at the cinema earlier this term.

In recent weeks, we have been rehearsing for our Christmas performance where the children have put an incredible effort into learning song lyrics, dances and lines with Sycamore Class - they have collaborated brilliantly; Miss Heather, Mr Couch and the Year 4 staff are extremely proud of their hard work, dedication and performance!

We hope you have a lovely Christmas with your families and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

*Year 4 team*



# Year 5 - Cedar Class



SCIENCE



HARVEST SHEAF - WORKSHOP WITH ASPENS



ART



TOPIC - VIKINGS



# Year 5 - Cedar Class



Year 5 have had a fantastic start to the year and completed some incredible learning this term. Every child in the class has shown that they are truly Sandy Hill STARS by demonstrating our school values by being: supportive, thinkers, aspirational, resilient and self-motivated.

In maths, we have learnt all about place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. We have also continued to build on our fundamental arithmetic knowledge from Year 4 and applied it during our regular arithmetic practice sessions. We are really proud of how our skills are progressing!

Across our writing, we have used our Vikings topic as a stimulus. We have written some fantastic recounts of Vikings raids, studied Viking myths and legends and also created our own mythical monsters. In poetry, we have studied the use of similes, metaphors and personification to enhance our writing.

During our guided reading lessons, we have enjoyed reading extracts from a range of texts and applying our comprehension skills. Some of our favourites include: The Windrush Child, When We Got Lost in Dreamland, A Christmas Carol and The Jabberwocky. We have also thoroughly enjoyed sharing and discussing our class novel, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Rauf.

Across our afternoons, we have been learning all about materials and their properties in Science, gymnastics and netball in PE, Britain's National Parks in Geography and created some fantastic 3D creations in DT.

We have also had special visits from Olympic Gold Medallist Calum Jarvis and local designer Tony Plant.



# Year 6 - Oak Class



MATCHING AND MIRRORING IN  
PE (GYMNASTICS)



INVESTIGATING BLOOD FLOW IN SCIENCE



TOKYO 2020 GOLD  
MEDALIST CALLUM JARVIS  
VISITED



HOT CHOCOLATES IN  
CLASS TO CELEBRATE  
ACHIEVEMENT



MAKE, DO AND MEND DT PROJECT



ACTIVE SPELLING

Resilience, self-motivation, aspiration - just three of the words to describe the outstanding attitude of our children in Oak Class (Year 6).

In what has been a busy term, the children have been working hard so that they can remember more and do more. In mathematics, the children's fluency and procedural knowledge has increased significantly with children striving to beat their personal best. In writing, the children have enjoyed composing a number of texts, including: a letter back to Carrie (as mum), a story magical setting and an Invictus style poem. In reading, the children have been developing their retrieval and inference skills to support them with understanding a wide variety of texts, including our class book 'Goodnight Mr Tom.'

In the wider curriculum, under the topic of World War 2, children have been developing their historical and chronological awareness, using primary and secondary sources to support their understanding of this period of time. From locational knowledge in geography, netball and gymnastics in PE, the dilemma of Science and Christianity in RE to digital literacy in computing, greetings in Spanish and understanding relationships in PSHE - it is safe to say the children have had a wide variety of learning with a large dose of Cultural Capital thrown in.

Our Christmas production 'Bah Humbug!' has been very fun to put together and it has been a pleasure to see how the children have learned their lines, practiced their dance moves and enjoyed singing the songs. Thank you for all your support in putting this together for the children - it is greatly appreciated.

A very Merry Christmas to you all!     *The Year 6 Team*



# Christmas Nativity Performances - EYFS



APPLE CLASS



ACORN CLASS



CHERRY CLASS





# Christmas Nativity Performances - KS1



YEAR 1 'THE SLEEPY SHEPHERD'



YEAR 2 'HEY EWE'





# Christmas Performances - LKS2



YEAR 3 CHRISTMAS SHOW



YEAR 4 - LIGHTS, CAMEL, ACTION!

