

SUNNY BANK

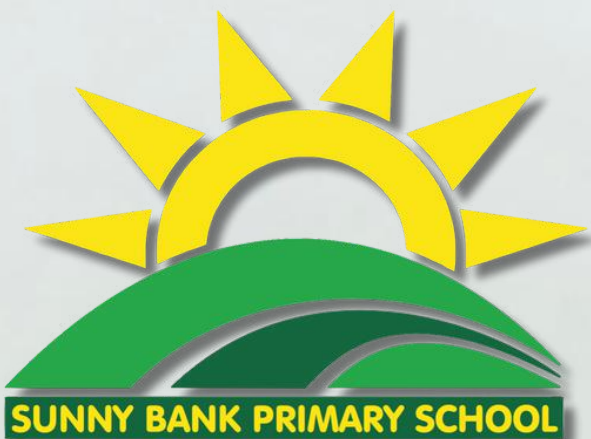
NEWSLETTER

**A NEW
SCHOOL YEAR
BEGINS!**

PLUS

- LATEST NEWS
- CHRISTMAS COMPETITION
- AND MUCH MORE!





EYFS TOURS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 STARTERS



SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Have a personalised tour with our Head of School

FEATURES



Excellent curriculum



Modern facilities



Forest school

COME AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER

Friday 10th October 9.30-10.30

Friday 17th October 9.30-10.30

Thursday 6th November 10.00-11.00

Thursday 6th November 4.30-5.30

Wednesday 26th November 1.30-2.30

Friday 12th December 10.00-11.00



COME AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER

- ✓ Meet our amazing children
- ✓ Visit our modern purpose built school and facilities
- ✓ Hear about our engaging exciting curriculum
- ✓ Visit our Forest School



SCAN
TO
WATCH
VIDEOS




The Island
Learning Trust


Ofsted
Good
Provider

visit our website:
www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk

CALL US NOW
01795 473891



SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL



**The Island
Learning Trust**



**Nursery intake
January, April and September 2026**

Nursery Stay and Play for January intake

(children who are 3 years old before 1st January 2026)

17th November 10:00-11:00

HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE



What a fantastic and busy start we've had to the school year!

It's hard to believe we're already heading into Week 5 of Term 1. Time really does fly when you're having fun and learning lots!

There's still plenty more to look forward to this term, so we hope you've saved some energy for the exciting events ahead.



Boo Bash

Our Boo Bash is just around the corner and tickets are now on sale every Thursday and Friday after school, thanks to our wonderful PTA members.

Date: **Wednesday 15th October**

Cost: **£3.00 per ticket**

- **Years 1 & 2:** 3.15pm – 4.15pm
- **Years 3–6:** 4.20pm – 5.20pm



The staff are excited to join in the fun and we'd like to give a big thank you to the PTA for all their hard work in planning this spooktacular event!

Passport to Learning Projects

It's been lovely to see the children diving into their Passport to Learning activities. We've already seen some amazing work-one child even shared their Spanish translations with us, which were truly impressive!

Please continue to support your child with these projects. They're a great way to boost engagement in topic lessons and give you a glimpse into what your child is learning. All completed work will be proudly displayed during our Open Afternoon at the end of term.



Attendance Matters

We've had a strong start to the year with whole school attendance at 95.2%, but we're aiming even higher! The national average currently sits at 95.5% and we're determined to beat it.

Good attendance supports

- Academic success
- Social development
- Participation in enriching activities

Your continued support in helping us reach our attendance goals is greatly appreciated.

Reminders

A couple of gentle reminders to help keep our school community safe and respectful:

- **Breakfast Club:** Please walk your child to the front door by the school office—children should not walk through alone.
- **Parking:** We've had some concerns raised about parking around the school. Please be mindful of our neighbours and park considerately.

Parent Evenings

We're looking forward to welcoming you to our Parent Evenings on **Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th October.**

Booking details will be sent out soon. These sessions are a great opportunity to hear about your child's progress and celebrate their learning journey at Sunny Bank.

Miss Southwood

We're thrilled to welcome Miss Southwood to our teaching team this year! She's already making a wonderful impression in Hawthorn Class and the children are enjoying her engaging lessons. We know our Sunny Bank families will make her feel right at home.

