



Dates for this Term		
Whole School	Bookfair in School	20 th to 24 th March
Whole School	Parent Consultation Meetings	21 st and 22 nd March
Whole School	WorldDown Syndrome Day	21 st March
Y2	Eden Camp Visit	19 th April
Foundation Stage	Swithens Farm Visit	17 th and 24 th May
Y 5	Jorvik Viking Centre York Visist	27 th June
Y 5 and Y6	Sports Day (AM)	3 rd July
Y1 and Y2	Sports Day (AM)	4 th July
EYFS	Sports Day (AM)	5 th July
Y 3 and Y4	Sports Day (AM)	6 th July
Y 4	Murton Park York Visit	12 th and 13 th July

Goodbye to Mrs Russell

Today you will receive a farewell message from Mrs Russell as she leaves Sandal Castle. Mrs Hunt will continue in school as Interim Headteacher until the Governing Body make a new, permanent appointment.

Parent Consultation

Your children are working hard in school. We look forward to sharing information with you at the Parents Evenings on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd March. You will also be able to visit the Book Fair and meet some of our school Governors.

World Down Syndrome Day 21st March

We are supporting world Down Syndrome Day in school.

All you need to do is choose some socks that are going to get noticed - they might be mismatched socks or your craziest and most colourful socks, whatever takes your fancy! We are wearing school uniform with our socks!



Attendance Information

Class	%
1NP	97.41
3RW	97.32
4ER	96.88
2EJ	95.69
3SE	95.54
5LG	95.54
2KM	94.58
FKW	94.17
5HF	93.75
6RW	93.10
FDJ	93.10
6RS	92.86
6SW	92.41
1AD	91.67
2CW	91.67
4JS	91.38
5DE	90.74
FJW	90.18
3BJ	88.75
1JG	86.64
4VG	76.21

KEY	
100%	PERFECT!
>97%	AWESOME JOB
>95%	GOOD
>94%	ALMOST THERE

☺ Well done 1NP and 3RW for attendance of over 97% and to all the classes on green.
☺☺☺☺☺☺☺

Well done.

Please make sure that you contact school if your child will be absent. You can leave a message on 01924 303525 or email office@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk

British Science Week

The children have been working very hard this week during Science Week and have made wonderful models.



Year 3 Visit to the Coal Mining Museum

Our Year 3 children have visited the Coal Mining museum this week and have had a great time journeying 140m underground and learning about mining history and finding out how the miners worked and lived.

Thank you
Mrs Hunt
Interim Headteacher

A message from Nichola Russell

2023 marks my 29th year of service to the children, families and community of Sandal Magna parish.

During this time there has been much to celebrate; the number of achievements and accolades received in a wide range of subjects – PE, Swimming, Inclusion, Science, Computing to name a few, Ofsted outcomes, the quality of performances and musical events, the range of opportunities on offer, the strength of relationships and collaborative working with Sally and Rupert and St Helen's Church on federation and amalgamation of Castle Grove and Sandal Endowed which provided an extension of the network of support for all. I could go on; there are so many positives to celebrate, but most importantly it is the trusting, open and honest relationships with children and families built over years of positive engagement, mutual respect and care that feature significantly.

However, in all aspects of life, we also experience the downs as well as the ups and together over the years we have also experienced challenges, including the loss of loved ones within our school family - children, staff member, parents and community members who featured significantly in our lives and who will always remain in my thoughts. In recent years, the intensity of navigating lives safely through the pandemic has also taken its toll.

I am incredibly proud to have experienced life as teacher, Foundation Stage Leader and moderator, Deputy Headteacher, Headteacher and National Leader of Education within my career and I am in no doubt at all that the impact of working with you; children, families and community shaped me into the teacher and leader I have become. The commitment and determined approach I have to ensuring inclusivity and equity is due to my career long strength of relationships and understanding of the community led by you; the thousands of children I have had the privilege to teach, and the vast number of parents and carers who have walked through the school doors who I have been fortunate to meet. I have seen on a daily basis the care, love, respect, resilience and tenacity demonstrated within the community, combined with the 'having each other's backs' approach you have for each other, and I am extremely proud to have been a part of this strong community and hope that I will always be welcome.

It is now however that I begin a new chapter. After 28 fantastic years of living and breathing school life, I am taking the opportunity to spend time with my family and friends and look forward to all the excitement and adventures this will bring, whilst also further utilising my enthusiasm to champion inclusion and inclusive practice.

I would like to thank every child past and present for the fun, laughter and many wonderful memories you have given me.

Every one of you has played a significant part in my career, with each leaving a deep and lasting impression on my heart and I hope that in a small way, I have left an imprint with you too. I look forward to seeing and hearing about all your wonderful achievements and success stories – I know there will many.

With Best Wishes
Nichola Russell

