

# Newsletter

Term 2 2023-2024

MAKE A  
**NOISE**  
ABOUT  
BULLYING

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Issue 1





The Island  
Learning Trust

# Nursery and Reception tours & stay and plays

## Reception tours

Tuesday 21st Nov 1.30 – 3pm

Thursday 30th Nov 10.00 – 11.30

Tuesday 5th Dec 1.30 – 3pm

## Nursery stay and play new intake

Thursday 23rd Nov 1.30 – 2.30





# **Spaces available in Nursery and other year groups**

**Come and see what we have to offer**

**A PERSONALISED TOUR WITH THE HEAD OF  
SCHOOL**

**MEET OUR AMAZING CHILDREN**

**VISIT OUR MODERN PURPOSE BUILT SCHOOL  
AND FACILITIES**

**HEAR ABOUT OUR ENGAGING EXCITING  
CURRICULUM**

**VISIT OUR FOREST SCHOOL**

**visit our website:**  
**[www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk](http://www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk)**



**SCAN TO  
WATCH  
VIDEOS**



**CALL US NOW**  
**01795 473891**



# HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

We have had a fantastic start to T2 and our run up to Christmas. It is great to see so many children in the morning coming in with smiles on their faces and lots of parents, children and families getting to school every day so that they learn more and develop to become the best that they can be.

**Our attendance is currently 92% which is slightly below where we were last year.**

This term so far our attendance is 91%. I know that if we work in partnership we can reach our target and provide our children with the best experiences and outcomes.

We are really proud of our School Parliament this term for leading our anti-bullying and kindness week. They delivered an assembly which focused on the difference between levels of banter, reminded children about the people that they could talk to in the school if they needed help and different ways that they could be kind. This assembly is now available on the school website and Facebook page for parents to see and to talk through again with their children. School Parliament then spent the week spotting acts of kindness at lunch time and giving out kindness rewards to the children.



We are also really proud of our Sunny Bank Football team who have been playing against local schools. In their last match they showed significant determination and resilience.





Last week, we had a thorough safeguarding audit from an external company looking at our processes, procedures and culture. I am really pleased that the auditor recognised that “There is a strong culture of safeguarding at Sunny Bank Primary School.” Safeguarding is always paramount at Sunny Bank; I am very proud of our children, staff and parent partnerships which all contribute to our safe school.

Parent consultation evenings are this week. I cannot emphasise enough how important the school parent partnerships are to the successful outcomes of our children and I look forward to seeing you all there. If you cannot make one of the evenings, please do contact the teacher who will arrange a convenient time to meet outside the allocated dates.

As the nights draw in and it is getting darker earlier, we want all of our children to be safe and seen by the roadside. We have provided all of our children with a “Be Bright Be Seen” reflector to attach to their coats. They should have brought this home last week and there are some spares in the office should you need them. Please do encourage your children to have them on their coats.

It is the term for all things Christmassy and we are really looking forward to our Christmas Fayre, Christmas Jumper day and our Christmas Carol concerts. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for all of the details and I am really looking forward to seeing you all at our events and celebrating as a community.

I hope you enjoy this issue of our newsletter.

Thank you as always for your support as partners in our children’s education.

*Mr Allen*





SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Christmas FAYRE

Thursday  
2-4pm

14

December  
2023



**For all business stall enquiries**

email: [kloughnane@tiltrust.org](mailto:kloughnane@tiltrust.org)





# BENJI

**MY NAME IS BENJI AND  
I AM THE SUNNY BANK  
PRIMARY SCHOOL DOG  
MENTOR. I AM A 6  
MONTH OLD COCKAPOO  
AND LIVE WITH MISS  
AKRILL AND HER  
FAMILY.**

I am new to the school but have passed my Dog Mentor Programme assessment with flying colours! Miss Loughnane has received training to be my handler in school. My role as school dog will be challenging and varied, but I feel that I am more than up to the task. I love being around people and making them happy. Numerous research studies have shown the benefits of dogs in schools and evidence indicates that areas of potential benefits include:

