

NEWSLETTER 1 SEPTEMBER 2020

11th September 2020

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome back to our Year 1 and Year 2 children and their families! It has been lovely to have the children back in school and they have been brilliant in adjusting to the new routines. We would like to thank you again for your patience as we have tweaked the drop-off and pick up arrangements during the week.



We also warmly welcome our new children in Robins, Wagtails and Puffins classes and their families. We hope that you will quickly settle into the life of the school and that you will be very happy here with us.

Staffing news

At the end of the summer term we sadly said goodbye to Mrs Silvia Ballard. During the summer holiday we were delighted to appoint Miss Nina Elliott who brings a wealth of experience and will be working across the Year 1 bubble to support the children.

Marvellous Me



Today your child should have brought home with them a letter and postcard inviting you to sign up for an exciting app which we will begin using from Monday. The app is a way for us to share with you the wonderful things that your child is learning and lets you know when they have been awarded a virtual badge for good work or for actioning one of the 5 Rights or the Learning Crew. We will no longer be giving out physical stickers and certificates in school as the Marvellous Me app will replace these. Please note that the Reading Champion scheme will no longer be running, however we would still like you to write in the Reading Diary.

Please try to sign up for the app over the weekend as we would really like to start using this with your children next week. We hope that being able to quickly see all the great things your child is doing and achieving will make you smile and enable you to have a more informed conversation with them at the end of the day. Further information can be found at www.marvellousme.com

Curriculum videos – Friday 18th September

Under normal circumstances the teachers would host 'Meet the teacher' curriculum meetings to set out expectations for the coming year, give pointers for parents and to answer any questions you might have. Due to the Covid restrictions, these obviously cannot take place on a face-to-face basis this year so the teachers are producing short videos, which will be hosted on the pupil secure area of the school website from Friday 18th September. Although these cannot exactly replicate a face-to-face meeting, we hope that they will still be informative and will help you in supporting your child's learning this year. There will be an email address available so that you can send in any questions you may have.

Individual photos – Thursday 15th October

Individual photographs will be taken on Thursday 15th October.

Please note that all children will have an individual photo taken in school time unless parents inform us that they do not wish for one to be taken. There is no obligation to purchase this.

Unfortunately, due to COVID, it will not be possible for sibling photographs to be taken together – this is to avoid the risk of contamination of “bubble” groups.

However, Yellow will be offering a family sibling 25% discount to support parents who wish to purchase the 2020 individual photographs of their siblings. Therefore, a sibling family purchasing two individual packs will get the family 25% discount on the total purchase – this reduction will automatically be applied at checkout for online orders or if returning orders to school, proofcards should be placed into one order bag and the total price reduced by 25% with cheque/cash payment.



Parent Consultations – Tues 10th and Thurs 12th Nov



Parent Consultations will take place on the above dates from 3.30 – 6.30pm and nearer the time you will be able to book these online. These meetings will be held face-to-face in the classroom however in order to comply with Covid restrictions we will be strictly enforcing the following measures:

- Only one adult per child can attend the parent consultation
- The adult will be required to wear a face mask
- Social distancing of 2m will be maintained between the teacher and adult
- Tables will be sanitised by the teacher between consultations
- Entrance into the classroom will be via the external classroom doors; there will be no waiting area inside the building
- No children (regardless of their age) will be permitted to enter the classroom

School Council

Elections



Mrs Owens is preparing to set up the School Council for this academic year. Elections will take place in Year 2 on Monday 28th September for the four Council Leader posts. Letters will be sent home to those who wish to apply. Those children who submit an application will get an opportunity to speak to the year group explaining why they think they would make a good Council Leader.

There will also be elections for the eight Council Representatives posts for Year 1 and Year 2 classes. One boy and one girl from each class will be elected by their classmates. Good luck to all those who want to take part.

The School Council raise money by allowing children to come into school in their own clothes on their birthday in return for a donation of £1. If your child has already had their birthday this term they may still do this, on a day of their choosing in return for a donation. If your child's birthday falls at the weekend or during a school holiday, they may wear their own clothes on the Friday before or Monday following, but don't forget the £1 donation!

