

The Strand

Welcome to our latest Newsletter

December 2023



What a busy term we have had. I hope you will enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter and have enjoyed seeing the amazing things that our students have been up to.

It has been lovely to see so many of you at some of our recent Christmas events, and I hoped you enjoyed them as much as we did. Your support at these events is appreciated by everyone.

We raised £57.04 from the Carol Concert retiring collection for Cromer Foodbank.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all good wishes for a healthy and happy 2024.



Ms Taylor
Headteacher

If your child is ill, please contact the school before 9.15am. Please let us know **every day** that your child is off unless you are observing the 48hour rule.



01263 578144



studentabsence@siderstrandhall.net



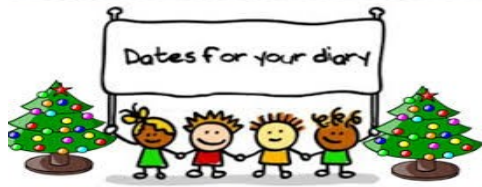
Useful Numbers

Transport - 0344 800 8020

Immunisation Team - 0300 555 5055

Santa is being cheeky. How many can you see hiding in the newsletter??





- Wednesday 20th December - last day of term, students leave at 1.30pm
- Thursday 4th January - Back to school
- Friday 16th February - last day of term, students leave normal time
- Monday 26th February - Back to school
- Wednesday 27th March - Last day of term
- Monday 15th April - Back to school



Children in Need

A big thank you to all those who donated to Children in Need. We raised a whopping **£238.65!**

Well done to our winner who won this amazing homemade Pudsey cake! I bet it tasted as good as it looks!



Sycamore Class



Another great half term in Sycamore Class. Our first trip of the year was to Blickling Hall. We started the visit off with a hot chocolate in the cafe as it was raining so hard. After a short while we were able to venture off on our walk to find The Mausoleum, a monument enclosing the burial chamber of a deceased person connected to previous owners of the hall.



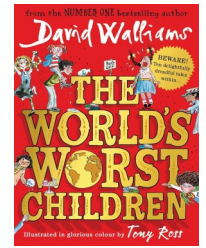
After walking for a mile and a half we managed to find it. It was very impressive. The tomb room echoed and the building itself was very mysterious. The views of the hall and lake were breath taking as were the Autumnal

colours. We walked roughly 4 miles. After lunch we were able to gain access to the gardens which were stunning and well looked after. The ground staff were in the middle of installing the Christmas lights which will look fantastic. To finish off the day we entered an historic garden house, next to the orangery, which housed a giant glitter ball!! A great day full of history, exercise, good company and fresh air. Merry Christmas everyone.





The World's Worst Children - Cedar English



Are Cedar naughty enough to be included in David Walliams - The World's Worst Children? Definitely not, but their writing certainly deserves to be in the book. Who would have thought a book about ten delightfully naughty children could inspire such amazing creativity from our own Year 10? Students in Cedar have created their own dastardly child and written about their infamous deeds.



The story of Dribbling Drew destroying the Natural History Museum with his sea of saliva inspired some fabulous formal letter writing: Everyone's letter was amazing and Mrs Gilman and Mrs Waters are so proud of the children's enthusiasm and effort. A very special mention must go to Kristin, whose letter was incredible: so funny, but with perfect grammar as well!

We are very proud to display our work in the main hall, with a huge cut-out of Windy Mindy taking centre stage. We drew around Gemma on the floor - which was a real hoot when the Headteacher walked in. She just smiled and walked back out again, so obviously normal for Sidestrand. Our next project is Earnest Ernest's advert for the Tickle Monster 3000 - and then we shall be reading and writing Christmas stories and poems - how very festive.



For free and impartial information, advice and support about special educational needs & disabilities (SEND) for children, young people, parents and carers, please look at the following website:

<https://www.norfolksendias.org.uk/>



The students from the school council went around the classes selling Poppy Appeal items.

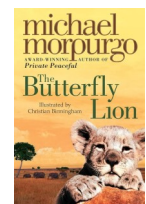
Together we raised an impressive

£170.85.



Year 11 English Group

Mrs Gilman's Year 11 English group is reading Michael Morpurgo's The Butterfly Lion, a book exploring how unexpected friendships can ease loneliness. It has certainly opened up plenty of discussion and inspired some amazing writing - especially the heartfelt letters imploring Bertie's father not to sell the white lion cub to the circus. Mrs Waters and I were so moved by our young writer's empathy and their powerful use of words.



