



# Headteacher

## NEWSLETTER



### UPDATE FROM MS. PARKHOUSE

Happy New Year to all our families! It has been a joy to welcome the children back to school. We have had an amazing start to the spring term, and the energy across the building is incredibly positive.

This week, each class received a golden envelope inviting them to attend an assembly just for their year group. These will continue weekly this term and are focused specifically on establishing our expectations for entering and exiting the hall and what excellent assembly behaviour looks like. I must say, the pupils have been absolute superstars! They have truly showcased what we are capable of as a school community. Well done, everyone! We have reviewed our Singing Assembly playlist to ensure that the songs we sing together are catchy, engaging, and bring us together as a community. We are now focusing on a repertoire that celebrates our school PRIDE values, helping us spend quality time together as Team Sandy Lane.

Our House Captains have hit the ground running with their leadership responsibilities. They have been busy keeping a diligent tally of all house points in preparation for our Friday PRIDE assembly and joined Mrs. Hunter for a litter pick to look after our school grounds. Furthermore, they have been leading discussions about the potential launch of a pupil newspaper, exploring what this could look like and the impact it might have on our student voice. Our Eco Warriors have met to discuss what actions they will take as a pupil society this term that will promote being 'green'. Our School Council are working to decide on the end of term reward and discussing their priorities for the term (playground equipment and games is a hot topic). Our GLT Pupil Parliament representatives are looking forward to their next meeting later this term on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, where they will discuss school improvement priorities with representatives from all the GLT Primary Schools.

Ms. Hurley has been working hard behind the scenes with pupil focus groups, teachers, and external agencies to review how we use our Worry Boxes. As part of this process, she has fully audited our "trusted adults" to ensure every single child has a designated person they know they can go to. The Worry Boxes have now been officially relaunched and are being used even more effectively than before to support our children's emotional well-being. A huge thank you to Ms. Hurley for her work on this.

To ensure we are all looking super smart and ready for success, please remember that our uniform now consists of white polo shirts and suitable school shoes, which should be black school shoes or plain black trainers. Blue polo shirts are just for PE lessons. We want to be looking our best every day as it truly affects how we present ourselves and how we approach our learning. Thank you for your continued support in maintaining these high standards. Here's to a fantastic term ahead!



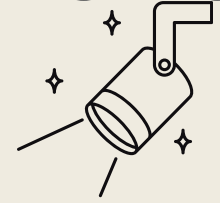
OUR PRIDE, LIMITLESS TOGETHER





SENCO  
Mr Walsh

# Spotlight on SEND



## Sensory Processing Online Workshops

- Does your child avoid important activities because of how it makes them feel?
- Does your child become easily overwhelmed in busy or noisy places?
- Does your child find it more difficult than others to focus or sit?
- Does your child move, push or 'crash' more than others?

The Occupational Therapy team are pleased to introduce their online workshops to help you. These sessions are designed for parents, carers and those working with children and young people. Their aim is to help you understand the sensory needs that a child or young person may be experiencing. It offers strategies, practical advice and tips on how you can enable a child or young person to manage their sensory needs on a daily basis.

Upcoming dates are Friday 23rd January 2026 3:30pm - 5pm and Monday 2nd March 2026 1pm - 2:30pm. [The link can be found here.](#)



FSW  
Mrs Hurley

# Safeguarding at Sandy Lane



## Worry Boxes

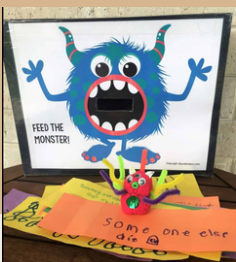
*This week we have re-launched our Worry Boxes across the school. Every classroom already had its own worry box, but they now have a new one along with a laminated name card for each child.*

*If a pupil has something on their mind, they can either write down their worry and post it into the box, or simply post their name card. The name card is especially helpful for our younger children who may not be able to express their concerns in writing.*

*Staff check the boxes regularly and every worry is followed up with children individually to talk through anything they have shared.*

