The Strand

Welcome to our latest newsletter - April 2025

office@sidestrandhall.norfolk.sch.uk

How lovely it is to see some Spring Sunshine! We have had an incredibly busy term and I hope you enjoy reading our Newsletter. As always at Sidestrand lots going on with many exciting learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. Along with supporting Red Nose day which the students enjoyed doing something funny for money!

Whilst there is not much to report on the new build, I am pleased to announce that planning has been passed and so we wait to hear more news on this, hopefully there will be some more news in the summer term.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter Holiday.

Ms Taylor

Headteacher

If your child is off due to a medical/ dental appointment, please can you provide proof of appointment i.e letter confirming the time and date.

The Governing Board is still looking for a Parent Governor to join us. If you feel you have the time and skills to fill this vacancy, please contact me to have chat about what it means to be a Parent Governor.

Remember - Governors can be contacted via the school Office.

Angela Wrighton

Chair of Governors

- Friday 4th April - Last day of term, students leave at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 23rd April - Back to school
- Monday 5th May - Bank holiday
- Friday 23rd May - Last day of term, students leave normal time
- Monday 2nd June - Back to school
- Tuesday 22nd July - Last day of term, students leave at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 3rd September - Back to school

Following continuation of the HAF funding by the Government , Norfolk County Council are extending their funding of Financial Support Vouchers to March 2026. These vouchers will be sent out via the school (by email - preferred or as a paper copy) as follows:

April (£30), May (£15) and June (£15)	Total £60 to be issued 23.5.25
July (£30) and August(£30)	Total £60 to be issued 18.7.25
Sept (£15) and October (£15)	Total £30 to be issued 26.9.25
Nov (£15) and Dec (£30)	Total £45 to be issued 28.11.25
Jan 26 (£15) Feb (£15) and March (£15)	Total £45 to be issued 13.2.25

Total funding per eligible pupil £240. The vouchers will be issued to those pupils in receipt of free school meals and 16-19 bursary.

Norfolk County Council

Please ensure you contact reception **EVERY DAY** that your child is off sick before 9.15am.

This could either be via telephone, leave a message or by email.

01263 578144— opt 5 to speak to reception

01263 578144— opt 1 to leave a message

studentabsence@sidestrandhall.net

please note the email address

Strands Charity Shop

We are looking for volunteers to help out in our school charity shop in Cromer. If you would like more information please contact the School Business Manager (Wendy) at the school or Sheila Neale, the Shop Manager on 01263 515188. Volunteers will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Bay Class

We had a fantastic trip to Roarr! Dinosaur Park. We enjoyed taking part in the dinosaur trail, playing on the park and slides, digging for fossils, watching the theatre show and going in the indoor play area.

In our topic this half term, we have been learning all about The Stone Age. We've looked at the art found on cave walls and how the people from that age would sign their art work (handprints!). We recreated the cave walls from the story 'Cave Baby' and loved sitting under our desks to draw on our own cave walls. The finished collaborative art piece looks fantastic and is on proud display in Bay Class.

Blast off with Comets!

A safe space for disabled children aged 5 - 11 to kickstart their football journey

COMETS
Disability x Football

Scan here to see Comets in action!

Time and Date:	5-6pm Starting 06/11/24
Location:	Cromer Academy - Indoor sports Hall
Contact:	Chris
Phone:	07903290739
Email:	secretary@cromeryouthfootballclub.co.uk

ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Get in touch to book your first session

Jammy Easter egg biscuits

These adorable jam and lemon curd filled biscuits in the shape of Easter eggs are super easy to make with kids over the holidays and make a change from chocolate. (Of course, you can also fill them with chocolate!)