# Christmas Performance - UKS2



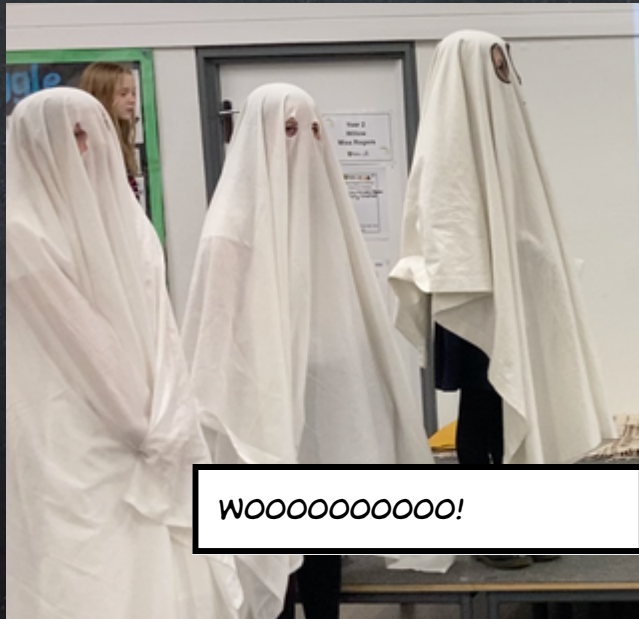
TOWN'S PEOPLE CONGREGATING AT THE MARKET



FEZZIWIG'S SHINDIG



JACOB MARLEY AND THE CHAINS



WOOOOOOOOOOO!

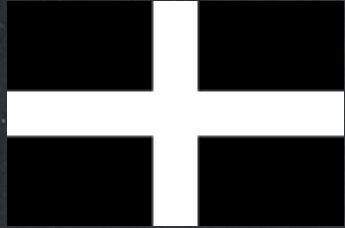
**BAH  
HUMBUG!**



CHIMNEY SWEEPS, JOE, MRS DILBER AND AL







**Dydh da! Dynnargh!**

**Hello! Welcome!**

We are very excited to have registered with 'Go Cornish', a free programme which provides our pupils with the opportunity to learn something of the Cornish language, and to discover and connect with the culturally rich heritage of Cornwall.

The aims of the project are to inspire children to celebrate the language of Cornwall and to gain a better understanding of our history in a fun and interactive way whilst also linking to the curriculum.

There are three award levels available (Bronze, Silver and Gold). Starting in the new year, we shall begin to work towards the Bronze Award initially and are looking forward to sharing our progress with you along the way.

**Gwren ni dalleth dhe omLOWENhe gans Kernewek!**

Let's start having fun with Cornish!



# Aspens - School Meals



OUR FANTASTIC CATERING TEAM

**WOW!**

Following the success of our harvest workshops, we are delighted that the Aspens team will be coming in to school again during the Spring term to provide some Cornish themed cookery workshops for the children, linking to our Saint Piran's Day celebrations.

The workshops are provisionally booked for 28th February, 1st March and 2nd March when the children (Year 1-6) will be making scones (the Cornish Way!) or Henva Cake.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

FESTIVE COOKIES



ENJOYING OUR CHRISTMAS LUNCH



# Learning Together

"Tapestry keeps you in touch with your child's day wherever you are"



The image shows the login interface for the Tapestry Online Learning Journal. At the top left is a logo consisting of a grid of colored squares (green, yellow, blue, purple) next to the word "TAPESTRY" in a large, grey, sans-serif font, with "ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL" in a smaller font below it. Below the logo are two input fields: the first is labeled "Email address" and the second is labeled "Password". Both fields are empty. At the bottom of the form is a blue button with the text "Log in" in white.

Tapestry is an easy-to-use and secure online learning journal that helps staff and families across Aspire academies celebrate their children's learning and development in Nursery and Reception Class.

As parents, the first day of handing over your child to the care of another can be an emotional time. As your child adjusts to experiences without you at their childminder, nursery, or school, parents continue to want to share in these times.

Tapestry facilitates this by enabling a personal journal, or diary, to build over time. Photographs, videos and notes of special moments are not only recorded, but can be made available regularly and often immediately to you via your iPhone or Android App.



# Learning Together

Google Classroom -  
Enhancing connections with  
learners from school, from  
home, or on the go.



Think of Google Classroom as your child's digital link to learning. Teachers use Google Classroom to share resources, links and assignments with pupils during lessons at school across the curriculum.