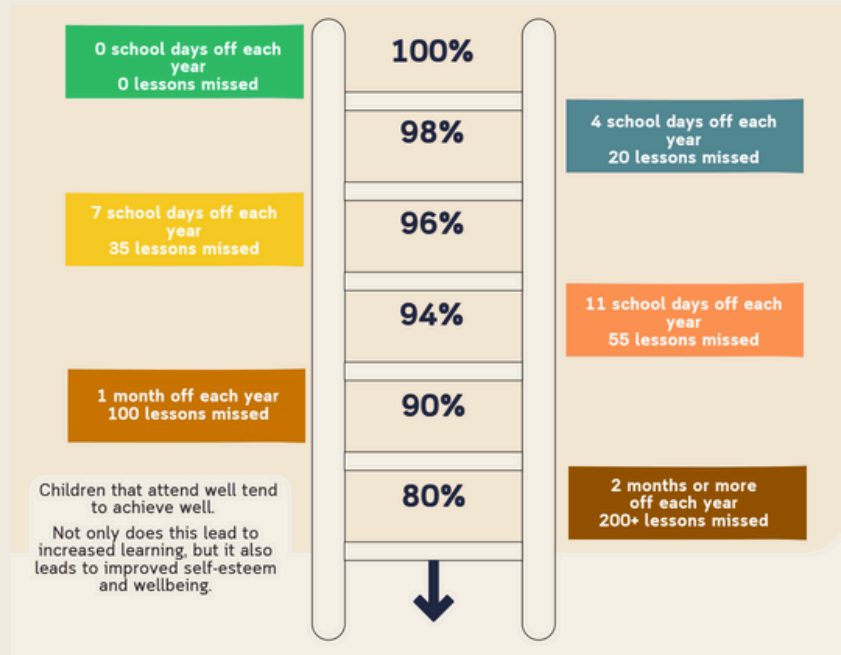
*We would love your support in encouraging this at home. If your child has a worry they'd like to share, you can help them write it down and bring it into school to post in their class worry box. Sometimes this small step makes it easier for children to start a conversation.*

*If any significant concerns arise, we will always contact you directly.*



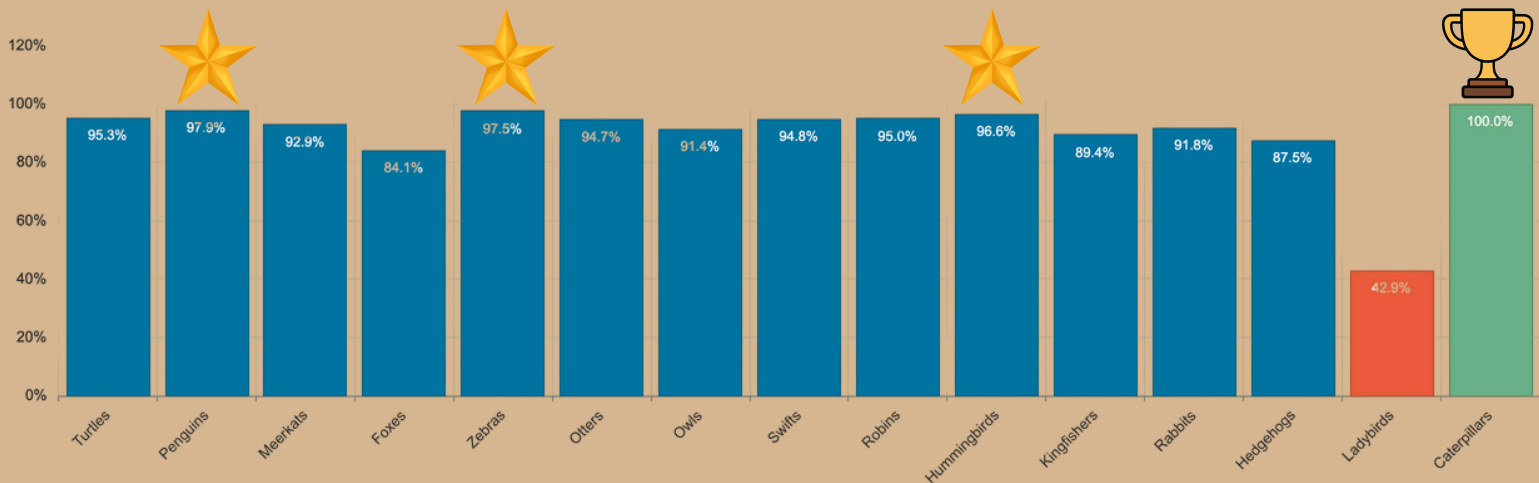
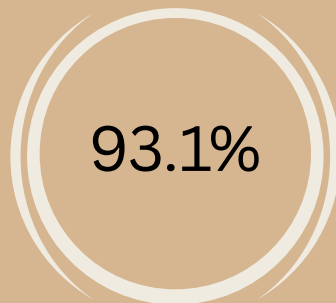
# Focus on Attendance