Finally, I'd like to say how proud I am to be the new Head of School here at Sunny Bank. The warm welcome from staff, families and especially the children has been heartwarming. Seeing their happy faces during school photographs was a truly special moment.

I'm excited for all we'll achieve together this year.

Miss Hyett





LATEST NEWS

SUNNY BANK TO HELP SWITCH ON TOWN CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

We are thrilled to share that Sittingbourne Lights has selected two children from Sunny Bank Primary to join Santa in illuminating the Christmas lights on November 15th 2025.

We are hosting a competition and the two fortunate winners will have the chance to participate in the annual event on the Central Avenue stage in the High Street!

Turn the pages to see our competition...





SITTINGBOURNE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON WITH ALL-DAY CHRISTMAS MARKET

ALL ORGANISED AND FUNDRAISED
FOR BY LOCAL VOLUNTEERS.

SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 10AM - 6PM
SITTINGBOURNE HIGH STREET

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ALL DAY
SANTA'S GROTT
CHRISTMAS MARKET
FUNFAIR





2 LUCKY WINNERS WILL JOIN SANTA TO TURN ON THE

SITTINGBOURNE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

ON SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2025



COMPETITION

WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS MEAN TO YOU?

Show us through any form of writing, poster, art, craft - anything you want!

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

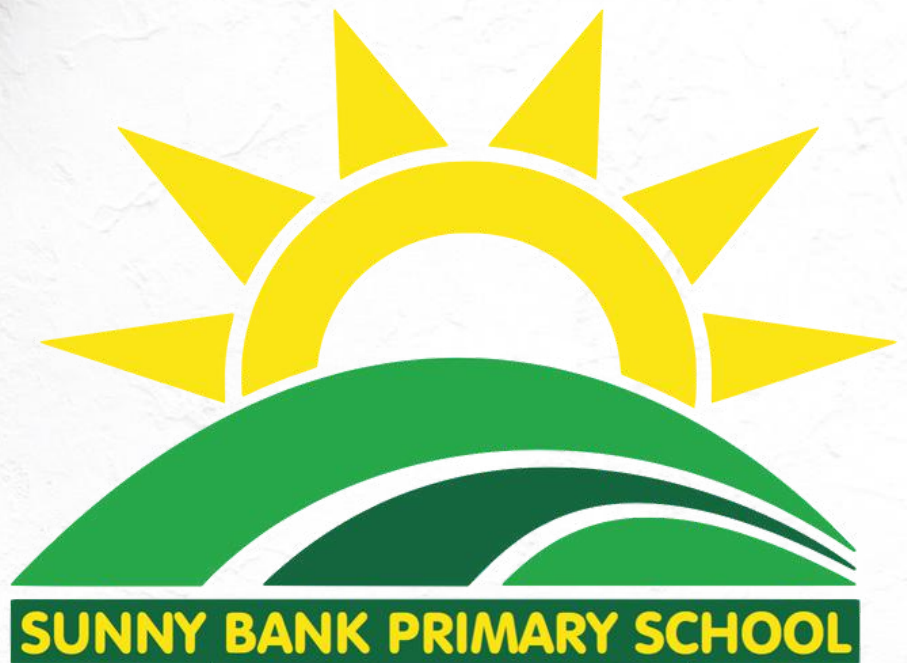
CLOSING DATE WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

The two winners will need to be at the Central Avenue stage for 4:50pm

Entries to be handed in to the class teacher



GOOD
LUCK!



SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECYCLING EDUCATION FOR EVERYONE



We had an inspiring assembly with Jolene from Country Style Recycling! She shared valuable tips on recycling, including food waste, cardboard and the dangers of putting batteries in bins. Our Wellbeing Warriors then joined her for some litter picking around the school! Let's protect our planet together!

ACORNS FIRST CLASS PHOTO



Here is the photo we submitted for the
KM First Class Photo.

