

Fawkham C of E Primary School



Valley Road, Fawkham,
Longfield, Kent DA3 8NA

Tel: 01474 702312

Headteacher: Miss M J Bridges B.Ed Hons NPQH

Email: headteacher@fawkham.kent.sch.uk

office@fawkham.kent.sch.uk

www.fawkham.kent.sch.uk



Parents as Partners

John Chapter 10 Verse 10 – I came that you may have life; life in all its fullness

Our Fawkham Family helps everyone to:-

- Follow in the footsteps of God, with God's love, help and guidance,
- Know that we are all special and different and that God has created us in this unique way
- Feel safe, happy and confident in our loving caring Christian family
- Work together through the living out day by day of our Core Christian Values
- Try our best, with the light of Jesus inspiring us to be the best that we can be ensuring that we flourish

DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE AT FAWKHAM CEP SCHOOL

5th September 2022

Dear Parent,

Newsletter 1

Firstly, I would like to say welcome back to school and the beginning of the new academic year. I trust that you all had a fantastic summer and managed to enjoy the time with your children, family and friends.

A special welcome to all the new children who have joined our Fawkham Family: We hope that Thia, Eddie, Oakley, Caris, Frankie-Rose, Isla, Edith, Arthur, Maisie, Jacob, Albert, Aleksandra, Charlotte, Vogue, Harry and Isla all thoroughly enjoy their time here at Fawkham.

We also officially welcome Miss Winzar our new school secretary, Mrs Fryer our new Finance and Data Officer and we welcome back Mrs Watson as a teaching assistant.

Dates for the Diary

Attached to this newsletter are the diary dates for the whole of the academic year. As always, I will inform you of any changes or additions as soon as possible, should the need arise.

Please ensure that you note down all of the key dates in your own diaries and on calendars so that you and your children do not miss out on all of the great things that we have planned.



After School Clubs

A letter about school clubs will be sent out this week, all after school clubs will start week beginning 26th September and will end on 9th December.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers and TAs, who run clubs during their own time and on a completely voluntary/unpaid basis, for their dedication to the children and our school.

Tag Days 2022 – 2023

Office staff waste a lot of time collecting money on Tag Days, completing paperwork and chasing non-payment so if you would like your child to take part in the ten school Tag Days this year – where your child may wear their own sensible clothes rather than wearing school uniform to school – then you need to make your donation of £10 in one payment via ParentMail before the first Tag Day at the end of this month.



TCS and School Dinners

As you know all parents with infant aged children can access the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

Can I please remind all parents that if your child is having school dinners albeit for one or five days each week you need to have booked the meals on line by midnight on the preceding Sunday. Unfortunately, if this deadline isn't met TCS will not be able to provide meals as sufficient food will not have been ordered.

Please also note that any changes from dinners/packed lunch/dinners must give one week's notice to the office staff so that Mrs Ebbs can accurately plan her food orders.

Please ensure that if Junior children are having school dinners that payments are made in a timely fashion as TCS staff spend a lot of time chasing late payments, thank you for your help in this.



School Funds

During last academic year we held lots of events in school to raise money for numerous resources and extras for the children that could not be purchased from our main budget. We raised a staggering £7408 and have spent the money on the following:-

- 16 new laptops for lessons contribution of £1500
- Maths Resources – manipulatives £400
- The Initial Little Wandle Reading/Phonics Scheme £4000
- Kapow Music project - £180
- Sketch books for all children - £360
- Ice Cream to have at the pantomime £125
- Maths Workshops £460
- Leavers Treat £150
- Bouncy Castles for summer afternoon in the sun £310

Friends of Fawkham

Last academic year the PTA team raised just over £4200 (gross income) and bought the following for our school:-



- Leavers Bibles £450
- Coloured pens, pencils and highlighters £400
- Books for our school Library £110
- Headteacher Tea Party Refreshments approx. £150
- Leavers' Gifts £150
- Leaver's treat donation £150
- ParentKind subscription £116
- Christmas gifts from Father Christmas £100
- Easter eggs £100
- Platinum Jubilee gifts for the children £350
- £1300 left to help fund things this year

PLEASE come to the AGM on TUESDAY 13th September at 7:00pm held in school.