- Absence should only occur when your child is far too ill to attend.
- If your child is suffering from Colds, Headaches, Tiredness or Sore throat we would suggest that you administer paracetamol or ibuprofen and bring them into school.
- If their condition deteriorates, we will always call you.
- Family holidays and day trips must be arranged outside of school hours.
- Medical or dental appointments should be arranged outside of school hours, if this is not possible supporting evidence should be provided please.



## This Fortnight in Figures...

Date Range: 06/01/2026 - 14/01/2026



OUR PRIDE, LIMITLESS TOGETHER

# Connecting Our Community...



**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Awarded to  
**SANDY LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

for their generous donation of  
**£66.00**

from sales of photographs by  
**Braiswick Photographic Co Ltd** Carbon Neutral Britain

With grateful thanks

Signed: *Gill Briggs*  
Title: Relationship Manager Date: December 2025

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (208966) Scotland (SC010593) and the Isle of Man 7103.



01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342  
weekdays 9am to 5pm  
<https://www.gems4health.com>  
gems4health@nhs.net

GEMS works with parents and carers, sharing understanding of autism & ADHD and collaborating on strategies that respect each child or young person's ways of being in the home environment.  
GEMS supports families living or has a registered GP in Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Bracknell Forest.

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND COURSES**

- AuDHD - 7pm to 9pm**  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026
- Autistic Burnout - 7:30 to 9:30pm**  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Sleep - Autism and ADHD, 7-9pm**  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Sensory Processing - 7 to 9pm**  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Interception - 7 to 9pm**  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026
- Barriers to School, Can't Go, Not Won't Go - 10am to 12noon**  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Visit our website to book your space - [www.Gems4Health.com](http://www.Gems4Health.com)



## Ascot Swim School @ LVS

Does your child have previous swimming lesson experience? Do they need to strengthen their confidence and refine their technique? If so, our swim school is the ideal choice for you.

Enquiries :  
<https://forms.gle/3GpFp4snriPC89RF7>

**Why Choose Us?**

- Small classes
- Level 2 teachers
- Water Confidence
- Free Parking
- Skill Development
- Sibling Discount
- Friendly Environment
- Swim England Awards



**Special offer: 10% off your first term**



## Virtual Coffee Morning

### Mental health and mood

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**10:00 - 11:00am**

**25 spaces available!**

Join our online informal discussion.  
**What to expect?**

A supportive coffee morning for parents/carers to explore topics such as mental health, rejection sensitivity, mood, co-occurring conditions and emotional regulation in autistic and ADHD children.

Please note this is not a workshop but support group for parent/carers and any medical advice should be sought from your medical practitioner.



**Sign Up Today!**

Available for families who reside in or have a registered GP in East Berkshire with a child who is Autistic/ADHD (suspected/awaiting assessment/diagnosed)

To book your place contact GEMS:  
Gems.4Health@nhs.net 0800 999 1342



Email us at: [secretary@sandylanebracknell.com](mailto:secretary@sandylanebracknell.com) with one page posters and we will endeavour to include it in our newsletter (please avoid emails with lots of text!)

OUR PRIDE, LIMITLESS TOGETHER

