

Newsletter

Term 1

Issue 1



Our new Head Girl and Head Boy!

INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

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FOR
SCHOOLS**

Parentkind

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Head of School Message

Firstly, can I say a great big well done to everyone for the contribution to our school's attendance at the start of this year. We are currently achieving 95% attendance so far this year and have had many days this week at 96% and above. Our children are loving coming to school.

Our staff work so hard to make the school a wonderful place to learn and our parents are really driving our children's achievements by ensuring that our children are attending every day; we are a very proud leadership team and community.

I have sent out the yearly planner to parents and this is also on the website, so parents can see and highlight to the children all the wonderful curriculum events that will be happening across this year.



If we continue the great start that we have made, then our children are going to do exceptionally well at Sunny Bank. We do need to have a little bit more of a push on punctuality as there are still too many children coming through the office in the morning. This means that they are missing out on reading and the start of all important phonics lessons. The children should be through the gates by 08:40 so that they are ready to learn in a calm unrushed manner. Please can we ask for your support so that we can emulate the success that we have had with our attendance.

I am also very pleased with the successful launch of our PTA "Friends of Sunny Bank Primary School." We currently have 13 members and have already met to plan our dress up disco. There has been lots of energy and ideas for raising money for our school already and I am really excited about the year ahead. We are raising money for a school minibus and we currently have £1900 in our PTA fund towards this. I will send out more information soon regarding this and the charity that we are working with. We already have the ASDA initiative and easy fundraising so that parents can help (more information about these is in this newsletter). A great big thank you to everyone that attended our Annual General Meeting and to our members of our PTA for stepping up and being part of this fantastic new venture.



We are really pleased with the effort and energy that is being put into the home learning, reading, spellings and Numbots/TT Rockstars. Thank you to parents that have supported and ensured that the children are keeping this up regularly and bringing in their diaries every day. Children that read every day become better learners and better writers and children that know all of their timestables are much more successful at maths. Children get Class Dojo points for completing their home learning and this goes towards house points and house rewards. Our goal is that every child completes their home learning everyday so that they really can be the best they can be. To help with this, we have laptops for quizzing and TTRS and Numbots in class and out at lunch time. I am also really looking forward to the home learning projects – some of these have already come in. If you need any help with access to the home learning, please do not hesitate to let the class teacher know or a member of SLT.

Our Ofsted report has now gone live and can be seen on the Ofsted website. I will also have press release coming out soon, so do look out for this.

I am looking forward to a fantastic Sunny Bank Year.

I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter, and I thank you, as always, for your support as partners in our children's education.

Mr Allen

Head of School





LATEST
NEWS



SUNNY BANK ACHIEVES 'GOOD' OFSTED RATING

Sunny Bank Primary School is proud to announce that the school has been judged 'Good' in all areas by Ofsted. The comprehensive report highlights the school's unwavering commitment to excellence, student well-being and community engagement.



Mr Allen had this to say, "I am extremely pleased with the final report. It acknowledges our high expectations, the care we provide for our pupils and our drive to help them 'be the best they can be.' Our expert reading teachers and our relentless focus on reading have clearly made a positive impact. Every member of Sunny Bank staff is dedicated to ensuring our children achieve the very best outcomes."

The Ofsted report emphasises several key strengths of Sunny Bank Primary School:

- High Expectations: Pupils are well-aware of the importance of their learning and are motivated to meet high standards.
- Care and Aspiration: Pupils are well cared for and strive to live up to the school's motto, "be the best you can be."
- Focus on Reading: There is a strong emphasis on reading throughout the school, with staff demonstrating expertise in teaching early reading.
- Support for SEND Pupils: The needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are carefully addressed, ensuring they can succeed across the curriculum.
- Equality and Passion: Pupils are passionate about equality and their educational journey.

Since joining The Island Learning Trust in 2020, alongside Minster and Halfway Houses Primary Schools, Sunny Bank has been transformed. The Trust has a total commitment to improving the life chances and aspirations of pupils and the vision that all children will "Be the best they can be" is clearly evidenced through the school's recent Ofsted and amazing pupil outcomes.





