



Newsletter

Friday 13/09/2019

2019/20 Issue 1

Muck, Mess and Mixtures

On Tuesday, children in Classes 1 and 2 had an exciting morning to launch their topic: Muck, Mess and Mixtures. They were able to play with lots of different materials – and make a real mess, with permission. Have a look at the photos below.



Welcome

A very warm welcome back to you all for the start of another year at Fowlmere Primary School. We are all looking forward to the year ahead and working with you all to make it a good one!

Thirteen children started in Class 1 last week for their first ever day at school. All children started full time and accessed playtime, assembly and lunchtime as if they had always been here – it was so impressive to see.

Our new reception children are:

Bjorn, Declan, Edward B, William, Charlie, Eric, Eva, Evelyn, Fausta, Sam, Sterling, Nyall and Edward W.

We also welcomed Oscar into Class 2 and Maia into Class 3. We wish all our new starters the warmest of welcomes and look forward to

working with all our new families in the years to come.

Meet-the-Teacher Evening

Thank you to everyone who came to our Meet-the-Teacher Evening on Tuesday. We had more people than last year – though that might be because we had two new teachers to meet!

Our whole school presentation was about our new “Steps” approach to behaviour in the school. This is a therapeutic approach and is being adopted in school across Cambridgeshire and in other local authorities too.

It treats behaviour as something that children need to learn, in much the same way as English and maths, and helps to develop children’s intrinsic motivation to ‘do the right thing.’ To do this, it removes the external motivators

such as rewards and punishments and focusses on helping children to understand how their actions impact on those around them.

My best analogy is about why you drive at 30 miles an hour through Fowlmere. Do you do it because you might get caught and fined? Unlikely; there’s no speed camera. Do you do it because doing so gets you a sticker or reward? Obviously not. Or do you do it because you understand that if you hit a child at 30mph they might live but at 40mph they probably won’t?

This means that the traffic light system of red, yellow, green and gold that we use in class has been removed and Friday teacher certificates will not happen. Children are still welcome to bring in certificates from activities at home on a Friday.

Poor behaviour will still receive a consequence, but this will be ‘educational’ ie designed to teach the behaviour that we want. It will follow logically from the behaviour. For example, children who demonstrate silly behaviour in the dining hall may need to discuss this with an adult, which may take some of their playtime and may be required to sit apart at lunchtime until they can show that their understanding of expectations at lunchtime has improved.

Our new policy detailing this approach will be on the website next week.

Best wishes,
Mr Philip Atkin
Headteacher

PTFA News

A number of our PTFA committee were Year 6 parents last year and so our committee is looking a little depleted. Our PTFA supports the school threefold:

- by raising much-needed funds for children's resources, such as computers and visitor
- by providing social events for children, such as School Cinema and School Discos
- by providing social events for parents and the community such as wine tasting, quiz nights and the summer barbecue.

The PTFA is going to need your help to survive into the year ahead. The AGM will be on Friday 6th October at 8.50am (details to follow from the PTFA directly) and we need you to attend and offer to help. Without your help these events will not be able to take place.

Reminders

- There is a Make, Do and Mend Day on Saturday 28th September from 9am to 12.
- The PTFA AGM is on Friday 4th October at 8.50am
- The Harvest Assembly is on Friday 4th October at 9.20am. All parents are welcome to attend.

Congratulations to:

- Beatrice (Class 2) for her Stage 2 swimming certificate
- Luke (Class 1), Jasmin (Class 2), Isabella, Charlotte and Emily (all Class 3) for their summer reading challenge certificates
- Thomas (Class 3) and Edward B (Class 1) for their swimming certificates
- Charlotte (Class 3) for her Stage 3 swimming award and her gymnastics certificate.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 28th September	Make, Do and Mend Day
Tuesday 1st October	Year 2 & 6 SATs Information Evening
Thursday 3rd October	Class 1 & 2 Visit to Kettles Yard
Friday 4th October	PTFA AGM, 8.50am
Friday 4th October	Harvest Assembly, 9.20am
Wednesday 9th October	EYFS Phonics Workshop, 6pm
Monday 14th October	Parent & Child Consultations
Wednesday 16th October	Class 3 Graffiti Workshop
Wednesday 16th October	Parent & Child Consultations
Thursday 17th October	Playleader Training
Monday 21st October - Friday 25th October	Half-Term
Monday 28th October	INSET Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 30th October	Flu Immunisation – all years
Thursday 7th November	Individual and family photographs
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Assembly, 10.30am
Friday 29th November	Open Morning, 9am – 10am
Thursday 5th December	Whole-School Pantomime Trip to Cambridge Arts Theatre
Tuesday 10th December	Class 1 and 2 Christmas Production 9.15am & 2pm
Friday 13th December	Christmas Crafts Morning
Thursday 19th December (TBC)	Carols at St Mary's
Thursday 19th December	Last Day of Term

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 7th January	First Day of Term
Saturday 8th February	Make, Do and Mend Day
Monday 10th February – Thursday 13th February	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 10th February	Parent & Child Consultations
Wednesday 12th February	Parent & Child Consultations
Friday 14th February	INSET Day (School Closed)
Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February	Half-Term
Friday 3rd April	Last Day of Term

Aldi Kit for Schools

We are collecting stickers in school for this promotion. Please drop any you collect into the school office.