Teachers/TA cover

Teachers need to attend courses and meetings during the year to keep up to date with current educational thinking that will enable us to further develop as a school. When teachers are out of school their classes will be taught by the following members of staff:-

Dormice	Miss Payne and Mrs Panesar	Mrs Wise or Mrs Watson
Hedgehogs	Miss Rawlings	Miss Bridges or Miss Burchell
Badgers	Mrs Golding-Williams	Miss Bridges or Miss Atkins
Squirrels	Miss Hurdle	Miss Bridges or Mrs Foreman

As always all classes will also have a TA supporting them:-

Class	TA
Dormice	Mrs Wise Mon/Tues/Wed, Mrs Watson Thu/Fri
Hedgehogs	Miss Atkins Mon pm and Miss Burchell T/W/Th/F
Badgers	Miss Atkins full time apart from Mon pm
Squirrels	Mr Banks full time
As last year Mrs Foreman will be teaching maths across KS1 and KS2 in the mornings and then teaching Badgers or Squirrels each afternoon.	

Teachers PPA cover

Planning, Preparation and Assessment time (PPA) and cover for teachers NQT time and Leadership time this year is as follows:-

Teacher	PPA Day	Class Cover
Miss Rawlings	Mondays	Miss Richardson
Mrs Golding-Williams	Tuesdays	Miss Richardson
Miss Hurdle	Tuesday afternoon	Mrs Foreman

Please be aware that the class teachers may not be on the school premises during their PPA time. Please also note that in addition to those teaching the classes there will also be a TA in each class.

Harvest Festival in St Mary's Church

Our first service is on Wednesday 28th September at 9am. Everyone will need to bring their child to church in full school uniform. Parents are welcome to stay for the service after which you need to drive your child back to school. Please send any harvest donations into school on Tuesday 27th so that they may be taken to St Mary's and displayed before the day of the service. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



The Head Girl and Head Boy, along with a group of volunteer enthusiastic singers from Years 2-6 will be visiting Russell Court Nursing Home following our Harvest Festival Service in St Mary's Church. We sing songs to entertain the elderly then have refreshments and chat with them. If your child would like to be part of this group, please see me ASAP so that I can organise the transportation.

Class Newsletters

Weekly Class Newsletters will continue to be produced by teachers – these are invaluable for you to know what is going on in your child's class, There are reminders about forthcoming events in these too so please ensure that you read them each week.

PE Kits

Squirrels and Badgers classes will continue to wear their PE kits to school on their PE days.

Dormice and Hedgehogs classes need to wear their school uniform to school on PE days. The children need to bring in their PE kits ASAP.

As a reminder, as per our prospectus and uniform policy, children need to wear:-

Plimsolls, plain navy shorts/skorts (no logos/white stripes etc.) and Tee shirts in team colours with the school badge. Trainers can be worn on the field and plateau.

All children's clothing must be clearly named (including footwear). **NO JEWELLERY** to be worn on PE days.

Plain navy blue or black jogger bottoms/leggings can be worn on top of shorts/skorts during cold weather along with their school jumper/cardigan or a plain black or blue sweatshirt, **NO HOODIES/ZIPS OR LOGOS**.



Reminders



Just to remind you that the only water bottles that children will be permitted to have in their classrooms will be the school water bottles or clear, totally transparent bottles – far too many children were failing to follow this rule last academic year – please make sure that your child has the correct bottle. Only water will be permitted to be consumed during lessons unless a medical reason and proof of this is submitted. The school water bottles can be purchased for £1.50 from the school office. Keeping children hydrated is important for them to be able to focus and keep their brains active.

Children are ONLY permitted to bring in fresh vegetables or fresh fruit for consumption at playtimes.

Children who have packed lunches are ONLY permitted to bring in a maximum of two processed food items in their packed lunches – further encouraging healthy eating. Please may we request that packed lunches do not contain nuts or any obvious nut products e.g. peanut butter/Nutella as we have some children in school with severe nut allergies.

Children are not permitted to bring in pens, pencils, rulers, pencil cases or any other stationery items as these are all provided by us.