Now children at Sunny Bank outperform the National Average. With 100% of pupils meeting the expected standard in reading and 60% achieving the higher standard. Additionally, 80% of students met the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths; significantly higher than the National Average that currently sits at 61%.

Sunny Bank Primary School is at the heart of the community with active parental involvement which enriches the student experience. The school's engagement with local organisations, such as Murston Church and Murston Heart, as well as frequent parent open afternoons, underscores its role as a community hub.

Parent feedback highlights the school's positive impact:

- "It's a brilliant school. My children are completely different since moving here; they are really happy and making good progress."
- "Teachers are passionate and encouraging; issues are dealt with quickly."
- "The focus on the child's well-being and education is exceptional."

Current Year 4 student Mark notes, "There's lots of people who can help you and everyone is responsible for their learning," while Year 6 student Jasmine shares, "I get to read, see my friends and most importantly learn with adults who help me."

The school's commitment to student happiness and its welcoming environment are evident in pupil satisfaction surveys and there is an ever-growing waiting list to join Sunny Bank.

Sunny Bank is currently offering tours for the Reception class intake for September 2025 and for Nursery intake in January.



Reception intake September 2025 and Nursery intake January, April and September 2025

Come and see what we have to offer

A PERSONALISED TOUR WITH THE HEAD
OF SCHOOL

MEET OUR AMAZING CHILDREN

VISIT OUR MODERN PURPOSE BUILT
SCHOOL AND FACILITIES

HEAR ABOUT OUR ENGAGING EXCITING
CURRICULUM

VISIT OUR FOREST SCHOOL



SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Reception tours

Please call the office to book on to one of these days

Dates and Times

Friday 11th October 09:30 – 10:00

Friday 18th October 09:30 – 10:00

Thursday 7th November 10:00 – 10:30

Thursday 7th November 17:00 – 17:30

Thursday 28th November 13:30 – 14:00

Friday 13th December 10:00 – 10:30

Nursery stay and play

Tuesday 8th October 13:30 – 14:30

Thursday 14th November 10:00 – 11:00

If you cannot make any of those dates and would like to come
and see the school, please contact the office



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

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01795 473891



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TO
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VIDEOS




The Island
Learning Trust


Ofsted
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Provider



LATEST NEWS

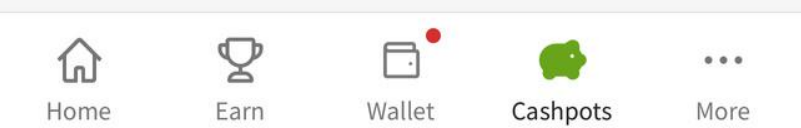


Introducing Cashpoint for Schools

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the **Asda Rewards app**, click the Cashpots icon then choose **Sunny Bank Primary School, Sunny Bank Murston, Sittingbourne, ME10 3QN** and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, from now until 30th November 2024

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to Sunny Bank. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

The supermarket has joined forces with Joe Wicks to support the initiative – look out for the TV advert, radio ads and social media coverage.



INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

**CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS**



With
Parentkind

HERE'S HOW

- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app & sign up today
- 2** Opt-in to Cashpot for Schools and follow the steps in your app
- 3** Shop, scan and we donate



Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt in required. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072833. Full T&C's at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30.11.24

