



## March 2023 NEWSLETTER No 7

31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Unbelievably we are over half way through the spring term already and Easter is almost upon us. The children and staff have worked incredibly hard this term and the classrooms and displays around the school are a real celebration of all the wonderful learning that has gone on. The warmer weather, sunnier days and appearance of spring flowers have also given us all a much-needed lift!

### Grounds day thank you



We would like to say a massive thank you to all the amazing helpers who came along to this term's grounds day - an enormous amount of jobs were completed and we are so grateful to you all!

This was obviously a special grounds day for us as we were also undertaking tasks in memory of Paul Andrews. The children planted hedgerow to mark out the new boundary for the extended Forest School area (part of Paul's vision) and we planted an Acer tree and installed a bench in the middle of the daffodil maze, along with some extra bulbs to expand this area, in Paul's memory. Paul's wife and daughter joined us for part of the day and were overwhelmed with the kindness and support they received. If you have not yet seen the bench and tree, please do take time to visit it and read the plaque in memory of Paul. Thank you to all of you who donated towards this memorial.



### Eco Committee Bake Sale



Thank you to everyone who supported this event. The weather was kind to us and the Year 2 children along with FEPIS volunteers managed to sell lots of yummy cakes. We raised an amazing **£171.55**. The Eco Committee had asked for a 20% donation to the Ukraine Appeal but FEPIS have decided to donate 100%. Well done everyone.

## **Time to Dance Event**

A huge round of applause to all of our fantastic dancers Amelie F, Annie-Rose, Arabella Y, Arlo R, Ava T, Ben, Edie, Elsie-May, Lydia, Maddi, Meadow, Sami, Siyana, Heidi and Edith who represented the school at the recent Time to Dance showcase.



The children have been practicing their skills for many weeks and their efforts were put on full display to a packed Worthing Pavilion to much adulation. Despite lots of butterflies in tummies the children were real Go For It Gorillas in stepping out onto that stage and should feel very proud of themselves.

A tremendous thank you to our dance coaches Kayla and Tilly who generously donated their time to come and support the children on the night as well as our wonderful office staff Mrs Waller and Mrs Woodcraft for keeping Mr Lake organised.

Now to start planning for next year...

## **Speedy Start**

Next term we plan to reintroduce our 'Speedy Starts', which were in place prior to Covid. 'Speedy Starts' begin as soon as the doors open at 8.50am - the children then come into the classroom and get straight on with learning tasks, supported by the class teacher. This means that teachers will no longer be on the classroom doors first thing in the morning, therefore if you have a message you need to pass to them we ask that from next term you do this through the main office or the year group email address. If you do need to speak to the class teacher they will be on the doors at the end of the day or you can make an appointment to speak with them at another time.

Our previous experience of doing 'Speedy Starts' has shown that they are a valuable 10 minutes each day when the teachers can give children feedback, support them in editing work, hear reading and set them off on independent tasks.

We are aware that not all children arrive at school for 8.50am and that some families arrive much closer to 9.00am. However, this time allows for some high quality 1:1/small group time with the class teacher and equates to an extra 50 minutes of teacher contact time each week. We therefore ask that parents/carers try to get their children into school as close to the 8.50am door opening as possible next term.

Please do not try to enter the classrooms during these times. The children have now had two terms of their morning routines and are all very capable of coming into their class on their own – remember that they do it several times each day when you aren't here! We are fully aware of the handful of children who need support entering school each day and the support staff will continue to be a 'meet and greet' for these children.

Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

## INSET Days 2023/24



As you are aware there are five INSET days each year where the school is closed to the children. INSET days are **extra** days that teachers have to work each year in addition to the 190 pupil days. We have yet to select all the INSET days this year as we are waiting to hear back on available training dates, however the following two dates have been selected:

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

We hope that this advance warning will be useful to you in making childcare arrangements.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/King's Coronation Celebration – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May



As I am sure you are all aware, this year marks the King's Coronation and the school's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To mark this occasion, we are planning a whole school celebration on the afternoon of **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May**.