Ingredients

- 100g/3½oz unsalted butter, softened
- 100g/3½oz caster sugar
- 200g/7oz plain flour, plus extra to dust
- 1 lemon, zest only
- 1½ tbsp full-fat milk
- 100g/3½oz lemon curd and/or jam

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4 and line two large baking trays with parchment paper.
2. Put the soft butter and the sugar in a bowl and beat with an electric whisk until smooth and creamy. Add the flour, lemon zest and milk and mix until you have a smooth dough.
3. Take 2 sheets of parchment paper and put the dough in between them. Roll it out so it is around 3mm thick. If it's a hot day and the dough is soft, you can chill the dough for up to an hour at this point.
4. Remove the top piece of paper then cut out about 20 egg shapes, re-rolling the dough if you need to. Put half of them onto one lined baking tray. These will be the bottom biscuits.
5. Cut a hole in the lower-middle of each remaining egg shape using a 2.5cm/1in round cutter.
6. Put the cut-out centre circles onto the other lined baking tray. Bake the biscuits on both trays for 12 minutes, or until golden-brown at the edges. (The biscuits with the holes will need slightly less time.)
7. Leave to cool for 2 minutes on the tray and then transfer to a wire rack and leave to cool completely.
8. Once completely cool, sift a little icing sugar over the biscuits with the holes. Spread about 1 teaspoon of jam or lemon curd onto the underside of each whole biscuit. Then place a cut-out biscuit on top so the curd comes through the hole slightly. Serve or store in a biscuit tin until ready to serve.

For this recipe and others, please go to their website: https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/collections/easter_baking_with_kids

Kids can make their own Easter greeting cards with this easy craft idea. The printed effect adds a lovely DIY touch to their cards, plus it's low-cost to make and only takes 15 minutes to make.

To make egg potato printing, you will need:

- Potatoes
- Paint
- Paint brush
- Card

What to do:

1. Cut a potato in half and carefully carve out some shapes - Stripes or sports look good
2. Use a paintbrush to paint your chosen paint colours onto the potato, then use as a stamp to make patterns for Easter greeting cards.

This craft idea was taken from the following website: https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/easter-crafts/

PE News

This term the students have been learning new skills for a range of different sports including Tennis, Badminton and Lacrosse. These skills have improved their hand-eye coordination and resilience to not give up when trying tricky sports. New things can be hard to begin with but they get easier after lots of hard work and determination which the students have shown especially this term.

The Year 8 Table Cricket team competed at the Norfolk Table Cricket Championships and once again represented the school amazingly well with the super captaincy from Jayden (Chestnut), which helped lead the team to an impressive 3rd place finish. Well done to all for your efforts and great teamwork throughout the day

This term has also seen the start of a Fencing Club on Friday lunchtimes. Two students asked if we could start this club and now 6 sessions later they have taught one another and myself lots of new moves in a safe way. Well done Dom and Mason for your hard work and sharing your passion for fencing.

The highly anticipated Football Tournament at the FDC finally got put on this term. Sidestrand took 4 teams to compete in different age groups and the students represented the school very well. Lots of goals and great saves throughout the day. Special mention to Leo (Beech) who did not stop running and worked so hard for his team in his first ever football tournament. Also to James (Pine) who captained his team by fine example and was a role model to many how he conducted himself. Well done to all that took part.

We took over 60 students to the Norfolk Cross Country Championships organised by Mrs Beane. The day was beautiful sunshine and over 200 students from all different schools competing against one another. Special mention to Ariana (Conkers) who has a brilliant running technique and kept Mr Hale busy trying to get an action shot as she was so fast! Also well done to Theo (Maple) who put in an amazing effort to finish 4th and has really understood how to pace himself during Cross Country running. Thank you to all the students and staff that made it a very enjoyable day and a great success.

Oak class

Oak class have loved our topic on 'why the earth moved' and really enjoyed being rock detectives and finding out what different rocks are used for! We used magnifying glasses and factsheets to aid our investigation!

Fig class

We have enjoyed finishing off work on the Egyptians with soap carving, food tasting, mummifying a tomato and role playing being Howard Carter discovering Tutankhamun's tomb for the first time and finding 'wonderful things'! In English the class has been studying A Midsummer Night's Dream, writing and making their own potions and designing their own fairies. In Outdoor Learning, we have linked to our English work making dome dream catchers using a mixture of natural and hand made materials. Finally in DT the class made lighthouses which they were super proud of!