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LATEST
NEWS

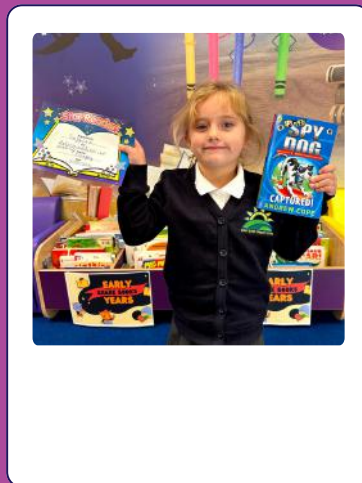
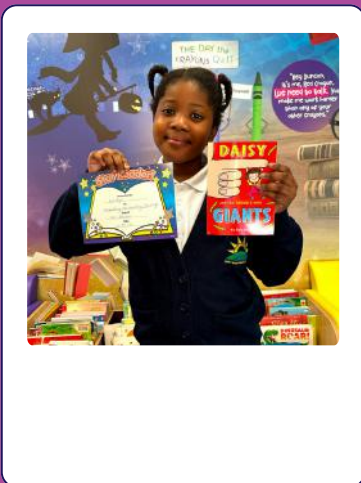
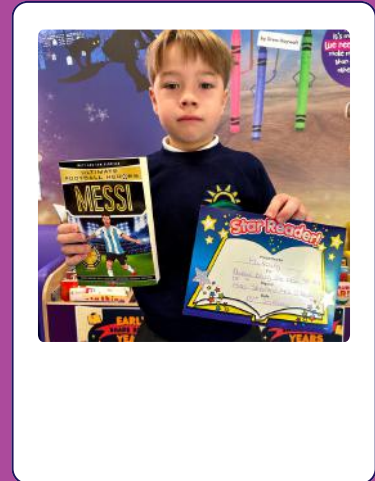
We still use easyfundraising!

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for **Sunny Bank** with easyfundraising? There are over 8,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. All you need to do is: 1. Go **HERE** and join for free. 2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping. 3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to **Sunny Bank** at no extra cost to you whatsoever! There are no catches or hidden charges and we will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support!



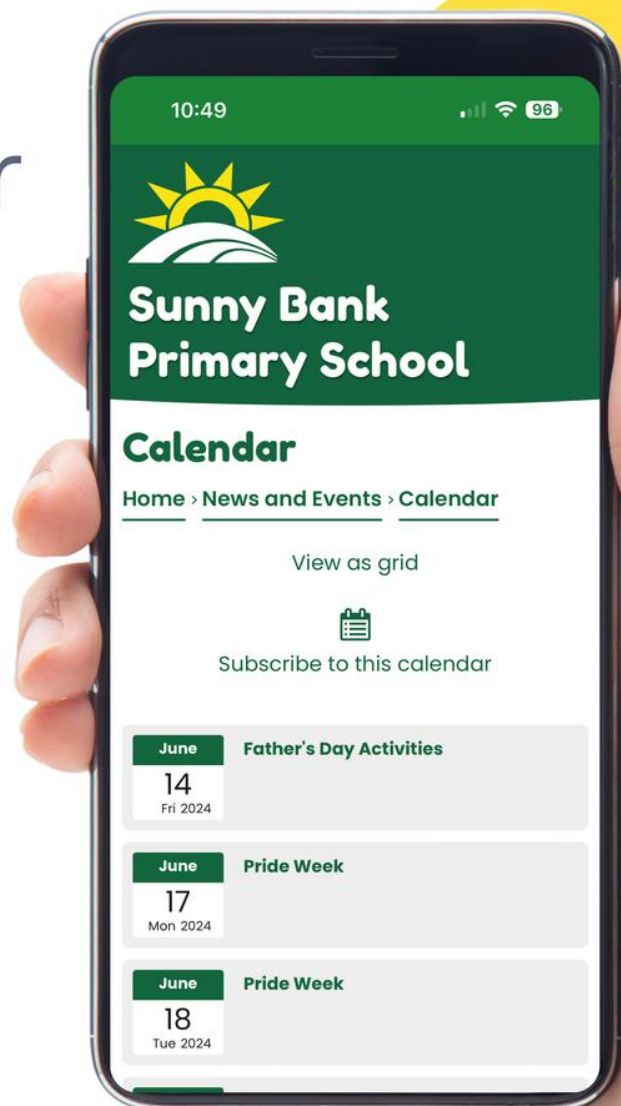
READING SUPERSTARS



OUR SUPERSTARS
ARE REWARDED WITH A TOKEN
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And have our events
automatically appear
on your phone!