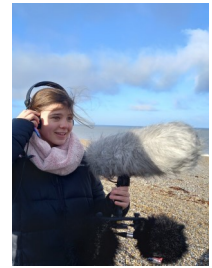
As the story moves into the First World War, we shall use this as inspiration to write and present a news report from a war torn hospital in France. This presentation forms part of the speaking and listening exam tasks. Once we finish - we shall move onto ghostly, or mysterious, short stories for Christmas! Jacob Marley may even make an appearance, rattling those chains!

Year 10 visit to Blakeney

On Friday 17th November some of the Year 10 students along with Mr Chadwick, Mrs Waters and Miss Pratt, were invited by the National Trust to visit the seals at Blakeney and to record some sounds while they were there which will later be part of the Home Sounds series on Poppyland Radio.



Martin and Rob from the National Trust led us along the shingle for two miles to see the seals that were hauled on the beach ready for mating season. The students got to have a good look at them through a telescope and with some individual recording equipment they got to record them too.



The students found lots of things on the beach while they were walking including some shells, some bits of an old boat and some interesting stones. After a packed lunch on the beach we headed back for the mini bus and a well earned hot chocolate. A round trip of 4 miles walked and the students did magnificently and all earned several house points.



Duke of Edinburgh



This term Year 10 students have been learning how to give basic first aid. We are learning this through the St John Ambulance websites and PowerPoints. We are very lucky in this school as we have our very own bike track and as part of their volunteering section they have started to clear it out so that students can then use it again in the new year.

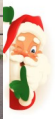
During this term Poplar class and some students from Willow class had the opportunity to go paddle boarding as part of their physical section. They all had a fantastic time. Hazel class and the rest of Willow will get the chance to have a go in April.



All Year 11 students have also been walking around the local area and have been over to Kelling Heath, preparing for their final expedition.



Hazel class and some of Willow class will be going out to the beaches to do litter picking as part of their volunteering section. The students swap later in the year so all students get the chance at everything.



The Sixth Form students have been very busy with their volunteering section. We have had students helping around the school such as helping in PE lessons, tidying the library and have had a buddy system in Lower School where they have gone to help the younger students. We have also had students help with the charity shop donations, sorting them out. Well done everyone has been a great effort by all.

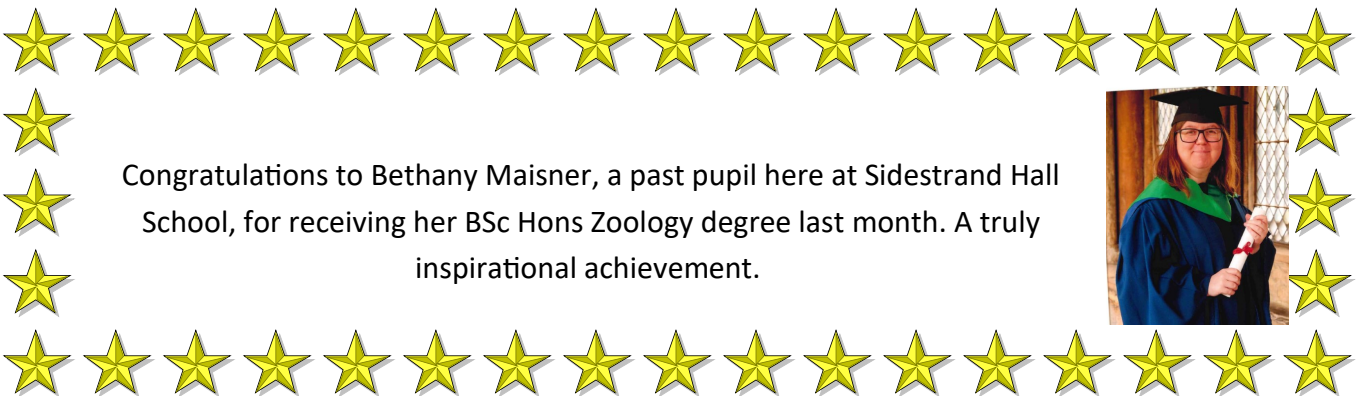
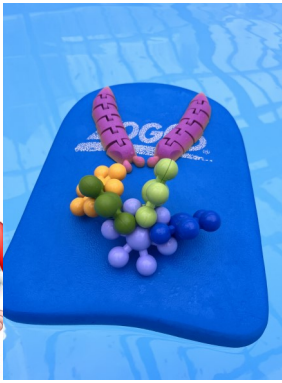


Lower School Swimming

This half term we have made silly faces on the water and under it. We also fed the hungry caterpillars. The children are currently learning to swim 5 metres front paddle unaided and are doing really well with this. Nearly all children are now swimming with aids.