*Let's keep our fingers crossed for its inclusion in the
newspaper!*



Subscribe to our

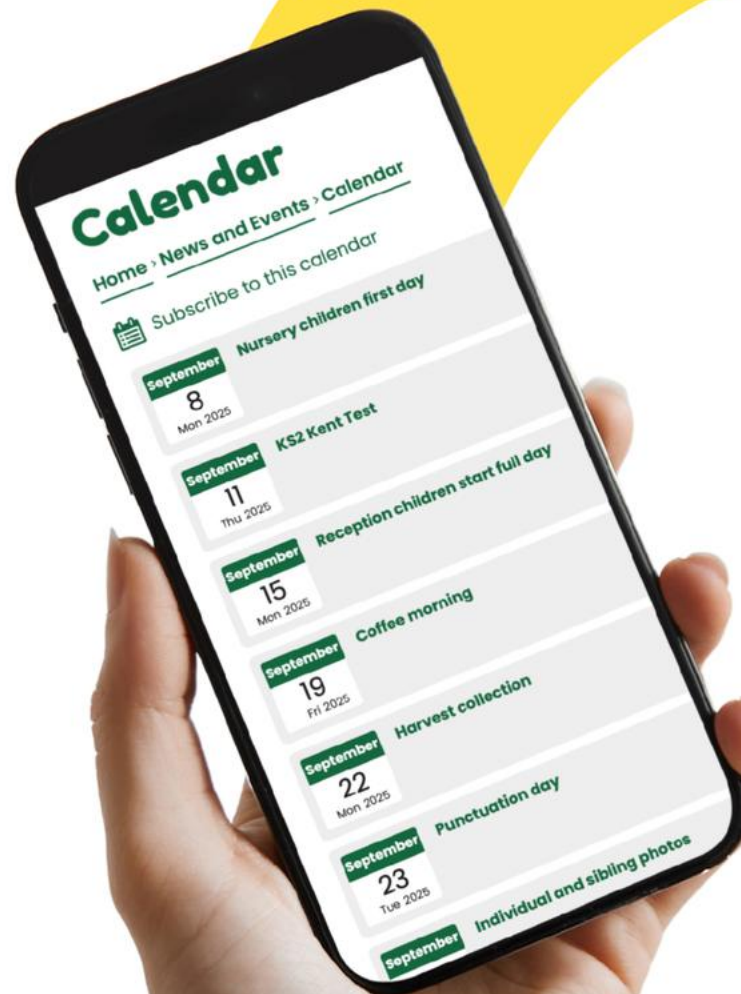
Online Calendar

And have our dates
and events
automatically appear
on your phone!



www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk/diary

Press 'subscribe to this calendar'





HARVEST FESTIVAL DONATIONS

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we would love to support the Salvation Army in their mission to help those facing hardship.

To do this, we are kindly asking for donations of items listed below, to help create emergency parcels.



All donations can now be brought into school

These will be collected by the Salvation Army following a special assembly on Wednesday 8th October.

We hope you will join us in supporting this worthy cause and help make a real difference to local families in need. Thank you, as always, for your generosity and kindness.



*last years generous donations

Items to help with the Salvation Army Emergency Parcels **PLEASE CHECK "SELL BY/USE BY" DATES**

Baked Beans
Ham
Tuna or Salmon
Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Potatoes
Meat Pies
Rice Pudding
Soup
Sauce/Mix for pasta, Rice etc
Tea Bags
Salt
Packets of Crisps
Pot Noodles
Pot of Rice Pudding or Jelly Pots

Bottle of Squash
Carton Long-life Milk
Coffee
Corn Flakes or Cereal
Cuppa Soup
Granulated Sugar
Gravy Granules
Instant Mash Potato
Jar of Fish or Meat paste
Jar of Jam
Packet of Cream Crackers
Packets of Biscuits



SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

DONATE YOUR OLD UNIFORM!



Donate your old Sunny Bank school uniform, winter coats, gloves, scarves hats, and wellington boots at the gates, into the blue PTA recycling bin!





It's time to boogie!

BOOSH!
School Disco



FANCY DRESS DISCO

Y1, 2 & 3: 3.15 - 4.15PM ✨ Y4, 5 & 6 - 4.20 - 5.20PM

TICKETS: £3

15TH OCTOBER 2025
SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL





CHICKEN NUGGETS

With chips, ice cream and the **McSunnyBank** Milkshake!



THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER

USUAL SCHOOL MEAL PAYMENT VIA ARBOR

You do not need to book this, your child will just need to ask their teacher for school dinners on the day. Please ensure there is money on their meals account prior to this day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



October

Community Spirit Week

6

Mon 2025

October

Harvest Assembly

8

Wed 2025

October

Parents Evenings

8

Wed 2025

October

Parents Evenings

9

Thu 2025

October

Black History Week

13

Mon 2025

October

Passport to Learning projects handed in

13

Mon 2025

October

Boo Bash Disco

15

Wed 2025

October

Parent Open Afternoon

16

Thu 2025

October

End of Term

17

Fri 2025

www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk

E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?

No, it's illegal...

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?

No, it's illegal...

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?

The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent
Police**

Think before you buy:

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit www.kent.police.uk/road-safety



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in primary school

Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears 7/11/2025 10:30—12:30pm



Introduction to Understanding Autism 8/10/2025 17:30—19:30pm



Understanding Your Child's Behaviour 30/09/2025 12:30—



The Mind, The Body and You 9/12/2025 12:30—14:30pm



Me & My Child: Understanding Resilience 25/11/2025 10:30—12:30pm



Understand ADHD 20/11/2025 10:30—12:30pm



**Workshop times alternate from term to term*

Our online workshops offer information around key topics to help understand what is going on for your child and strategies to support them, based on the latest evidence and practice.

If you would like to join, please raise your interest with your child's school so that they can send you the link. If you have any questions please speak to your child's school.

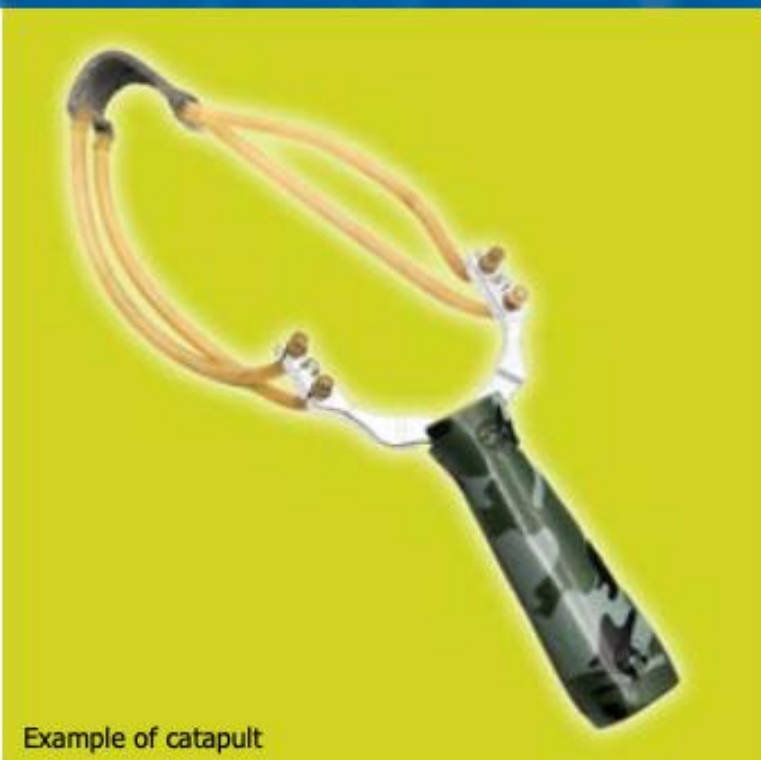
Our workshops are held on Microsoft Teams. You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet. Currently, this workshop is only available to parents/carers of children attending a EWT/EST school. Please speak to your child's school or check our website for our list of schools. If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email: EWTandESTenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk



Catapults – Know the law

Catapults can be classed as offensive weapons.

If you **carry one in public** without a reasonable excuse, you could face up to **four years in prison**.



Example of catapult

If you use it to **threaten** or **injure someone**, or **damage property**, the penalties could be even higher.

Is it worth it?

Remember – A criminal record can change your life.

- You may not be offered a college or university place.
- Getting a job will be more difficult.
- It can even prevent you from travelling to some countries.



**Kent
Police**

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report
Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact
In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**
If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service **18000**.
Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

www.kent.police.uk   

Advertising Space

Support our schools and advertise here



contact: cfo@tiltrust.org



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.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTH VIOLENCE

Youth violence affects one in four children in the UK, but it doesn't have to. When parents, carers, and educators understand the risks, they're better placed to support young people. The right support, mentoring, therapy, and guidance can help young people affected by violence to feel safe, manage conflict, and make positive choices.