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

Press 'subscribe to this calendar'

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Full calendar can be viewed on our website



Sunny Bank Primary



**The Island
Learning Trust**

September Harvest Collection

23

Mon 2024

September Punctuation Day

24

Tue 2024

September Parents Evening

30

Mon 2024

September Community Spirit Week

30

Mon 2024

September Individual and Siblings Photographs

30

Mon 2024

September Harvest Festival Week

30

Mon 2024

October Parents Evening

3

Thu 2024

*Subscribe
to our
Calendar*



www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk

PARENTS OPEN AFTERNOON



THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER

SUNNY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL



OUR PE DAYS

ACORN
BIRCH
CEDAR
ELM
HAWTHORN
JUNIPER
OAK

WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
MONDAY
WEDNESDAY



To the Sunny Bank's dinner lady's, thank
you for ~~an~~ analys giving ~~for~~ us good and
to also being nice also thank you for
being amazing for evthing you've done
for us that why all of you guys
are one of my favourites every single
of you.

From Obianuju 

(You guys are the best)
(Just to know)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FINAL FANTASY XIV

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
16

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The video game Final Fantasy XIV launched in 2010, and, despite being critically panned, it saw an overhaul that has made it one of the biggest success stories in gaming. Its huge world, epic story and versatile combat system have continued to draw in new players, but there's a lot that trusted adults need to be aware of – not least the cost of paying monthly to play.

ALWAYS ONLINE



Final Fantasy XIV is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Much like World of Warcraft, players create a character in a chosen class and level up by completing quests to gain power and items. The game requires a constant internet connection, whether you're playing on PC, Mac, PlayStation or Xbox, and there's no option to play offline.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As with similar titles in the genre, players can purchase expansions to unlock additional content for the game. Those without the expansions will be locked out of certain new quests and activities, meaning that young people who play regularly will potentially have the next release earmarked on their calendar, ready to buy it as soon as possible.

IN-GAME PURCHASES & SUBSCRIPTION FEE



Users need to pay £8.99 per month to play Final Fantasy XIV, but there is a free trial. If someone stops paying, they'll lose access to their character (although they'll be able to pick up the payments again and resume where they left off). If a player forgets to cancel their payments, however, those subscription fees will continue rolling on automatically.

VOICE & TEXT CHAT



Final Fantasy XIV lets players send chat messages in-game or speak to each other over voice chat. On the one hand, that provides plenty of choice for how those enjoying the game can interact with their fellow fans. On the other hand, however, it's easier than in many games to receive unprompted messages from a stranger, with whom you constantly share your play space.

VIOLENCE



While Final Fantasy XIV has a fairly light tone throughout some of its quests, many involve killing enemies and sometimes even wild animals. The violence isn't especially strong – more comparable to a cartoon or anime style – but the act alone may make some children feel uncomfortable, if they're not yet able to separate fictional harm from the real kind.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION



As with World of Warcraft, there's an element of addiction to Final Fantasy XIV. The gameplay loop can be quite engrossing, as minutes turn into hours and hours into days while playing alone or with friends. This can potentially lead to missing real-life events, a lack of interest in any activities not related to the game and procrastination around responsibilities like schoolwork.

FREE TRIAL

Advice for Parents & Educators

MANAGE PLAYTIME



Playtime limits are a great way to counter the addictive qualities of games like Final Fantasy XIV. They allow you to discuss why it's still important to enjoy things outside of gaming while still letting a child enjoy playing online with their friends when it makes sense to do so. It's all well and good to have fun with a game, so long as they're able to step away and reconnect with the real world.

PLAY TOGETHER



The free trial makes it extremely easy to jump into Final Fantasy XIV and play alongside a child, provided they're old enough. Not only does that help you ensure that settings are adjusted for their privacy and safety, but it may also end up becoming a bonding experience for you both and any other family members that want to try it out.

MAKE USE OF THE FREE TRIAL



The Final Fantasy XIV free trial is a generous one, with no limits on how long someone can play until their character hits level 70. That's easily dozens of hours for a child to go through the game, complete quests, and see if they enjoy it before purchasing expansions or subscribing to a membership. They may well move on to something else before you need to spend so much as a penny.

REMEMBER, IT'S A PEGI 16



Despite its often-relaxing nature, Final Fantasy XIV carries a PEGI 16 rating for violence and drugs (although the latter is due to a character smoking a pipe on occasion). There's minimal blood, but characters can attack enemies (and other players) with weapons and spells. Take a look at some gameplay videos to see if the content is appropriate for a younger player.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor-in-Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A longtime fan of online games, he's also a parent, and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has previously been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/final-fantasy-14>