We currently have 4 students who have managed to swim a whole 10m unaided and with the correct front crawl technique. Everyone has worked really hard this half term. Everyone has done well.

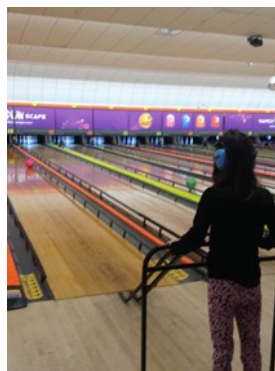
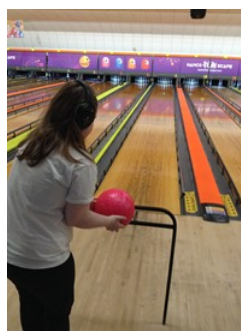
Mrs Beane



Congratulations to Bethany Maisner, a past pupil here at Sidestrans Hall School, for receiving her BSc Hons Zoology degree last month. A truly inspirational achievement.



In **Bay Class** this half term we joined lots of other schools to take part in a ten pin bowling event in Norwich. We had great fun playing a game of bowling, we waited our turn and did some awesome celebratory dances! We ate our lunch at the bowling alley before coming back to school.



Governors have completed another term's work monitoring



the life of the school – including being a part of the Ofsted visit. We are pleased to have appointed Mrs Jane Bourne as a new Co-opted Governor, and she has attended meetings already. We have enjoyed seeing Parents, Carers and Families at the Christmas events this term. The Illuminate evening was a fantastic event and a real start to the Christmas Festivities. Remember - Governors can be contacted via the school Office. We wish you a Happy Christmas!

Angela Wrighton

Chair of Governors



Wow what a half term **Fig Class** has had! In our Victorians topic the students have explored the roles of children and what conditions were like in different jobs as a Victorian child. We have played Victorian parlour games and looked at toys from the time. We also visited Blickling Hall where a Victorian Christmas greeted us as we made our way around the different rooms and we even got to see some of the beautiful lights in the gardens. We have also been to Cromer Library to return or renew our books and the students are becoming increasingly confident when visiting the cafe and making orders and



paying. In Art the students have been making Giacometti style sculpture in tin foil before being a mod-roc version. We have also been working hard on putting all of our great work on the new website so why not take a look?



What a busy term it has been! Well done to **Pine Class** for a great few months. We've enjoyed a school trip to Gressenhall for our Topic work on the Victorians, a Christmas carol concert at Norwich Cathedral and lots of the class took part in a football tournament too. The children have also enjoyed a visit by the Puppet Theatre and a talk and Q and A with a local author. In the last couple of weeks we have been busy making craft for the school Christmas Fayre and baking gingerbread biscuits to be decorated on the night! I'm always really proud of how your young people are becoming at recognising their feelings and how respectful they are of each other when we come together to discuss issues in our circle times. Thank you for your support this term. I hope you all enjoy a restful Christmas break!



Oak class have had a very busy half term! We have loved reading The Firework-Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman, making our epic wooden Christmas trees and we have been on 2 trips! One was to Norwich Cathedral which really got us into the Christmas spirit and another was a visit to The Garden House art gallery where Oak's artwork was framed and put on display next to Samuel Thomas'! Samuel also met us at the gallery and was very impressed with our final pieces.



The Oak class team would like to wish everyone a very peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Sidestrand Hall School Menu Jan 24-Easter 24

Jacket Potato with cheese or beans available each day

Packed lunch available each day with ham, cheese, egg or tuna sandwich filling plus water, fruit, yoghurt or pudding of the day



Week 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Option 1	Pork and beef meatballs with pasta, sweetcorn and Garlic Bread (GF meatballs and pasta) DF	Battered Cod, chips and peas GF & DF (GF fish fingers)	Sausage, roast potatoes, carrots, peas and gravy (GF sausage) DF	Chicken Korma with rice and naan (GF bread) GF/DF	Hot Dogs, fried onions and wedges (GF roll) DF
Option 2 (V)	Quorn sausage, Yorkshire pudding, mash potato, peas and gravy GF/DF	Quorn Bolognese with Sweetcorn and Garlic Bread GF/DF	Cheese and onion quiche, wedges and salad	Shepherdess pie with quorn mince, peas and carrots GF/DF	Vegetable lattice, wedges and salad
Pudding	Vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce GF/DF	Strawberry jelly with cream and sprinkles (DF no cream) GF	Chocolate mousse GF DF cake	Syrup sponge and custard DF cake GF Custard	Cherry Oatie GF/DF