Mrs Lucy Owens
Deputy Headteacher

Classes

For your information, below is a copy of the classes, teachers and the topics that they will be covering this half term. Year group leaders are in bold. Teachers will be sending out more information about the topics shortly.



Year group	Class Name	Teacher	Support staff	Topic
R	Puffins	Mrs Lorna Payne (YR)	Mr Paul Andrews	All About Me
R	Wagtails	Mrs Justine Paterson	Mrs Alison Lake	
R	Robins	Mrs Emma London	Mrs Gemma O'Keefe Mrs Sadie Watson Mrs Annette Wakeling	
1	Woodpeckers	Mrs Jo Rickard (Y1)	Mrs Allyson Lean	It's Not A Box!
1	Starlings	Mrs Maria Goodens	Mrs Laura Wheatley	
1	Blackbirds	Mr Michael Lake	Mrs Louisa Houghton Miss Nina Elliott Mrs Alison Lake	
2	Kestrels	Mrs Helena Lilley (Y2)	Mrs Sue Buchannan	Lighthouses and Storms
2	Falcons	Miss Rachel Skillern	Mrs Carol Chilvers	
2	Hawks	Miss Anna Woodiwiss	Mrs Dawn Boulton Mrs Helen Gingell	

Amazon wishlists and donations

Lots of you are already aware that the school participates in the Amazon wish list scheme. Many families have very kindly made donations to the school in the past via this, for which we were extremely grateful. There is also a facility for making cash donations to the school if you would like to do so. Links to the wish lists are below.

YR https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1R0OK8RZ2GVNA?ref_=wl_share

Y1 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1QE3HHS1PWU6V?ref_=wl_share

Y2 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2ICNU7Z6LODMG?ref_=wl_share

Forest and Beach School https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/35IT30BZ6A7PO?ref_=wl_share

Whole School https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/QUBZDSND22X4?ref_=wl_share

We would not want families to feel under pressure to make donations, but we are extremely grateful to those who do.

School Improvement Priorities

Each year the school is required to identify areas that need to be developed and possibly improved. These targets become the basis of the School's Development Plan and throughout the year staff, governors and children work together to achieve these targets. We hope that by sharing our priorities with you the parents, you will be able to work with us to ensure that this very successful school becomes even more successful!



Priority 1: Continue to raise standards in Writing, particularly at Greater Depth

Priority 2: Continue to raise the percentage of pupils achieving Greater Depth in Reading, Writing and Maths

Priority 3: Continue to diminish the difference for SEN and Pupil Premium pupils in Reading, Writing and Maths

Priority 4: Continue to further improve and refine the quality of teaching and learning

Priority 5: To ensure the continued well-being and safety of all pupils and staff

Priority 6: To continue to develop and promote health and well-being for pupils and staff

Priority 7: To continue to ensure that all stakeholders have a voice and that communication is effective.

Priority 8: To continue to maintain, develop and improve the quality of both the indoor and outdoor environments, ensuring that the school is fit for purpose and meets the needs of all stakeholders

Priority 9: Governors will provide effective governance including challenge, knowledge of impact and holding the Head teacher to account.

If you have any questions about any of our priorities or would like to discuss them, please speak to either myself or one of the governors.

Governors Corner

On behalf of the governors I would like to say a huge 'Welcome' to all the children and parents at the start of this new school year. The beginning of the year is always a time of great excitement mixed with a fair share of nerves and apprehensions. It is so good to reflect that, despite this strangest of times, the School has begun the new term with children who are adapting well to their new routines and who seem happy and ready to learn. Their well-being and safety are our utmost concern and I would like to wish all of them a really fun and memorable term.

Thank you to all the staff for their diligence in preparing the school and you as parents and carers for helping us make this as safe an environment for them as possible.

Sue Nelson
Chair of Governors

A Few Reminders!



- Medication

If your child uses an asthma inhaler or requires medication during the school day, please ensure that the office has up to date details of the treatments required and that you have completed the relevant paperwork.