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH VIOLENCE

WHY DO YOUNG PEOPLE COMMIT SERIOUS VIOLENCE?

A recent study surveyed over 10,000 young people affected by violence, asking why serious violence occurs among their peers, such as an assault involving a weapon or sexual violence. The most common reasons given were due to a personal characteristic of the victim e.g., race, religion, sexuality, gender, a gang or school rivalry, and being provoked. While not all young people face these issues, many lack the emotional regulation skills needed to manage provocation.

WHAT ARE SIGNS A YOUNG PERSON IS AT RISK?

Children and young people often express that something is wrong through behaviour rather than words. Be alert to signs such as sudden mood changes, secrecy around friendships, excessive phone use, unfamiliar slang, unexplained injuries, fear of school, aggression, going missing, or substance use. They may also be associating with older peers. These behaviours can indicate underlying issues that can lead to violence.

ONLINE INFLUENCES

Social media plays a powerful role in normalising and escalating violence. Platforms like TikTok and Snapchat can expose young people to harmful content, often shaped by algorithms. Many see violent material that distorts reality, leading to fear and desensitisation. A recent study found 70% had seen real-world violence online, and 80% felt less safe in their communities. Alarmingly, 39% said it made them more likely to carry a weapon. Online conflict can often spill into real life, with serious and sometimes tragic consequences.

Opportunity

Community

Wellbeing

Respect

UNCERTAINTY

CONFLICT

FEAR

WHEN IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

For children and young people in England and Wales, the hours between 4 pm and 8 pm – just after school – carry a particularly high risk for serious violence. This can stem from conflicts that escalate during the school day, online arguments, or simply moving through unfamiliar areas on the way home. Understanding this risk helps us support safer travel and routines. Our recent report found that over one in three young people don't feel safe in the area they live in, and 36% don't feel safe walking the streets.

WHY MIGHT A YOUNG PERSON CARRY A WEAPON?

Young people may carry weapons due to fear, threats, peer pressure, or a false sense of protection. Many young people tell us they feel unsafe and carry weapons 'just in case', while others may be influenced by social media, peers, or criminal activity. Some don't realise it's illegal or may believe it earns respect.

WHERE IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

Violence often happens in certain places. Busy areas like transport hubs carry risk simply because lots of people gather there. Other hotspots, like places linked to drug activity, attract those more likely to be involved in violence. Some areas become risky due to poor supervision, such as under-resourced public spaces. Understanding where violence tends to occur helps us guide young people safely through their communities and advocate for better support and safer spaces.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT STAYING SAFE

Choose a safe moment for the conversation, emotionally and physically. If a child is upset or angry, help them settle before discussing serious topics. Listen actively without judgement, even if what they share is difficult. Avoid interrupting and offer advice when the time feels right. If you're worried, you're not alone; support is available.

AVOID CONFLICT & MANAGE ESCALATIONS

Encourage young people to consider the 'Safe T's' – Trust instincts, Take a breath, and Talk to a trusted adult. When triggered or provoked, they may react from their 'survival brain', unable to think clearly about the consequences. Taking a breath helps calm, and helps them access their 'thinking brain'. Remind them that moments pass, and seeking support from trusted adults builds resilience and safer decision-making.

HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND CONSEQUENCES

Young people can be searched by police or teachers if suspected of carrying a weapon. If found with a knife, they could face arrest and criminal proceedings. A conviction can result in a criminal record. Even being present during a violent assault, encouraging it, filming, or sharing footage can lead to prosecution. Open and honest conversations can help children understand these risks and make safer choices.

REPORT INFORMATION

We all have a role in preventing violence. If a child shares concerns, you can act. For educators, it's important to follow your school's safeguarding procedures. Other adults can report anonymously through Fearless or Crimestoppers, and speak with other parents, the school, or local police through 101. If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999. These steps help protect children and the wider community.

Meet Our Expert

The Ben Kinsella Trust is a UK anti-knife crime charity educating young people through immersive workshops, awareness campaigns, and community resources. Visit: benkinsella.org.uk



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