Pine class

We've had a busy few weeks in Pine Class and we've loved to be able to get outside in the recent Spring weather. In Outdoor Learning we've been climbing trees, litter collecting and whittling sticks. In Art, we have been enjoying learning about the patterns used in African art and paper weaving and in Topic we've been enjoying studying different sorts of rocks, making the earth's structure from Play dough and making volcanoes. We continue to be impressed with the growing maturity, kindness and consideration your people are showing and well done to Pine Class members for representing the school at recent football and cross country events - brilliant stuff!

Rainbow Award Update

There has been some great work taking place in school around LGBTQ+. One pupil used their target time work and in developing their fine motor skills, also incorporated LGBTQ+ themes into it by creating badges to represent the different LGBTQ+ sexualities. When asked why she had done this she said 'because I want to stop homophobia'. She hopes to make more badges and give them to her peers and others. Brilliant work! Meanwhile staff have had training on challenging the language we hear in school. This has provoked some interesting and thoughtful discussions between both staff and pupils. Don't forget to check out the Rainbow Award website page for support/guidance and to see what else we have been up to.

NORFOLK LGBT+ PROJECT
SUPPORT INFORMATION ADVICE

Red Nose Day was a roaring success with pupils enjoying playing games, treating themselves to a cake at the cake sale, getting active for the basketball house challenge and following our outside puzzle trail and making people laugh in our 'funniest form' competition!

These events cannot happen without the support of our parents and carers so thank you so much for sending in your loose change and cakes for us to sell. It is all really appreciated.

We are very proud to announce that Comic Relief will be receiving a cheque for a whopping **£416.06** from Sidestrand Hall School.

Thank you again to everyone involved!

RED NOSE DAY

From 1st April 2025 the government have introduced new rules around how organisations, including schools, dispose of waste.
Schools will be required to separate and pay for the disposal of food waste including food left over from packed lunches. This obviously increases our costs and reduces what we have to spend on learning.
We would like to ask for parents/carers support with this by asking you to think carefully about what is put in lunchboxes to minimise waste and our costs. At this time we won't be sending waste home to be disposed of but may need to think of this in the future.

Together we can reduce waste, protect the environment and help our school make the most of its funding.

Chestnut class

What a busy term we have had in Chestnut Class. Chestnut class had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day and Red Nose Day. They enthusiastically took part in all the activities planned, making the days both fun and memorable. This term in topic students explored how mountains are formed and engaged in a hands-on activity to create their own volcanoes. They learned about plate tectonics and how the Earth's movements shape the landscape over the time. As part of the lesson they built model volcanoes and observed an exciting eruption experiment. In maths students have been developing their understanding of multiplication and division using a variety of resources. They have also been exploring the concept of money, developing their skills in handling and calculating with different amounts.

CSODS Presents
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Relaxed Performance
26th May, 12pm

What is a relaxed performance?
A relaxed performance is a theatre show especially for audiences who find the traditional theatre setting challenging. The show has been adapted to suit those who might require a slighly more relaxed environment when attending the theatre.

What is the show about?
Based on Roald Dahl's beloved book, the story describes Charlie Bucket and his extraordinary visit to Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory. With a heartwarming story, and a cast of unforgettable characters, this musical is a sweet treat you won't want to miss!

What to expect
- Pre-show introduction from some of the cast
- Limited flashing or strobe lighting
- Reduced sound from the orchestra and sound effects
- House lights will remain on but slightly dimmed
- No restrictions on moving around the auditorium
- Plenty of space between seats
- Feel free to bring along ear defenders and fidgets toys to support any sensory needs

When booking, please give our box office any information about your group's needs so we can accomodate as much as possible.

Enjoy the same great story, now with sensory-friendly comfort taking centre stage!

Additional Information

CSODS is thrilled to bring a relaxed performance to Cromer Pier.

Guests of all ages and abilities are encouraged to attend and experience the sweetness and magic of a live performance of a well known story, in a more relaxed and calm theatre environment.

Please join us if you or someone you know would benefit from a less traditional theatre experience. This show is ideal for first-time audience members, families with young children, community members with SEND, or those who simply want to enjoy this wonderful show!

Experience the same great story, now with sensory-friendly comfort taking centre stage!