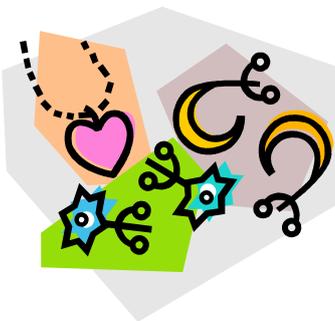


- Emergency Contact Numbers and Collection During the School Day



It is important that we have the correct contact numbers on which to reach you in case of emergency. If you have recently changed your telephone numbers, please inform the office as soon as possible. If you need to collect your child from school during the school day, please go to the main entrance/office.

- Jewellery



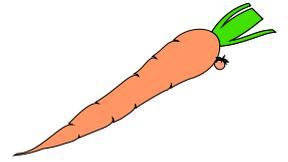
For safety reasons, children should not wear jewellery in school. Children with pierced ears should wear studs only please. Plain, dark colour watches, but not the game-type, are permitted. In accordance with advice from West Sussex County Council, jewellery may not be worn for any physical activity. All earrings should be taken out by the children for their PE lessons, watches removed and long hair tied back.

- Snacks and Drinks Policy

The children have one break time each day (morning) when they are permitted to eat their healthy snacks. Children are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack to eat during their break, which are listed in the school healthy snacks policy, as shown below. **No other snack is permitted.**



- **Mild Cheese** (not processed products such as Cheese Strings and Dairy Dunkers)
- **Breadsticks**
- **Plain Rice Cakes**
- **Wholemeal Pitta Bread**
- **Fresh Vegetables**
- **Fresh Fruits (not fruit winders/yoyos/fruit flakes etc...)**
- **Plain Raisins (not yoghurt coated)**



In addition all the children will receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day, usually at mid-morning, as part of a government scheme to encourage children to eat their daily 5 portions of fruit and vegetables.

If your child has any allergies or medical reasons why these snacks are not appropriate, then please come and talk to us.

Water

Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school to keep in class. **Children are only permitted to have plain water in their drinks bottles.** They are able to take drinks of water from this throughout the day. Juice, squash or flavoured water are not permitted.



Dates for your Diary

Attached are some dates for you to note on your calendar, **please check each newsletter for any updates or amendments.**

The autumn term is always a very busy one and this year we will have to look to do things in different ways. Please look carefully at the diary dates section and make a note of the dates that are relevant to your child in order that they can fully participate in all the activities.

Thank you in anticipation of your support over the coming weeks.

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Head teacher



Diary Dates

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday 14 th September | - | YR children in fulltime |
| Friday 18 th September | - | Curriculum videos available on school website |
| Monday 28 th September | - | School Council elections |
| Thursday 15 th October | - | Individual school photos taken |
| Friday 23 rd October | - | Half Term ends |

Half Term Monday 26th – Friday 30th October

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Monday 2 nd November | - | School reopens for pupils |
| Tuesday 10 th November | - | 3.30 – 6.30pm Parent Consultations |
| Thursday 12 th November | - | 3.30 – 6.30pm Parent Consultations |
| Tuesday 17 th November | - | Flu Vaccinations (details to follow) |
| Thursday 17 th December | - | Christmas lunch in school for pupils |
| Friday 18 th December | - | Pantomime in school (details to follow) |
| | - | Term ends |
| Monday 4th January | - | INSET DAY – school closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 5th January | - | INSET DAY – school closed to pupils |

The term will restart for the children on Wednesday 6th January 2021

Other INSET days:- Monday 21st June 2021

IMPORTANT NOTE TO YEAR R PARENTS

*Would parents of Year R children please note that this newsletter is also being sent by email. If you do **not** receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, please let the office know, as all future newsletters will be sent by email only.*



Hi Everyone

We wanted to say a huge welcome from the Friends of East Preston Infant School (FEPIS) the School's PTA. It is lovely to see everyone again and we hope the new starters enjoy their first weeks at school.

With the world being so changeable at present, it is hard to predict what will happen next but we would really like to try and give the children as many happy events and special times as we can. While a disco won't be possible this term, we are planning discos in February and July, potentially as three shorter sessions, one for each year group. We also have Covid-19 compliant ideas for fundraising and extra activities this term and before Christmas.

If you would like to be involved and could help with any jobs please email us at fepis@epinf.co.uk. I'm a working mum myself with very little free time so please don't worry there will be a big time commitment (it's all going to be kept simple! 😊).

Thank you.

Alexa
FEPIS Committee