Under no circumstances are cars to park in front of the houses in the Village Hall car park – ONLY in allotted spaces, thank you.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Following elections last term the following children have been appointed to the following prestigious roles:-

Head Girl – Millie **Head Boy** – Sam

School Council

Head Girl and Head Boy	–	Millie and Sam
Year 1 Representatives	–	Joshua and Florence
Year 2 Representatives	–	Marley and Oscar
Year 3 Representatives	–	Joseph and Frankie
Year 4 Representatives	–	Emilia and Noah
Year 5 Representatives	–	Bryn and Annabelle (Yr R)
Year 6 Representatives	–	Sienna and James

School Uniform Hair Adornments

Just a reminder of what our school uniform policy says about hair adornments:-

All children, whose hair is long enough for a pony tail, need to wear their hair in a pony- tail, plait or bun, even on Tag Days. The hair bands to keep their hair back, must be navy blue, blue or white. No bows or other adornments are permitted.

Jewellery in school

Just a reminder that the ONLY jewellery that children are allowed to wear is a plain wrist watch and plain stud earrings.

Safeguarding Children

If any parent or carer is concerned about a child's welfare or wellbeing please see me as I am our school's Designated Safeguarding Leader. Should I not be in school please speak to my Deputy Safeguarding Leaders - Mrs Golding-Williams and Miss Richardson. Everything will be treated in the strictest of confidence. TOGETHER we will ensure that ALL children are able to thrive and are well cared for.



Online Safety

Online Safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Fawkham CEP School. We can only be successful in keeping all of our children safe online if we work together to ensure that online safety messages are consistent and that all members of the community behave safely and appropriately online.

More information for parents/carers about online safety can be found at the following places:

- www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents
- www.saferinternet.org.uk
- www.childnet.com
- www.nscpsc.org.uk/onlinesafety
- www.internetmatters.org
- www.getsafeonline.org



Attendance

As you know attendance is extremely important if your children are to thrive and progress well in their education.

Missing one or two days during a week has a huge impact on their ability to keep up in lessons on their return, as often they will have missed some of the essential building blocks of learning. The government says that attendance should be at least 96% to be reasonable and 98%+ to be excellent. Children who fail to reach these levels are having their life chances considerably reduced.

Please help us to help your child have the best chance at thriving at school by ensuring excellent levels of attendance.



School Winter Hats

We are selling school winter hats this year for £6.50 from the school office. Please come and look at them before you buy your children new winter hats as they are both a good quality and reasonably priced.

School Bags

NO children are to have a school bag. All children may bring their book bag into school to carry bits and pieces. The only bag the children need in school is their Forest School clothes bag, this needs to come into school ASAP, thank you.

Amazing Year 6 SAT Results

I would like to extend a huge well done to our brilliant Year Six children from last academic year and their amazing teachers Miss Hurdle and Mrs Foreman. Yet again our SAT results were absolutely outstanding, equaling the best our school has ever attained and considerably above National averages in every single subject both at expected and greater depth standards. This is a huge achievement for the children and our school and should place us in the top 1% of all schools nationwide. Although I don't usually write about this sort of achievement in newsletters, I do think it's important to celebrate the great work of our 'Fawkham Family'.



Worship

Don't forget, to keep you informed, on our website homepage there will be a 'thought' and a 'prayer' for the week, both of which link to the theme of worship for that week.



Parent Helpers



If any parents would like to help out in school on a weekly basis, listening to readers across the school, please see me.

Any parents helping in school will need to undergo a full DBS for safeguarding purposes.

I thank you in advance for your support and help.

Little Wandle

We are hoping to purchase another set of Little Wandle books so that the children can bring the reading books home rather than using the e.books. We raised some of the money needed to purchase these during the summer term. We need nearly £4000 for another set of books for Reception and KS1 children as well as high interest books for KS2 readers. We are hoping to raise the rest of the money through our sponsored event being held on 4th October so we hope to have the new books in school by Term 2

Please support our sponsored event and help us raise this large amount of money. Please note that this is the ONLY sponsored event that will take place this academic year!



I know that this academic year holds lots of exciting opportunities for the children to thrive and progress. Together we - the governors, staff, children and you will help our 'Fawkham Family' to strive to even greater heights. Off we go.....

Best wishes,

Miss M.J.Bridges
Headteacher