KS2 teachers will use Google Classroom to share homework with students and parents. It is a great tool for keeping up to date with your child's learning.





If you are concerned about the physical or mental welfare of a child or young person and you wish to speak to someone about it, you can contact the MARU (Multi-agency Referral Unit) on the following numbers:

Monday to Friday, 9am - 6pm: 0300 123 1116  
Evenings & weekends: 01208 251300

Police (Non-emergency): 101

If you are concerned about the physical or mental welfare of an adult, you can contact Adult Social Care on 0300 1234 131

Should you have any housing concerns over the Christmas period, please contact Cornwall Housing on 0300 1234 161



## **What is SEND?**

SEND means Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Some children may find learning more challenging than others and may need additional support to help them achieve their full potential. At Sandy Hill, all children are valued, respected and welcomed to our school whatever their additional educational need. Our SENDCo, Mrs Carter, works alongside teachers, pupils and their families to consider the best route of support to help children with SEND to access the curriculum.

## **How do we decide what type of support children receive?**

Every child's needs are different, and their needs may change over time. We identify children's needs through a combination of observations in class, outcomes of assessments and through discussions with parents. There are 4 main areas of SEND: Communication and Interaction, Cognition and Learning, Social, Emotional and Mental Health and Sensory and/or Physical.

## **How do I know if my child needs SEND support?**

We will discuss your child's needs with you in order to work together to decide the best route of support. Often, this will include making adaptations to their learning in the classroom but can also sometimes mean accessing support from external agencies or specialists, e.g. Speech and Language therapists.

## **Where can I find out more information?**

Please see our school's SEND policy and SEND Information Report & Local Offer on our school website or you can contact Mrs Carter via the school office on 01726 75858 or [hello@sandyhill.org.uk](mailto:hello@sandyhill.org.uk)



## Time2Move Holiday Programme is Live!

After their super summer success, the **Time2Move Holiday Programme** over the Christmas Holidays is live. Currently there over 55 providers across Cornwall delivering activities over the Christmas holidays focusing on Monday 20th December to Thursday 23rd December.

The provision is open to all children aged 5 to 16 but targets children eligible for Free School Meals where it is free and includes a meal.

Parents can book places for their children through [this link](#).



Fun activities for everyone varying from circus skills to multi-sports and every session includes a **FREE** meal for all children.

Activities are taking place across Cornwall during the Christmas holidays, from December 20th - 23rd.

Find one in your area by visiting our website:  
[www.activecornwall.org/Time2MoveHolidayProgramme](http://www.activecornwall.org/Time2MoveHolidayProgramme)

• Free prizes for ALL children eligible for Free School Meals  
• Activities available for children aged 5-16.

For more information contact:  
Time2Move-HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk  
01872 323322



IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS,  
PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK:

[FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT FREE SCHOOL MEALS - CORNWALL COUNCIL](#)



# Information & Support

## HOW TO ACCESS A FOODBANK:

### **1. Get in touch with your nearest foodbank**

Either by telephone or email and explain your situation. The foodbank will be able to tell families which referral agencies they work with in their area and how they can get a voucher.

### **2. Arrange a visit to the referral agency specified by the foodbank**

Families will discuss being issued with a foodbank voucher if appropriate.

### **3. Take the voucher to the nearest foodbank centre**

Once at the foodbank, families will be met by trained volunteers who will sit down with them to discuss their situation and provide a food parcel.

Volunteers meet clients over a warm drink or free hot meal and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.

Please note that families must have a food voucher in order to receive help from the foodbank.

## **Local Resources**

St Austell Foodbank

Crisis Care Award (Cornwall County Council)

Housing (Cornwall County Council)

First Light (Domestic Violence Support)

Click [here](#) for additional helpful contacts.







**Sandy Hill Academy**

*Aspiring to achieve, determined to succeed.*



## Staying in Touch

**Address:** Sandy Hill Academy, Sandy Hill, St Austell, PL25 3AT

**Email:** [hello@sandyhill.org.uk](mailto:hello@sandyhill.org.uk)

**Phone:** 01726 75858

**Website:** [www.sandyhill.org.uk](http://www.sandyhill.org.uk)



Arbor



CLICK ICONS  
FOR MORE INFO