- **Cognitive development** – companionship with a dog stimulates memory, problem-solving, game-playing and can improve reading skills.
- **Emotional development** – a school dog improves self-esteem, acceptance from others and lifts mood, often provoking laughter and fun. Dogs can also teach compassion and respect for other living things as well as relieving anxiety.
- **Physical development** – interaction with a pet reduces blood pressure, provides tactile stimulation, assists with pain management, gives motivation to move, walk and stimulates the senses.
- **Environmental benefits** – a dog in a school contributes towards the creation of home style environment, with all of the above benefits continuing long after the school day is over.
- **Social benefits** – a dog provides a positive mutual topic for discussion, encourages responsibility, wellbeing, developing social skills and focused interaction with others.

### **But what will my role as dog mentor at Sunny Bank Primary School entail during school hours?**

I will have an interesting and ever-changing job. At the moment I am learning how to greet people and where and when I can play. I am spending a lot of time in the SENDCo office and with Miss Loughnane whilst I am introduced to school life slowly. Over time, I will work as a Dog Mentor and will follow planned sessions with individual children or small groups of children as needed. I am also very excited about hearing children read. Sometimes, I may join a class for a lesson or two if it will enrich the experience in some way.

If you have any further questions regarding my role within the school please contact Miss Akrill or Miss Loughnane via the school office.



*Benji*

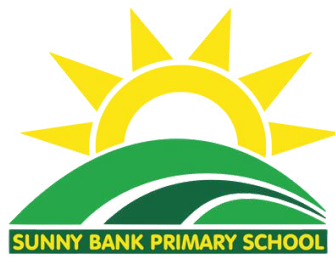


# LATEST NEWS

## CHILDREN IN NEED

Pupils went spotty for the day!





MAKE A

NOISE

ABOUT

BULLYING

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

As part of the school's anti-bullying week, Juniper class explored what bullying meant and focused on banter. We worked collaboratively to create a class poem.







## OAK CLASS PODCASTS

Oak class were very lucky to have a visit from a Kent Police representative. The visit included an assembly about anti-bullying and staying safe online. Afterwards, they carried out workshops and worked in groups to create podcasts about what they had learnt!

Listen to them on our website and social media or scan the QR code above.



**Kent  
Police**



# Watch our Anti-Bullying Assembly



MAKE A  
**NOISE**  
ABOUT  
BULLYING

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Please share your 'Make A Noise About Bullying' activity with us online!

Anti-bullying  
is **NOT** just for  
Anti-Bullying  
Week!



We have to take  
action all year  
round to bring an  
end to bullying.



Anti-Bullying Week - 13-17th November  
#AntiBullyingWeek #MakeANoise

ANTI-BULLYING  
ALLIANCE







# PARENT CONSULTATIONS

**TUESDAY 21ST AND THURSDAY 23RD  
NOVEMBER**

Parents evening will be held on **Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd November**. Appointments will be available to book **on Arbor this Monday 13th November**. Any problems booking on Arbor, please give us a call in the office from Monday 13th after 12pm.



Arbor





# READING STARS!







**Sunny Bank Primary**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**The Island  
Learning Trust**

21/11 and 23/11	Parent consultation evenings
11/12/23	Passport to Learning projects handed in
W/c 11/12/23	Carol concerts
13/12/23	Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day
14/12/23	Christmas Fayre
<b>TBC</b>	<b>Pantomime</b>
15/12/22	Last day of term
	<b>Term 3 (02/01/24) - (09/02/24)</b>
15/01/24	Community spirit week
15/01/24	Deadline Parents reception place application
WC 29.01/24	Arts Week
02/02/24	National Number Day
05/02/24	Safer Internet Day
05/02/24	Passport to Learning projects handed in
08/02/24	Open Afternoon 2pm Arts Week Gallery
09/02/24	Last day of term

visit our website: [www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk](http://www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk)







# Breakfast Club

**Free every morning!**



Breakfast club is the most important meal of the day. It sets the children up for a great day of learning. There is a great choice to eat - a range of cereals, crumpets, toast, beans on toast and porridge. After breakfast there is a chance to catch up with some reading, TTRS, fine motor skills and build friendships through social communication. Come and join us it's free!!!