What to expect at our relaxed performance

- Cromer Pier staff and CSODS members will provide all audience members with a kind welcome and assistance as needed
- Some of the cast will provide a pre-show introduction
- All kinds of reactions and expressions will be fully embraced and supported
- An atmosphere where audience members feel comfortable and relaxed during the performance
- Limited seating capacity to allow for space between bookings
- Movement around the auditorium is welcomed
- House lights will be on but dimmed
- Reduced noise from our orchestra and sound effects
- Flashing and strobe lighting will be limited
- Encouraged to bring along ear defenders or fidget toys to support any sensory needs

See just Act 1, Act 2 or stay for the whole show!

Life in Residential

This term lots of fun has been had at Lego club and Drama club.
The activities at Lego club included building a cool tower, building a car to keep an egg safe and a boat that would float. Everyone did really well with the tasks. We are pleased to report that there were only two egg casualties.
Drama club was fun drama games and looking at building characters using hats and props. The children really engaged in the clubs. Children have made suggestions for clubs next term including Dance club, bicycle club and boardgames.

Poppyland boys did really well planning a trip using public transport, going to a cafe and then playing on the beach. Jaxson displayed his quality connect 4 skills at Halsey house. We were also treated to a fantastic performance of the "Doom", a pirate show written and produced by the children, with a wonderful cameo from a seagull!

Arbor Parent Portal

You should have received a 'Welcome email' from Arbor enabling you to sign into the Parent portal or app, if not please contact the school via the parent portal email listed below. All payments will be processed through Arbor which will be much easier as it will be a single system for payments and school communications.

A few tips if you are having trouble logging in:

- The link is only live for 96 hours, if it has stopped working you will need to contact us for a new link.
- You need to agree to the terms of use on first login to enable your school account.

For a Password reset, please click the forgot your password on the login page, this should send an email to the email registered with us. If you do not receive one it maybe that the email address we have is different to the one you want to use. This will need updating with us before we can reset the password.

If you get a message that your account is suspended, you won't be able to log in. You'll need to contact us via the parent portal email to enable your account.

Arbor Help Guide The link will take you to the Arbor Help guide for a more.

For any issues or queries regarding the parent portal please email the school at:
parentportalqueries@sidestrandhall.net

We are encouraging all parents to use Arbor to book meals and pay for trips etc and your support with this is much appreciated.

Arbor

SIDESTRAND HALL SCHOOL LUNCH MENU Summer Menu Easter - Nov

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 A	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot	Sausage and tomato bake with salad and garlic bread GF/DF	BBQ chicken with wedges and sweet corn GF/DF	Roast Beef with Roast potatoes carrots, peas and gravy GF/DF	Chilli with Rice, salad and tacos GF/DF	Battered cod with chips and beans GF/DF
Vegetarian	Veggie curry with rice and naan GF/DF	Cheese potato pie with beans and coleslaw GF/DF	Herb coated Quorn fillet Roast potatoes carrots ,peas DF	Cheese and onion lattice with new potatoes, salad and coleslaw	Veggie nuggets with chips and beans DF
Dessert	Fruit oatie DF	Summer fruit crumble with cream (GF/DF Cake)	Strawberry jelly with cream sprinkles GF	Vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce GF/DF	Double chocolate chip muffin (GF/DF Cake)
Week One: 23rd April, 6th ,19th May,9th, 23rd June, 7th, 21st July					

Week B	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot	Pork and beef meatballs with pasta and garlic bread GF/DF	Southern fried chicken wraps with wedges and salad GF/DF	Vegetarian lasagne with salad and garlic bread GF	Chicken korma Rice and naan GF/DF	Hot dogs with chips GF/DF
Vegetarian	Cheese and tomato pizza with wedges GF/DF	Veggie sausage pasta bake with salad and garlic bread GF/DF	Cheese and tomato Quiche with salad and coleslaw	Veggie lasagne with salad and garlic bread	Veggie burger with chips
Dessert	Peach and apple crumble with cream (GF/DF Cake)	Jam sponge with custard (GF/DF Cake)	Orange jelly with cream and sprinkles GF/DF	Chocolate oatie with icing (GF/DF Cake)	Vanilla cupcake with icing (GF/DF Cake)
Week Two: 28th April, 12th May,2nd, 16th. 30th June, 14th July					

All bookings and payments should now be done, where possible, using our new bookings system via Arbor