



Newsletter

Term 4 Issue 2





HAPPY
EASTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and brilliant term and I cannot believe how quickly the weeks have gone.

Yesterday's Easter Bonnet Parade was a true highlight – the creativity and effort that went into each design was brilliant. It was lovely to see the children proudly showing off their bonnets. We also held our first ever Easter Egg Hunt and what a success it was! A huge thank you to our amazing PTA for organising and running the event – it was such a joy to see children and families enjoying themselves together.



This week, we were treated to a special music assembly led by Rocksteady Music School. The session introduced the children to rock bands and live instruments – and it’s safe to say it was a big hit with everyone! There was plenty of singing, clapping and even a few dance moves! Congratulations to all the year 6 children who passed their bikeability course too!

We’re also really pleased to share that our attendance currently stands at 93% for the year so far. This is continuing to increase each year and is making a real difference which is brilliant news – the more children we have in school each day, the more progress they make in their learning. It also means they’re not missing out on the wide range of exciting opportunities we offer every single day.

As we head into the summer term and with the warmer weather approaching (hopefully!), please make sure your child comes to school with a water bottle and that they have suncream applied before school. A hat is also a great idea for those sunny playtimes.

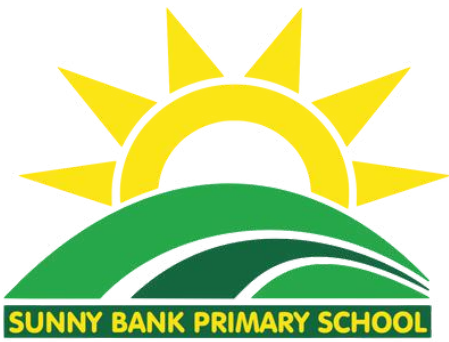
Thank you for your continued support this term. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Best wishes,
Mrs Johnson



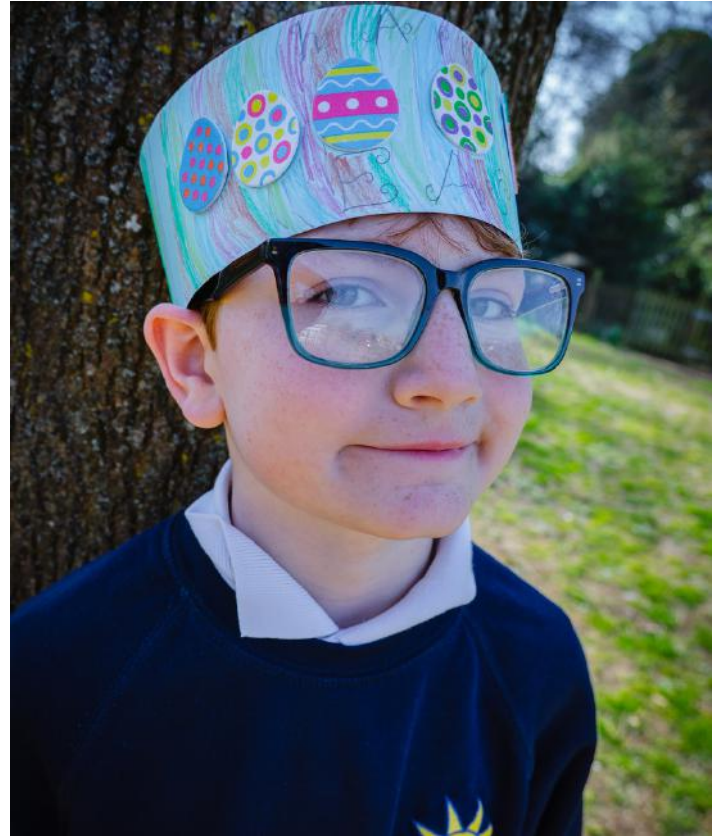


SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL



HAPPY
easter







Our full Gallery will be available on our website over the holiday

**LATEST
NEWS**

ROCK STEADY ASSEMBLY!



This week, we enjoyed a special music assembly hosted by Rocksteady Music School. The session introduced the children to musical styles and live instruments, and it was a big hit with everyone! There was plenty of singing, clapping, and even a few dance moves!

A staff supergroup was also formed!

Keep an eye out on our social media for videos of this unforgettable assembly - coming soon!

THANK
YOU!



To Mrs Payne, members of the PTA, Murston Co Op, Sittingbourne Morrisons and Sheppey Tesco for donations towards the Easter raffle and egg hunt!



A massive, big thankyou to all the workers at Steadline for donating 75 easter eggs to Sunny Bank. Our children will appreciate them!

Winner

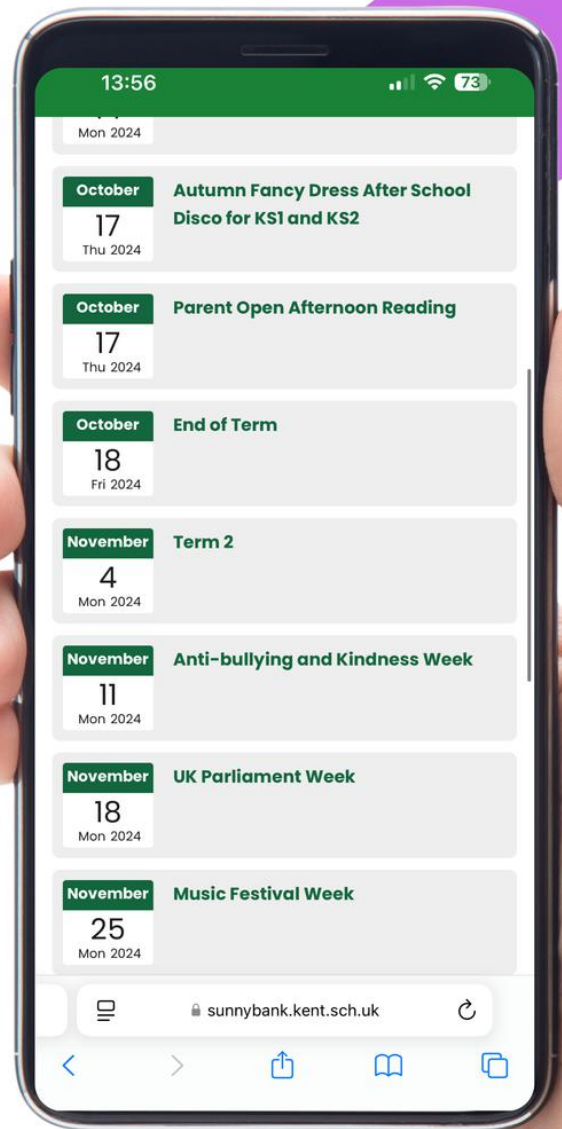


ONE OF OUR
RAFFLE
WINNERS!

Subscribe to our

Online Calendar

And have our events
automatically appear
on your phone!



<https://www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk/diary/list/>

Press 'subscribe to this calendar'

DIARY DATES

Full calendar can be viewed on our website



April

Term 5

22

Tue 2025

May

Year 6 SATS

12

Mon 2025

May

Year 6 SATS

13

Tue 2025

May

Year 6 SATS

14

Wed 2025

May

Year 6 SATS

15

Thu 2025

May

Passport to Learning Projects in

19

Mon 2025

May

End of Term

23

Fri 2025

**Subscribe
to our
Calendar**

www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk



**HAVE A
GREAT
EASTER!**



TERM 5 BEGINS



TUESDAY 22ND APRIL



HAPPY
Easter



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®