## Christmas Crafts

Would you like to:

Have fun with your child?

Get creative making festive cards and decorations?

Make friends whilst learning a new skill?

This course is for you!

**Where:** Sunny Bank school hall

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> December 23

**Time:** 3.30 – 5.30

To book a place please contact.....Lisa Newbury

[lnewbury@tiltrust.org](mailto:lnewbury@tiltrust.org). (first come basis)

We want you to enjoy learning with us. To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.

**FREE, fun &  
informal courses**





SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Christmas FAYRE

Thursday  
2-4pm

14

December  
2023

We are reaching out to esteemed businesses to present a unique advertising opportunity that can significantly enhance your brand visibility.

We are currently preparing a high-quality pamphlet that will be distributed to a wide audience at our **Christmas Fayre on 14th December**. The pamphlet aims to showcase local businesses and services to our engaged and diverse audience.

We believe that featuring companies in our pamphlet would be a fantastic way to highlight products/services and reach potential customers. This platform will provide exposure to a targeted demographic, allowing companies to maximize their marketing impact.

If you are interested in securing a page for your business in our upcoming pamphlet, please let us know at your earliest convenience. Pricing starts from just £40 for half a page and £70 for a full page. We are more than happy to discuss the details, including specifications, and any specific content you would like to include.

We look forward to the possibility of featuring your business prominently in our upcoming promotional material.

Email [kloughnane@tiltrust.org](mailto:kloughnane@tiltrust.org) for more information.



# A GOOD MORNING ROUTINE

HERE ARE SOME REASONS WHY A GOOD MORNING ROUTINE IS IMPORTANT FOR A POSITIVE SCHOOL DAY:



## ESTABLISHES A SENSE OF ROUTINE

Consistency is essential for maintaining a positive and productive school environment. A morning routine helps create a sense of structure, stability, and predictability, which can reduce stress and anxiety.



## TIME MANAGEMENT

A well-structured morning routine teaches students valuable time management skills. By following a schedule and sticking to deadlines, they are more likely to arrive at school on time and be better prepared for the day's tasks.



## ORGANISATION AND PREPAREDNESS

Following a morning routine can help students organise their belongings, such as school supplies, homework, and books, reducing the likelihood of forgetting important items and causing unnecessary stress during the day.



## BOOSTS MOTIVATION AND PRODUCTIVITY

A well-structured morning routine can set a positive tone for the day, boosting motivation and productivity. When students feel prepared and organised, they are more likely to approach their schoolwork with enthusiasm and focus.



## SOCIAL BENEFITS

A morning routine can also include social interactions with family members. These interactions can help foster positive relationships and emotional well-being, which can, in turn, affect a student's mood and attitude throughout the school day.

## MENTAL PREPARATION

Morning routines can also help students start their day with a calm and focused mindset. This can improve their ability to handle stress, challenges, and unexpected situations throughout the school day.



## ENHANCES PERSONAL HYGIENE

Morning routines typically include grooming and personal hygiene habits, such as brushing teeth and getting dressed. These routines instill a sense of self-care and cleanliness, promoting a positive self-image and boosting confidence.



## FAMILY CONNECTION

For students living at home, a morning routine can be an opportunity for bonding with family members. Sharing a meal or conversation in the morning can provide emotional support and create a positive atmosphere that sets the tone for the day.



## IMPROVES SLEEP PATTERNS

A consistent morning routine can encourage healthier sleep patterns. By waking up at the same time each day, students are more likely to get the recommended amount of sleep, which is crucial for cognitive function and overall well-being.



SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about — SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

## INVASIONS OF PRIVACY

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up; just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

## REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

## MISUSE OF IMAGES

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

## ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

## PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are "worth sharing". Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

## IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they do make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

### CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

### CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you really want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

### THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting: it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

## Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 30 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.

