

12 September 2024

Dear Parent or Carer,

Welcome to the new school year. I'd particularly like to extend a welcome to parents of pupils who are new to Sandringham.

It has been really pleasing to see how quickly pupils have settled into their new classes and their positive approach to learning. Staff have worked hard to prepare classrooms ready for the new term to enable this. Our Director of Primary Education visited Sandringham yesterday and was incredibly impressed with the excellent conduct of pupils around school, and their high standards in lessons.

### **Meet the Teacher Sessions**

Further to last week's communication, I can confirm that we are running a Meet the Teacher session next Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at the start of the school day. The session will finish by 9.30am. We realise that you can't be in two places at once, so if you have more than one child or if you are unable to make the session, we will share the key information with you via Seesaw/Tapestry. We will also be running individual parents' evenings shortly before half-term. If you are attending one of the sessions, please come with your child into class at the start of the day and staff will show you where to go.

### **Reading**

Pupils should read at home at least 5 times each week. We ask that an entry is made on the Learning with Parents app each time that they read. Older pupils may record their reading themselves – to do this please text the link to them or ask your child's teacher to update the contact details to their mobile number. If you require any support with the app, please see your child's teacher who will be pleased to help.

### **Attendance**

I am asking for your help to improve our school attendance. It is essential that your child attends as often as possible. Our analysis of last year's absences shows that children learn best when they attend regularly. Please [click here](#) to read our latest Trust guidance around attendance, which explains some recent changes to the law.

Key points include:

- School starts at 8.45am for pupils in Reception to Year 6 – pupils should arrive on time
- I may not authorise holidays in term time
- I am required to instruct the Local Authority to issue fixed penalty notices for holidays in term time
- Leave of absence must be requested in advance and I am only permitted to authorise these in exceptional circumstances
- NHS guidance explains the small number of health reasons for keeping a child off school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. In all other events, children are expected to be at school on time.

### **PE Kit & Named Uniform**

Staff have been asked to ensure that all pupils meet our uniform and PE kit expectations and will politely discuss these with parents where uniform is not worn. Parents are asked to note PE kit requirements for pupils in Years 1 to 6 (pupils should arrive at school dressed in their PE bottoms and will wear these all day):

- usual navy-blue sweatshirt (for outdoor PE, school logo optional)
- usual white polo shirt (school logo optional)
- navy blue/black sports shorts (no logos)
- navy blue/black leggings or tracksuit bottoms (for outdoor PE, no logos)
- plain trainers

Please also check your child's clothing to make sure that all items are clearly named so we can return any lost uniform as we've found several jumpers that we've been able to match to their owners. Please do not send your child to school in non-uniform tracksuits.

### Autumn Term Key Dates

Date	Event
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Flu Immunisations for Reception-Year 6
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Meet the teacher session – start of school day until 9.30am
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Inclusion Coffee Morning
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evenings 3.30pm-5.30pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	School Closed (Training Day)
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harvest Services at St Aidan's Church (am – times to be confirmed)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual Photographs
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Pupils attend for last day of term
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> October to Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	School Closed for Half-Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupils return to school
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance service for pupils and Anti-Bullying Week begins
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks Day
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Social Justice Event at Hall Cross – Year 6
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Get Bright Day
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Whitby Residential
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Nursery & Reception Craft Sessions
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Nativity 2.15pm
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Nativity 9.15am
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Years 1 & 2 Performance 9.15am and 2.15pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Years 1 & 2 Performance 9.15am
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas/Winter Jumper Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils attend for last day of term
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> December to Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	School closed for pupils

Everyone at Sandringham is looking forward to working with you all over the coming term. In the meantime, if there is anything at all we can do to help, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,  
Mr C Metcalfe  
**Principal**