Weeks commencing 4th Jan, 15th Jan, 29th Jan, 12th Feb, 4th Mar, 18th Mar

Week 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Option 1	Tuna pasta bake with peas and sweetcorn GF/DF	Chicken fajitas with potato wedges GF/DF	Beef and onion pie, mash broccoli, carrots and gravy GF cottage pie	Lasagne, garlic bread and salad GF/DF	Pork and apple burgers, chips GF/DF
Option 2 (V)	Veggie chilli con carne with rice and garlic bread GF/DF	Cheese, mushroom and tomato pizza with potato wedges GF/DF	Vegetable Curry with Rice and Naan bread (GF)	Quorn fillet, roast potatoes, carrots, peas and gravy GF/DF	Macaroni cheese and salad GF/DF
Pudding	Apple and Raspberry crumble with cream GF/DF	Chocolate sponge (DF) and chocolate custard GF/DF	Fruit salad with vanilla ice cream GF/DF	Eton mess GF/DF	Jam tart and custard DF no custard

Weeks commencing 8th Jan, 22nd Jan, 5th Feb, 26th Feb, 11th Mar, 25th Mar

Where possible please book online using schoolmoney website or app.
Online bookings to be received by Wednesday midnight for the following week.

Fantastic news, Cory!

Cory has won a Personal Achievement Award at the Autism Hero Awards Ceremony in London. Mr Chapman received an email from The Anna Kennedy Online Charity, who showcase and celebrate excellence in the world of Autism, to inform him that Cory was placed in the top 3 out of 1000s of candidates worldwide! The ceremony was held at the Cumberland Hotel, Oxford Street, London. Cory's award was presented to him by the Fame Academy judge David Grant MBE. It was a red-carpet event and Cory enjoyed the VIP treatment; he had a wonderful night dancing, having fun and mixing with inspiring people. Congratulations, Cory, we're very proud of you!



1. Cory with his award 2. Cory with his Mum, Dad and Anna Kennedy OBE 3. Cory and David Grant MBE

Design and Technology



As you can see from the examples below, **Beech Class** are very proficient at designing and constructing wooden products made from recycled material. Everyone enjoyed using the orbital sander to smooth out the rough bits before fixing each section together.



Christmas at Blickling Estate

Fig and Beech Class spent the day at the Blickling Estate, which is currently decked up in the style of a traditional Victorian Christmas. After lunch, the students also enjoyed walking through the grounds, as the festive lights were magical in the afternoon. Luckily, the weather held for us. Many thanks to Mrs Harvey for arranging such a successful trip.

Special guest – Reverend Billings – to see Sycamore and Beech

Reverend Billings visited us where he answered questions that we were intrigued to ask. All to do with Christian places of worship, training in Christianity and the messages of the bible. A fascinating Q&A. Mr Hamilton even got to dress up!!



With the increase of bugs and germs around due to Winter, please have a look at the NHS website for the latest guidance.

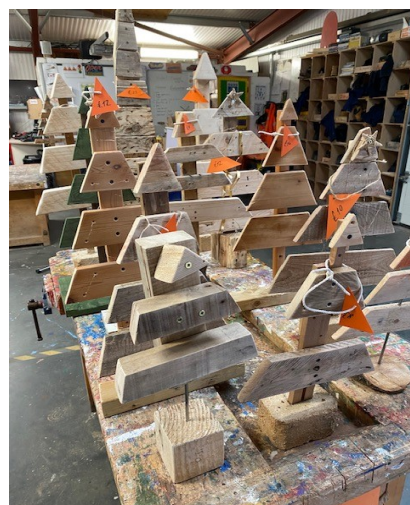


<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Enterprise and Construction Groups – Year 10 and 11

A busy half term in the workshop making Christmas trees and reindeer for The Christmas Fayre.

By the end of the term all pupils were able to work independently at their work station. We hope to raise more money for Strands Charity from further sales at our market stall in Aylsham Market Place on Friday the 22nd of December.



Conkers have been intrepid explorers this term! It wasn't possible to organise a real visit to the Polar regions so... we brought the Polar regions to us! We have been learning lots of facts about the arctic and antarctic, studying the animals and learning about the people who live there. We have looked at some amazing pictures of the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) and created art work to reflect these. We finished our topic by creating our very own polar village called Iglington!



