



# Sandal Castle VA Community Primary School

Headteacher: Caroline Butterworth  
[www.sandalcastleprimary.co.uk](http://www.sandalcastleprimary.co.uk)  
[office@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:office@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk)  
[cbutterworth@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:cbutterworth@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk)  
<https://twitter.com/SandalCastleSch>

Barnsley Road  
 Sandal  
 Wakefield  
 WF2 6AS  
 TEL:01924303525



Spring term 7th February

## Attendance

Well done everyone!  
 Keep up the  
 amazing  
 achievement.

The winning class of  
 this week's  
 attendance  
 challenge is 2JP  
 with 100%

The whole school  
 attendance is  
 93.54%.

Thank you for your  
 effort! Lets keep  
 aiming for our  
 whole school target  
 of  
 96%

Class	%
2JP	100.0%
4JG	99.2%
3RQ	97.5%
4RW	97.4%
4BJ	95.8%
3EJ	95.2%
6RS	94.6%
6SW	94.6%
3HF	94.4%
FDJ	94.0%
5HS	93.3%
6LG	93.1%
2CW	92.5%
5SH	92.5%
1JT	92.3%
FJW	92.1%
2AD	91.7%
5JS	91.3%
1JS	90.9%
1CS	88.8%
FKW	87.5%

## Lost Property

As we approach the final week of this half term, we remind you about lost property. It will be brought out at the end of every day next week (WC 10th Feb). It will then be binned/donated to charity over the half term holidays.



## Donation Request

Does anyone own or work for a local company who would be willing to donate some money and sponsor our kit for our children to wear when they attend competitions? if you are interested, please speak to Mrs Butterworth.

## Packed Lunches

We have noticed a lot of children bringing in chocolate bars and sweets at lunch time. Please can we ensure children are bringing a well balanced packed lunch to school.



## WOW

Next week we are starting our WOW program (Walking to school initiative). We would like to encourage all of our children to come to school on a morning in an active way- either biking/scooting or walking at least twice a week. If you drive to school, don't worry- if you park for free in WYCO (address) and then walk the rest of the way to School, it still counts! 😊 Every month your child will collect badges. This will be monitored until July. Good luck and happy walking!

## Attendance

When reporting your child's absence, please select the absence option and leave a message. State your child's name, class and the reason for absence.

Thank you!

Date	Event	Time
11th Feb	Valentines disco	see letter below
11th or 12th Feb	Year 4 school trip	returns 4:00pm
12th Feb	Young voices concert	2:30pm
3rd-5th March	Year 6 residential	Monday to Wednesday
24th March	4BJ Ukulele concert	9am

## KS1 Before school

Polite reminder for KS1 parents, when dropping your children off and waiting on the balcony for the classroom door to open. Please can we ask that children aren't running around or climbing, as we don't want any accidents.

## New Playground

As part of our ongoing premises development, I am delighted to inform you that our playground extension has now been completed! This will allow larger numbers of children to play safely in our playground throughout the winter months, when the field is too muddy for us to use.



## Arbor

This week saw the launch of phase 1 of our new parental communications system, Arbor. If you have not already done so, please download the app or logon via an internet browser. The email you gave us when your child started school will be your username and you should be able to click the reset password button to gain access. We had quite a few data cleansing issues following the launch of the system that we have been working through this week so please give it another go this weekend.

If you are still having problems accessing the system, please email the school office from your preferred email, stating your child(ren)'s name(s) and we will look into this for you.

Email:office@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk

We will work through all the queries to get everyone up and running as quickly as possible.

## Volunteers

We are requesting volunteers to help with our afterschool sports teams. Ideally we would need you to have a Coaching Qualification. Please email Office@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk to express interest and for more information. Thank you in advance.



## Sensory Stay and Play

For children 2-5 years with additional sensory and communication needs.

### Group Aim:

Sensory Stay and Play aims to provide high quality, well planned indoor and outdoor activities that will allow children to experience a range of sensory activities supported by their parent/carer. The sessions will be run in partnership with other services such as SALT and Portage allowing for specialist advice to be given to families on a child's individual needs and the support available to them.

### Group outcomes:

- To provide a friendly, comfortable, relaxed environment for families to come together to support each other with experience they have gained through having children with additional sensory or communication needs.
- For children to explore a range sensory activities with their parent/carer.
- Through observation and collaborative discussion with specialist services, families can be given guidance and advice to support their child's learning and development.
- To promote the well-being of the families and their children.

