

Fairway Primary Academy Newsletter 20.9.24

Message from Mr Mann

Dear Parents/Carers

The weather continues to be undecided about whether summer has ended and Autumn has started, yet we will enjoy the sunny days for as long as possible. We come to school in big jumpers, but seem to be in summer mode by the late afternoon!!

In classes, the children are now fully into their subjects and school is in full swing, with the children continuing to produce some lovely work. The new Ipads for KS1 will be in use from next week!

Best wishes

Darren Mann



General information



Healthy Schools

School is actively supporting the Healthy Schools agenda by using the guidelines from the Government and the NHS for eating and drinking in school. In this guidance and support, it encourages children and adults to make sensible choices in their foods and drinks to ensure a happy and long healthy life. Please see the following links to the Healthy Eating and drinking pages.

Healthy eating - School Zone | School Zone | Campaign Resource Centre (dhsc.gov.uk)

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/water-drinks-nutrition/>

It is following these projects that school has asked for parent support by:

- Only sending water into school in a water bottle. The children can fill up these at school if needed, but one bottle should be enough as the children also have access to drinks at lunchtime.
- Ensuring that all water bottles have a sports cap and are made of plastic. Unfortunately, screw-top bottles cause more spillage and metal ones can also cause damage if misused or dropped. With the use of laptops and Ipads in school daily, only sports top bottles will be allowed on the children's tables. If you have purchased a screw-top or metal bottle, please register at the office and school will provide a replacement. Existing bottles can continue to be used in the meantime
- Not sending in unhealthy snacks for consumption at breaktimes. No chocolate (or food that contains chocolate), sweets or crisps are allowed at breaktime, but chocolate and they can be part of a packed lunch.
- Please remember that we are a nut-free school and this applies to breaktime snacks as well as school lunches. It is for this reason that Nutella is not allowed in school.
- Considering a balanced approach for school lunches. Please look at the guidance from the websites above

If you have any suggestions, then please speak to your class teacher about it.

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Awards

A special mention for Ewan Webb in Year 6, who won the Kings Norton Tennis Club Boys U11 championship. A great achievement and done with excellent sportsmanship as well. Congratulations from everyone at school.

The following children have received head-teacher awards

Louis Y2, Emily, Tyler, Toby Y6, Hollie, Isabelle Y3

The following children have received certificates in Celebration Assembly over the last two weeks.

Year 6- Tilly, Tyler-James, Ava-May, Ewan, Jaxon-Oliver, Amelia

Year 5- Ethan, Aoife, Alex, Paul, Elizabeth, Minnie

Year 4- Charles, Maya, Scarlett, Julian, Viaan, Amelia

Year 3- Edward, Olivia, Ivy, Mason, Clayton, Isabelle

Year 2- James, Hallie, Oscar, William, Ava, Abel

Year 1- Beatrice, A'rayah, Mickey, Anas, Ischa, Cradley

Reception- Toby, Zoe

Fairway Curriculum Promise-

Each newsletter will now show the extra learning and experiences the children receive at school that are above the requirements of the National Curriculum, but form part of our Pupil Promise to all children. Please speak to your child about these extra learning opportunities.

Week 3 Assemblies

- The whole school will have an assembly delivered by Mrs Hammett-Kay on school behaviour. This is a planned assembly, and not due to any current issues.
- KS2 will have an assembly on Anne Frank (<https://www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank>)

Week 4 Assemblies

- The whole school will have an assembly delivered by Mr Mann on our key values of Being, Belonging and Becoming
- KS1 will have an assembly on Danny Elfman (<https://www.dannyelfman.com/>)
- KS2 will have an assembly on Rogers and Hammerstein (<https://rodgersandhammerstein.com>)

Parents Workshop

Year 1 will had their first parent workshop on Wednesday 18th September 2024. Thank you to all parents who attended

Year 6 will have a SATs workshop on Wednesday 2nd October 2024. Further information will be sent out about this event over the next week.

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Attendance Target – Each child to be in school all day, every day.

Please see the weekly and culminative attendance of each class since the beginning of this term.

Class	Week 1 attendance	Week 2 Attendance	Attendance Since September	Persistent absence
Rec	96.74%	87.7%		
Year 1	97.99%	96.67%	96.4%	10%
Year2	91.67%	92.08%	91.5%	20.8%
Year 3	98.71%	96.08%	96.9%	9.7%
Year 4	97.58%	93.03%	95.1%	17.2%
Year 5	95.33%	91.67%	92.6%	26.7%
Year 6	98.62%	91.63%	95.5%	17.2%

Greenheart Learning Partnership Update



Greenheart continues to support school and we are proud to announce the following announcements or improvements in school:

CEO visit

On Wednesday 11th September, we were delighted to welcome Professor Michelle Money and Phillip Scott into school for a visit to all the classrooms to see the children. Professor Money was extremely impressed with the behaviour and attitude of the children, and witnessed some lovely activities in the classrooms.

Mrs Money also congratulated our new school Head and Deputy Head children on their appointment. These children are:

- Ivy Hinks and Emily- Grace Boehmer as Head children
- Toby Potter and Daniyal Uddin as Deputy Head children.

