



# Sandy Lane Primary School

Sandy Lane, Bracknell, RG12 2JG

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Head Teacher: Mr Neil Davies

*"Sandy Lane – Where everyone is equipped to excel"*

18<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another academic year, I thought I would celebrate some of the highlights of 2018-19 and also take the opportunity to update you regarding some changes to the Governing Board.

Sandy Lane's SATS and Phonics results at the end of last academic year were a huge improvement on the previous year. For example, Phonics results were 19% above 2017 and at Key Stage 2 the combined figure for pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics increased from 47% to 64%. Maths was another high point with results improving from 57% to 77%.

This year's EYFS results saw Sandy Lane achieving well in excess of Bracknell Forest and National averages; Key Stage 1 data was in line or above Bracknell Forest and National results and Key Stage 2 SATS the children have again overachieved national results (National results are a consolidated figure for schools in England which are provided by the government to help schools and parents put results in context) in reading and writing. Overall Sandy Lane's results have improved considerably since 2017 which is due to the hard work of the children and the staff who have worked tirelessly to improve the standard of education the school provides.

We had an HMI visit in December which Ofsted carries out to ensure schools that require improvement are putting their recommendations into practice and are developing in the right direction. The inspector felt that senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement in order for the school to become Ofsted category "Good". The inspector highlighted the improved quality of teaching and the 2017-18 Key Stage 2 SATS as evidence of Sandy Lane's progress. He also praised our children saying how articulate, polite and well-mannered they are and highlighted their positive attitude to learning.

Other Sandy Lane highlights include:

Year 4 group runners up at the tennis championship

County Champions at curling

Roman day in Year 4

The walk/bike/scoot to school week

Breakdance workshop

Year 3 swimming including swimming survival and water safety events

**Website:** <http://www.sandylanebracknell.com>

Participation in various sporting events including swimming, gymnastics and football  
Year 3 golf tournament  
The amazing Year 6 school production of “The Pirates of the Curry Bean” (with a cameo by Mr D)  
Online safety day  
Christmas Panto and Nativity  
Reindeer visit  
Science week  
Circus day  
Karneval day and German breakfast  
Year group school discos  
Reptile encounter

We also say goodbye to a few members of staff and the Governors would like to thank Mrs York, Miss Kelly and Miss Mulhern for their hard work and dedication and wish them well in the future. Miss Busciglio is also leaving Sandy Lane; however, she is still running PlayStation so isn't going that far! Finally, a heartfelt goodbye to Mrs Bev McQuitty who has been supporting our children for many, many, years, she will be missed.

Unfortunately, the Governing Board is also saying goodbye to a few members and Governors would like to thank Dr Olivia Swift, Cindy Fincham and Nargis Mirza for their service. As a result of these changes the Governing Board will need to hold a parent election, watch this space.

Sandy Lane Governors have been busy in 2018-19 supporting and challenging the school where appropriate. At the beginning of the school year we set the Head Teacher's targets in conjunction with the local authority. We also challenge and endorse the teachers' pay decisions based on results, classroom observation feedback and book scrutiny. In terms of our monitoring Governors carried out a number of learning walks to ensure what we are told is happening is actually taking place. Governors individually come in to meet subject leads, for example our Safeguarding, Pupil Premium and Attendance governors carry out regular monitoring visits.

After eight years as a governor at Sandy Lane and four as chair I have decided to stand down at the end of the school year. The Governing Board has been working on a co-chair and vice chair succession plan, details to be announced in the new term. It has been a privilege to work with the staff, governors and children at Sandy Lane and I look forward to the school going from strength to strength.

Finally, the governors would like to thank Mr Davies, the senior leadership team, the teachers, teaching assistants and support staff for their hard work and loyalty. We'd also like to thank you for your support this year and look forward to your continued backing in the new school year.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer

Brian Poxon – Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Board.

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