Anguish's Educational Foundation Area of Benefit

The City of Norwich and the parishes of:

- Costessey
- Hellesdon
- Catton
- Sprowston
- Thorpe St. Andrew
- Corpusty

Overall aim

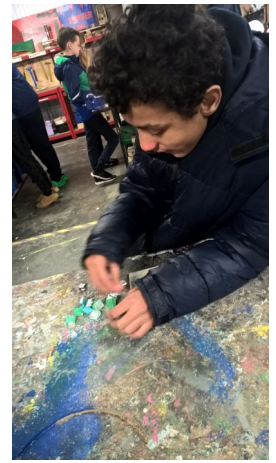
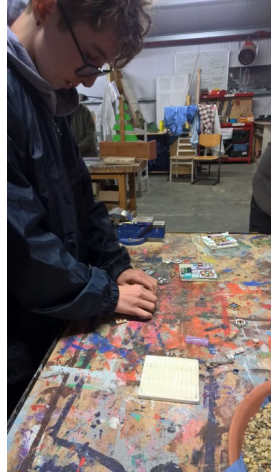
The education* of persons under the age of 25 who are in need of financial assistance. *NB – we interpret the word 'education' appropriately broadly. Application forms for school uniform and school residential trips are now on-line. Parents will need to contact us for the appropriate link. If parents are struggling to complete their form on-line they should let us know and we will help them. Please do not complete the on-line form on their behalf, because the application has to be associated with the applicant's email address.

We are no longer accepting the old-style paper forms. If you have any queries about this please get in touch at

info@norwichcharitabletrusts.org.uk



Life in Residential



Chrissie Copen our independent visitor ran an art club. We all had to design a mosaic on a tile using different materials as you can see there were some pretty good designs. We will continue with art club in the New Year. Thank you Chrissie we had great fun.



Sidestrand Hall has a new car!

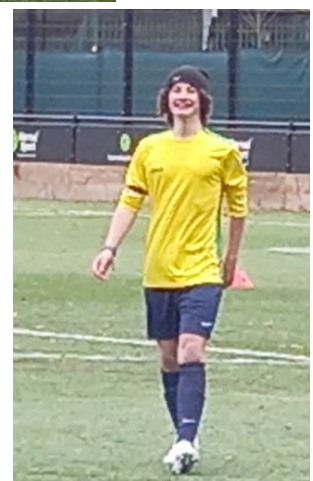
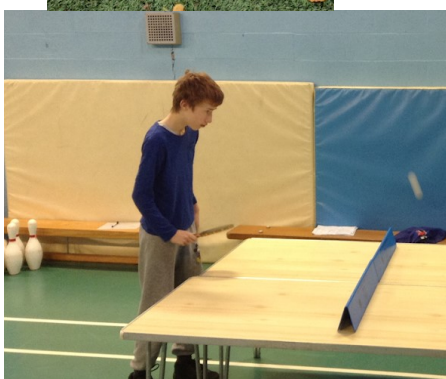
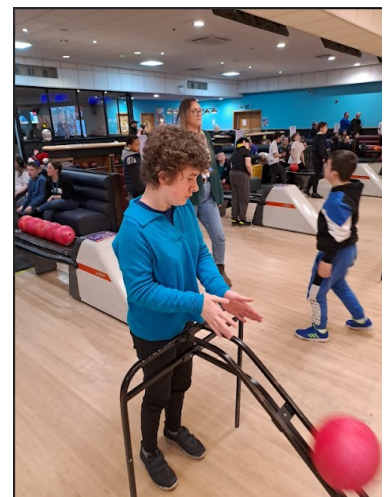
Colby Dowe has been integral in sorting out a new car for the school. We have purchased a Dacia Jogger. Colby kept in contact with the dealer. When it was ready Colby was more than happy to help collect it. Terry very kindly showed Colby around the garage and Colby put Terry through his paces with his car knowledge. Thank you to everyone at Dacia for making us feel so welcome.



This term we had our annual residential OFSTED inspection. We are really pleased with the outcome. We would like to thank everyone who is involved in supporting the Residential provision at Sidestrand Hall. The final report will be posted on our website for people to read.

PE News

During this half term all students have tried different types of Invasion games. These mainly include Basketball and Hockey where both games have an emphasis on teamwork. Some students have been lucky enough to try out a new sport to them which was Table Tennis. Year 10 students have particularly enjoyed this meaning there will be a new Table Tennis club start up in January. Some students have been able to try out some Circuit training and Boxing techniques. Sports Leaders started to deliver activities to Oak and Beech class which has seen their confidence improve when giving instructions and leading mini sessions. We had a few trips out with a Year 7-11 Football trip at the FDC where all students got to play on the Astro Turf pitch and represent the school in competitive games. Bay class got to go to Namco and try out some bowling. Well done to Harry in Bay who got the highest score. Enjoy the Christmas break and be ready for some Cross Country, Handball and Gymnastics when we return.





We had another spectacular Christmas Fayre this year.

Thank you to all those who donated items, organised the event and for all those who came along for an evening of fun. We even had a visit from Father Christmas!!