### Group details/key concepts:

Nominations to Sensory Stay and Play sessions are through Health Visitor, Portage, TAEY or internal referral; Early Intervention & Prevention SEND co-ordinator. The groups are held at selected hubs/dates:

- Pomfret Family Hub Tuesday session fortnightly
- Oakhill Family Hub 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month
- Havercroft Family Hub 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month
- Sunbeam Family Hub 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month



Contact your nearest hub for more information



Scan for Local Hub contact details



# COME TELL A STORY WITH US !

Get tickets through  
Eventbrite

FANCY DRESS COMPETITION!  
Come dressed up as your favourite  
book character!



SCAN ME

On Monday 17th February 2025  
9am-12pm  
At Wakefield College campus

Activities based on  
space , fairytale,  
under the sea ,  
science and so much  
more !

FACE PAINTING!

STORY TELLING EVENTS!

**This is a  
'Free Event'**





**Heart of Yorkshire**  
Education Group



# Storytelling Event



The Care and Early Years department of Wakefield College are inviting children aged 4-7 to explore exciting worlds of different stories from Space to Traditional tales and animals to under the sea!

**MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2025**

**@ 9-12PM**

**AT WAKEFIELD COLLEGE CAMPUS**

**EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:**

- A range of rooms based on storytelling themes
- The chance to participate in various creative activities aimed towards 4-7 years
- A chance to speak to Care and Early Years students about college life and what they are learning

**INCLUDING  
FANCY DRESS  
COMPETITION**

This is a 'Free Event'



**SCAN ME**

Tickets are available on Event Brite (QR code on the left)







# Supporting young people online

Information and advice for parents and carers



## The internet – an inspiring and positive place

The internet is an amazing resource which enables children and young people to connect, communicate and be creative in a number of different ways, on a range of devices. However, the internet is always changing, and being able to keep up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge. You may sometimes feel that your child has better technical skills than you do, however children and young people still need advice and protection when it comes to managing their lives online. Issues that your child may encounter on the internet will vary depending on their age and online activities. We have grouped potential online risks into these 4 categories.

- 
**Conduct:** Children need to be aware of the impact that their online activity can have on both themselves and other people, and the digital footprint that they create on the internet. It's easy to feel anonymous online and it's important that children are aware of who is able to view, and potentially share, the information that they may have posted. When using the internet, it's important to keep personal information safe and not share it with strangers. Encourage your child to be respectful and responsible when communicating with others online, and to consider how what they share may reflect on them. Discuss with your child the importance of reporting inappropriate conversations, messages, images and behaviours and how this can be done.
- 
**Content:** Some online content is not suitable for children and may be hurtful or harmful. This is true for content accessed and viewed via social networks, online games, blogs and websites. It's important for children to consider the reliability of online material and be aware that it might not be true or written with a bias. Children may need your help as they begin to assess content in this way. There can be legal consequences for using or downloading copyrighted content, without seeking the author's permission.
- 
**Contact:** It is important for children to realise that new friends made online may not be who they say they are and that once a friend is added to an online account, you may be sharing your personal information with them. Regularly reviewing friends lists and removing unwanted contacts is a useful step. Privacy settings online may also allow you to customise the information that each friend is able to access. If you have concerns that your child is, or has been, the subject of inappropriate sexual contact or approach by another person, it's vital that you report it to the police via the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre ([www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)). If your child is bullied online, this can also be reported online and offline. Reinforce with your child the importance of telling a trusted adult straight away if someone is bullying them or making them feel uncomfortable, or if one of their friends is being bullied online.
- 
**Commercialism:** Young people's privacy and enjoyment online can sometimes be affected by advertising and marketing schemes, which can also mean inadvertently spending money online, for example within apps. Encourage your child to keep their personal information private, learn how to block both pop ups and spam emails, turn off in-app purchasing on devices where possible, and use a family email address when filling in online forms. Make your child aware of scams that may seek to gain access to their accounts, and advise them to be wary in following links or opening attachments in emails that appear to be from organisations such as banks and service providers.

There are real advantages in maintaining an open dialogue with your child about their internet use. Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions can help.

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**1** Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.
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**2** Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?
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**3** Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use.
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**4** Encourage them to help someone! Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
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**5** Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?



Produced by The Lucy Faithfull Foundation for Internet Safety seminars delivered in schools.

