

Tuesday 6th October 2026

Year 1 & 2 Information Letter

Welcome to Year 1 and 2.

We are really looking forward to teaching your child this year and would like to give you some key information that may be useful to know.

This year's classes are:

Ash: Teacher: Mr Sampson
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Allen

Beech: Teachers: Mrs Hudson and Mrs Roberts
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Miller

Bay: Teacher: Miss James
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Shipton

What we want for the children this year

- + A new start every day
- + An environment of shared respect rooted in love
- + A desire to achieve and do their best – encouraged by high expectations and challenge
- + A love of learning fostered by adults who are here to help them grow and develop
- + A happy year which leaves fond memories for life

Home – school communication

Class Dojo:

Throughout the year, we will use Class Dojo to share information, messages and photographs. The direct messaging function on dojo will be turned off.

Class emails:

If you would like to send a message to your class teacher, you can send an email to the class email address. These email boxes will be checked 2/3 times per week.

These emails are: ash@sandfordprimary.dorset.sch.uk
bay@sandfordprimary.dorset.sch.uk
beech@sandfordprimary.dorset.sch.uk

Urgent messages:

If you have any emergencies or queries that need responding to the same day, either speak to us at the classroom door at drop-off or pick-up or contact the school office by email or phone. Please also contact the office if your child is absent or unwell.

A more in-depth discussion:

Make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher after school if you need to discuss something in more detail.

Headteacher : Mrs Emma Roberts
Sandford, Nr. Wareham, Dorset, BH20 7BN
Tel: 01929 552949, **E-mail:** office@sandfordprimary.dorset.sch.uk

PE Days

PE Days for Year 1 and 2 are as follows:

Ash class: Monday and Tuesday

Bay class: Monday and Friday

Beech class: Wednesday and Friday

On their PE days, children should come in dressed in their correct PE kit. The school PE uniform consists of the following:

- White, round necked t-shirt – either with the school logo or a plain alternative
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- Children may wear black tracksuit bottoms/leggings and a black plain sweatshirt or hoodie as the weather gets cooler
- No large logos/brands/football tops or bright colours please (small, discrete logos are permissible)

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL UNIFORM/KIT HAS YOUR CHILD'S NAME WRITTEN INSIDE.

Curriculum

As well as daily Maths, Phonics and English lessons, children will receive a broad and balanced curriculum that encompasses all curriculum areas. Please keep an eye on our Class Dojo for messages and information throughout the year regarding current topics of study / focus.

Behaviour Curriculum

At Sandford, our core values are encompassed by the motto: **Learn, Love, Laugh.**

This year we are introducing our new behaviour curriculum. This will help us teach the children how to be *Respectful, Ready and Safe* in how they manage themselves both around school and in their learning.

Further information about the behaviour curriculum, and the specific focus at any given time, will be shared in newsletters.

Home Learning

Weekly home learning in Year 1 and 2 will continue to focus on Phonics and reading.

Phonics:

As children are introduced to new sounds and written codes, they will complete sheets in school that will be sent home in their phonics folders. Most weeks, there will be 2 new sheets in the folders.

We would like you to check for these new sheets every day and spend a few minutes listening to your child read through the word banks on their most recent phonics sheet. To do this, they should be sounding out each word and blending these sounds in order to read the word aloud.

On the back of the phonics sheets, the children might like to practise the spellings of these words and/or write some sentences that contain some of the focus words.

Home Reading:

We expect all children to be regularly reading at home throughout the year. The more reading they complete at home, the better. A 'little and often' approach is a good system to follow, with a **minimum of 3 times per week** being our expectation of what you can do to support your child's reading.

Our school uses the BoomReader app to record and track reading done with your child. To log the reads you do at home, you can simply log the title, pages and date of each reading session; or use it to record notes on your child's decoding and comprehension too. Another feature of BoomReader is that children

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can begin to log their own independent reading! However, it is vital that you hear them read so that you can support with decoding, tricky/unfamiliar vocabulary and have discussions to build the comprehension of the texts they read.

In terms of changing reading books, there are no set days. We are continuously listening to them read, checking their decoding, blending and fluency skills to ensure they are developing the breadth of reading skills. Therefore, books will be changed on an individual basis when we feel they are ready.

Maths:

We use the Numbots app that your child can access at any point throughout the year to consolidate the learning they do at school. The Year 1 logins will be sent home once we have introduced them to how to use the app.

For Year 2 children, we will also use the Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) website to practice recall of the Times Tables facts.

Topics:

Over the course of the year, we will set a couple of topic-based projects that you might want to complete. These will be shared and celebrated in school but will be an optional extra.

Assessment

Phonics screening check:

This statutory assessment will take place in June 2027. It is for all Year 1 children and the Year 2 children who did not meet the pass mark last year.

Further information will be sent out closer to the time.

Year 2 SATs:

These non-statutory assessments will take place around May/June 2027. The children will complete assessments in Reading, Maths and SPaG.

Hooks, visitors, trips and learning celebrations

Each topic will be kicked off with a 'hook' to excite the children. Visitors or/and trips will be used to enhance the learning experiences within each topic. Planned activities for this year:

Autumn term: Castle topic - **trip to Corfe Castle**

Spring term: Great Fire of London topic – **visitor to lead an GFoL experience day**

Summer term: Coastlines topic – **trip to Lulworth Cove**

At the end of a topic, we intend to have give the children an opportunity to share some of their learning with you in an open classrooms activity of some sort.

We are sure that this year will be a wonderful experience for your children.

Kind regards

Mr Sampson, Miss James, Mrs Hudson, Mrs Roberts,

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