These children will be part of the school council, alongside other children from each year group. These elections will be held in school next week. The School council has an important role in representing the views of children at school, but also in Greenheart-wide children's meetings.

Staffing

We are proud that announce that Mrs Byrne is joining school part time to support Year 4 every week during Miss Warne's release time and every other week in Year 5 to cover the leadership time for Mrs Hammett-Kay over our two week timetable, I am sure parents will welcome her into school.

School Procedures for PE and Class Interventions

At the start of the school term, we partially returned to the practice of children getting changed in school for PE. This was the normal school arrangement before Covid 19 caused the introduction of bubbles and restricted activities to stop the pandemic. We understand that this is a gradual step, which is why we are still allowing the children to remain in PE kits to come home after PE lessons. Children learning to get changed for PE is important for many reasons, but the three main benefits are as followed:

- **Safeguarding procedures:** - School has a duty to safeguard all children, and part of this is to ensure that children are not being injured or abused at home. Whilst we do not suspect it is happening, we must be sure it isn't happening. When children get changed for PE, more observations can be made to ensure our children are protected and bruises are not being hidden.
- **Gross and Fine motor movements:** - The act of changing clothes, removing shoes and tying laces are important steps to promote independence and increasing control of their own muscles and bodies, whilst supporting learning pathways within the brain. There are clear research links between tying laces and pen control for handwriting and reading proficiency. It also helps school identify any issues related to dyslexia, dyspraxia and other hand/eye spatial awareness issues.
- **Culture and ethos:** - Children are taught to wear appropriate clothes for appropriate academic or physical activities. In preparation for secondary school and later work opportunities, all children must learn that there are rules for different establishments and wearing of school uniform (or work uniforms) is expected whether they agree with it or not. We are asking all parents to support this, but we understand that it may cause frustration at home as children build their own resilience to following rules they disagree with.

We have also had a number of parents raise concern that their child is returning home upset or worried about some of the actions in the classroom and/or the intervention areas outside of the classroom. I hope the following information helps reassure parents that these actions and responses are normal and appropriate.

School has extended the classroom environments to include additional intervention areas outside of the classroom. These areas are utilised in all lessons to give children additional space to complete learning or receive extra support. It is not intended as a punishment, but can be used for a number of reasons such as:

- **Additional reading or work interventions from additional adults.** This is especially so on our Post-tutoring sessions held everyday where children receive extra support if they have not fully achieved the learning objective in the lesson, or are being extended further for greater depth. This practice was observed during our Ofsted and praised as a daily support mechanism for children and their learning.
- **Focus areas.** If a child is not focused or is being disrupted by others, these areas proved extra space to allow all children to focus on their own work or in small groups. This can occur in lesson time throughout the day and is aimed at getting the best learning for individual children as well as supporting group work.

I would also like to ask parents to support school in ensuring the school rules are followed. This does mean that children do get reminded to complete appropriate amounts of work and have expectations placed on their behaviour. School will quickly break down if we stop our teachers from correctly maintaining work expectations or allow children to behave inappropriately towards other children or adults. Unfortunately, some children will be upset about these expectations, but we must build resilience and work with individual children and families to support this. Our behaviour policy is available if parents want to view it or please come and speak directly to me.

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Important dates

These dates are currently provisional and are subject to change.

New Academic Year

Wednesday 4th September 2024- All children will return to school after the Summer Holidays

Wednesday 18th September 2024- Year 1 Workshop

Wednesday 2nd October 2024- Year 6 SATs workshop

Monday 7th October 2024- Mental Health Day (Wear Yellow day)

Tuesday 8th October 2024 Year 4 Parent Workshop

Wednesday 9th October 2024- Reception Parent Workshop

Tuesday 15th October 2024- Year 3 Parent Workshop

Monday 21st – Friday 25th November- Black History Month

Tuesday 22nd October 2024- Year 2 Parent Workshop

Friday 25th October 2024- Children will break up for half-term.

Monday 4th November 2024- Children will return to school for the Autumn second half-term

Thursday 7th November 2024- Year 6 Parent workshop

Monday 11th-Friday 15th November 2024- Anti Bullying Week

Thursday 14th November 2024- Year 5 Parent workshop

Friday 15th November 2024- Children in Need Day- Non- uniform

Thursday 28th November 2024- Year 3 Parent Workshop

Thursday 5th December 2024- Year 2 Parent Workshop

Monday 9th December 2024- KS1 Nativity Play at 9am – Ticket only

Thursday 12th December 2024- KS1 Nativity Play at 2pm- Ticket only

Tuesday 17th December 2024- KS2 Carol Concert at 9am- Ticket only

Wednesday 18th December 2024- KS2 Carol Concert at 2pm- Ticket only

Thursday 19th December 2024- Christmas Jumper Day and Party Afternoon

Friday 20th December 2024- The children will break up for the Christmas Holidays

Quick reminders

- Please do not allow the children to access the forest school areas either before or after school. These areas need supervision from an adult to be used.