# Websites to help you keep safe online!

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)



**Thinkuknow**

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)



**ChildLine**




**Swiggle**

[www.swiggle.org.uk](http://www.swiggle.org.uk)



**Cybersmile**

Call their Helpline or send them an email if you or somebody else is being cyberbullied



THE CYBERSMILE FOUNDATION  
THE CYBERBULLYING CHARITY

0800 783 1113 [help@cybersmile.org](mailto:help@cybersmile.org)

[www.cybersmile.org](http://www.cybersmile.org)

**KidSMART**



[www.kidsmart.org.uk](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk)

**CBBC**



[www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/topics/stay-safe](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/topics/stay-safe)

**NATIONAL  
COAL MINING  
MUSEUM**



**Sat 15 Feb -  
Sun 23 Feb**  
(closed Mon & Tue)

# February Half Term

Explore the power of nature this February Half Term with hands-on activities, spectacular science and so much more.



## What's On:

**Makers' Shed** - Sat 15-Sun 16 February + Wed 19-Sun 23 February (11.30am-3.30pm) 4-12 yrs

Get creative with free crafts - make a beautiful dragonfly or a flying canary! FREE, Drop-in

**Canary Capers Puppet Show**

Sat 15-Sun 16 February & Thu 20-Sun 23 February, (11.30am-3pm)

What has Sparky the Canary been up too? Find out about his capers in our shadow puppet show, a magical adventure for all ages. FREE, Drop-in

**Horsekeeper Talks** - Sat 15-Sun 16 February + Wed 19-Sun 23 February, all ages

Visit Eric, Ernie, Finn and Bud. Join us for our Horsekeeper talks at 12pm and see what they have to eat at 2.30pm. FREE

**Pithead Baths Explore** - Sat 15-Sun 16 February + Wed 19-Sun 23 February (12pm) all ages

Discover the daily routines of miners, from the start to the end of their day, in this fun family tour! FREE

## **Paddy Train (weather dependent)**

**£2.50 per person**

Travel to Hope Pit and to Caphouse Colliery on our Paddy Train.

**Guided Nature Tour - Wed 19 February (11.30am & 2pm) and Fri 21 February (11.30am & 2pm), £2.50 per family. Pre-bookable.**

Join us on a guided investigation of the Nature Trail, using scientific equipment from our new Nature Explorer Bags.

**Roots, Shoots, Buzzes and Hoots - Wed 19 & Fri 21 February, 11am to 3pm, FREE, Drop-in, suited to under 5s**

What's growing here in our outdoor spaces? Come and join in with stories of the plants and creatures that live in and around the Museum.

**Meet the Trees (Guided Walk) - Wed 19 February, 11am-12.30pm, FREE, Drop-in, suited for 5 years and over**

Join us for a relaxed guided walk through our Nature Trail. Discover different trees and get hands-on with nature.

**Spectacular Science - Thu 20 February, 11.30am, 1.30pm & 2.30pm, £10 per family, aimed at 7-12 years (younger siblings welcome). Pre-bookable.**

Join Amazelab for a fun and interactive science workshop to discover how mine water is cleaned naturally by our reed beds - and create a fabulous filter to take home.

**The Dirt in My Fingernails - Thu 20 February, 10.30am, 1pm & 2pm, £2.50 per child, aimed at 7-12 years (younger siblings welcome). Pre-bookable.**

Join Storytrails for an interactive storytelling performance exploring the strong bonds between mining communities, the natural world, and the old, deep stories within it.

**Little Wildlings Scavenger Hunt - Fri 21 February (10.30am-11.30am) Free, suited to under 5s**

Join us for a woodland adventure hunting for nature's treasures, and use your finds to create beautiful nature prints!

**Time Tunnel - Wed-Sun**

**£5.50 per child, £6.50 per adult**

Be transported through the centuries as you are taken through almost 200 years of mining history thanks to state-of-the-art technology. Book in advance via our website.







The winners are:

**1<sup>st</sup> place: 4RW**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place: Year 5**

**3<sup>rd</sup> place: Year 2**



**Battle 1: 1CS, 1JS, 1JT, 2CW, 2AD, 2JP**

**Battle 2: Year 3, Year 3, Year 6**

**Battle 3: Year 4, Year 5**

The winning classes will be announced in next week's assembly.



Let the battles  
commence!

New battles begin today at 3:15pm

Who will you be battling?