On this day, the children can come to school dressed in red, white and blue and during the morning they will take part in a variety of activities to learn about and celebrate both occasions. At 12pm we will all go out onto the playground to have a 'street party' lunch, followed by a whole school aerial photograph in the shape of the number 50 and a show. Permission slips for participation in the photo will be sent out after Easter.

Parents and carers are invited to join us during the afternoon (feel free to bring a picnic lunch), and we would be extremely grateful for volunteers who would be willing to come into school during the morning to hang up bunting, balloons and banners and to put out tables and chairs for the children to have their lunch at. We will also need helpers to clear the tables and chairs away whilst the children pop back indoors after lunch, to toilet and wash hands, before returning to the playground for more celebrations! Nearer the time, we will be collecting names of volunteers but please put this date in the diary, as it would be lovely to have parents and carers joining us.



## **Coronation Card Competition to celebrate HRH King Charles III**

Sir Peter Bottomley MP and his team have extended to our school community a Coronation Card Competition. See below:-



"I am inviting children and pupils from across Worthing West to submit designs for a Coronation Card that will be delivered personally to the King on behalf of the people of Worthing West.

Entries should be submitted on an A4 piece of paper either scanned and sent by e-mail to [bottomleyp@parliament.uk](mailto:bottomleyp@parliament.uk) or a copy of the original, preferably, sent by post to Sir Peter Bottomley MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Originals may be sent but we cannot guarantee return.

Entry is limited to one design per pupil and should be received by 23:59 on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Please include on the reverse of each entry your name and school.

It would be tremendous to have the involvement of pupils from East Preston Infants School in this fun competition as part of the wider celebrations of such an important and historic occasion."

### **One-way pedestrian system**

A parent recently asked me why we still have the one-way pedestrian system in place even through Covid and social distancing are no longer an issue and so I thought it might be useful to explain this.



Prior to Covid we had an issue with congestion at the gate nearest to the playground. The vast majority of parents used this gate to enter and exit the site and with pushchairs, bicycles, scooters, double buggies and young children in tow, there were long queues (including outside the gates on the footpath) and much frustration for all! We also had several 'near misses' where children ran ahead of their parents through the crowds and out onto the roadside. Despite asking parents to be considerate of each other we had numerous complaints and were at a loss as to how to solve this.

And then Covid came along.... Restrictions that we were required to put in place made us look at the situation differently and we realized that the one-way system was the solution to the problem! Our decision to continue this is about ensuring the safety of our children and to ease the congestion both inside the gate and on the footpath. The vast majority of parents follow this system and we have a member of staff on the gate in the mornings to remind and encourage parents to follow this. We do appreciate that for some, those extra footsteps are a source of frustration but we ask that you continue to support us in this and follow this at the end of the day and on those occasions when a member of staff is not present in order that we keep the drop off and pick up as smooth and safe as possible for all of us. Thank you in anticipation of your ongoing support.

## **A couple of reminders:**

### **Drinks in lunchboxes**

Children should only have water in their lunchboxes to drink. We have plenty of extra cups that the children can use to have water alongside their peers, so it is not necessary for you to provide a drink if your child has a packed lunch, however, if you wish to do so, please ensure that this is only plain water.



### **Uniform**

We have noticed that a number of children have recently started wearing a more 'relaxed' version of the uniform and ask that you please ensure that your child is wearing the correct clothing as outlined below. In the autumn we will be reverting to children bringing PE kits to school and changing into these in school for their PE lessons.

#### Normal school day:

Navy tunic, skirt or long trousers (no black or grey)

Navy, grey or black short trousers (smart/tailored)

Light blue and white check summer dress

Pale blue polo-shirt, pale blue shirt or blouse with reverses

Navy V-neck sweatshirt, pullover or cardigan (without hood)

White or navy socks or navy tights (socks/tights to be worn all year round)

Sensible black, navy or white low-heeled shoes or sandals

(No clogs, 'jellies' or 'crocs' please for safety reasons)

#### PE days:

White crew neck T-shirt (no motifs)

Loose fitting navy shorts (no leggings, football shorts or skorts)

Black plimsolls or trainers (must be velcro)

Optional – Navy Tracksuit for outdoor PE



☎ Contact: debbie@activ8forkids.co.uk

07385690815

# Angmering Locality Childcare Directory



## Are you looking for suitable childcare options for your child over Easter?

This website details all the current options taking place in schools across the locality.

Please note that this is an informative website and in no way recommends or endorses any of the providers. It is the parents/carers responsibility to decide on the suitability of each provider.

### SCHOOLS COVERED

**THIS WEBSITE COVERS THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS: THE ANGMERING SCHOOL, ST MARGARET'S CE SCHOOL, ST WILFRID'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, GEORGIAN GARDENS, EAST PRESTON INFANTS SCHOOL, EAST PRESTON JUNIOR SCHOOL, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING SCHOOL, FERRING PRIMARY SCHOOL, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL**

SCAN HERE FOR THE WEBSITE

[WWW.ANGMERINGCHILDCARE.COM](http://WWW.ANGMERINGCHILDCARE.COM)



## **Spotlight on Safeguarding**



This term our assemblies have focused on The Right to be Safe and how they can keep themselves safe. We have focused on our commitment to anti-bullying. We are members of the Bullying Intervention Group and we hold the BIG award. We use our poster 'Bullying 1-2-3' to talk to the children so that they feel empowered to report any incidents. Our 'High Five Rights' also help the children to put into words what has happened and then we use a restorative approach to rebuild relationships. Any incidents are recorded on an electronic platform called CPOMs. This enables us to track any patterns of behaviour and also communicate to staff and parents any concerns.

Also attached to this newsletter are further posters about gaming. This month I have included a poster 'Do video games actually cause violent behaviour' and a poster about the game Minecraft which has a PEGI rating of 7+.

*Lucy Owens*  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

## **Governors' Corner**

We are pleased to welcome two new faces to the governing body, Mr Steve Burt and Mr David Price. They attended their first governor meeting this week and I am sure they will quickly settle in their new roles.

We will shortly be contacting parents/carers with a short survey. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete this, as your voice/views form a vital part of the governors' monitoring.

On behalf of the governors, thank you for your ongoing support, and wishing you all a very happy Easter!

*Paul Willets*  
Chair of Governors

### **Diary Dates**

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

On behalf of the staff I would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter and thank you for your continuing support.

*Claire New*

Claire New (Mrs)  
Headteacher







## **Diary Dates**

<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	-	<b>Term restarts for all pupils</b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	-	Earth Day – animal dress up day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	-	Bank holiday school closed
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Kings Coronation and 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Class photos
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	-	New Parents Meeting 6.30pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	-	FEPIB Bags2School

### **Half Term – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June inclusive**

<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	-	<b>Term restarts for all pupils</b>
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	-	School Grounds Day
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June</b>	-	<b>Inset Day – school closed</b>
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	-	Robins Assembly
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Wagtails Assembly
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Puffins Assembly
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	-	Sports Day morning
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	-	9.15am – FEPIB AGM
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Helen Hewson visiting Y1 (details to follow)
		Annual reports sent home
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	-	Starlings Summer Assembly
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Woodpeckers Summer Assembly
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Blackbirds Summer Assembly
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Transition morning to new classes
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Early transition – children move into new classes for rest of term
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Open evening: Year group meetings at 3.45pm and 5.00pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	-	9.15am - Y2 Leavers Assembly FEPIB Discos & Y2 Leavers Disco
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	-	<b>Term finishes at 3.15pm</b>

*Learning, Playing and Laughing Together*