



APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER No 9

26th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

A belated welcome back to you all after the Easter break – we are pleased to see that the children all seem very refreshed and are excited about their new topics.



We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Lucius Wood and his family who have joined us this term. We hope that you will soon feel settled and a part of school life.

This term we also pleased to welcome back Mrs Rachel Bean (Y1 coordinator) who has been on maternity leave.

Class Photos – Monday 13th May

These will take place during the morning of **Monday 13th May**. Please ensure that your child has their jumper or cardigan with them on this morning. You are also welcome to send your child in with a hairbrush or comb in order that they look their best.



Year 1 and 2 Phonic Screening

Year 1 and 2 Phonic Screening will run throughout the **week of 10th June**. Please ensure that your children have a good night's sleep and breakfast each morning so that they are able to do their best during this period. Thank you.

Early Transition – Monday 8th July



Some of you will be aware that we adopt a model of early transition, where the children move permanently into their new classes for the two weeks prior to the end of the summer term. We have used this model of transition for many years now and it has always proved to be very successful, having a positive impact on the children by helping them settle into their new classroom and routines before the end of term, so that they are more confident upon

their return to school in September.

The children will visit their new classes on the morning of Wednesday 3rd July. They will then return to their old classes prior to the final move to their new class on Monday 8th July where they will remain until the end of term. Our Year 2 pupils will form three new temporary 'Y3' classes during this time - more details about arrangements for our current Year 2 pupils will be sent out nearer the time. The children's last day in their current class will be Friday 5th July.

Setting of New Classes

After half term the teachers will begin to plan for the children's new classes for the 2024/25 academic year. A wide range of factors are taken into account when doing this and I am sure that you can appreciate that with 90 children in a year group, it is a very complex process. For September 2024 the current YR and Y1 classes will be mixed.



As a school, our number one priority is to have classes that are conducive to high quality learning and which enable us to best meet the wide range of the children's emotional and academic needs. Whilst we appreciate that parents want their child to remain with their group of friends, this is not always possible however, we ensure that every child is with at least one friend that they have named. Our priority in the classroom is always the learning, and playtime and lunchtime are the occasions when the children are able to mix freely with their friends in other classes.

After half term the teacher will talk informally with the children on a couple of occasions, to note which friends they would like to be with. The teachers also know the children well and see who they work well with and who they would benefit by being separated from. Meetings then take place with the Year group teachers, SENDCo, Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher where we begin to group children, considering the following:

- Social/Emotional/Medical needs requiring support staff
- SEND
- Pupil Premium
- Child Protection/Safeguarding issues
- Behaviour issues
- Academic abilities
- Friendships and positive working relationships
- Family issues
- Boy/Girl balance
- Any other relevant information

In advance of this process you may want to talk with your child about who they work well with. In addition, if there are any relevant issues that you have not already made your child's teacher aware of, please speak to them in the coming weeks so that they can consider this when setting the classes.

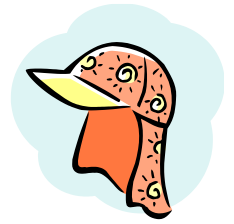
The staff work extremely hard to get the classes right each year and whilst we appreciate that sometimes parents are disappointed that friends have been separated, the school has a 'bigger picture' to consider and we may not always be able to accommodate requests.

Sunny Days!

As the weather begins to turn warmer the children will be spending more time outdoors, so please ensure that your child has a **named sunhat in school every day** – even if it appears cloudy in the morning! In addition, we would



suggest that, if possible, you apply sunscreen at home each day. Sadly, we are not able to apply sunscreen to the children and although some are capable of doing this themselves, more often than not they end up in a terrible mess and, therefore, we prefer children not to bring sunscreen into school. Thank you.



Message from Mr Hill – School Business Manager

In the last newsletter Mrs New explained the current situation with the school finances and outlined areas where our parents and carers could support the school. Part of my role is school finance, and on behalf of the school I would like to thank again, those who supported the Reading Bingo, the school Book Fair and purchased items off the Amazon wishlists – it has, and will, make a difference going forward for items that the pupils will make use of and enjoy as part of their learning journey here.

We are currently looking at ways of making the Amazon wishlists easier to find, but in the meanwhile please use the links below if you wish to contribute:



YR: <https://amzn.eu/c9PRB7D>

Y1: <https://amzn.eu/7dRC9r0>

Y2: <https://amzn.eu/gaJyTNP>

Forest & Beach School: <https://amzn.eu/iE3PotR>

As part of our cost saving, over the last few years Arun District Council have donated their old computers to us to replace our old ones, something we are very grateful for and enabled the school to spend money in other areas. Sadly, they can no longer supply us with desktop PCs, so if you work in a local business or company that is having an upgrade and replacing PCs or monitors then do drop me a line as some of our monitors date back to 2008!



In addition, we are replacing our 2015 iPads which are coming up to 9 years old. This is mainly due to the fact that the apps don't run on them and the battery life is not the best. Obviously, each one of our iPads is packed with apps to help with our pupil's learning and so they are a vital part of the whole curriculum. We are going to be contacting local businesses to see if they would be willing to contribute to helping us replace them. I thought, as you all have a connection to the

school, this might be the perfect platform in case you own or work for a company that might be willing to help.

From a different angle, we are looking to re-establish our volunteer library helpers to keep our amazing library space in the right order and restocked to help inspire our young pupils with a love of reading. No experience is necessary as we will be happy to provide the training. In the same vein, we are also looking to increase our awesome group of volunteers who read with the children 1:1 during the school day. If you would be interested in helping with either then please get in touch with myself.



Thank you.

Mr Stephen Hill
School Business Manager

Spotlight on Safeguarding- Wellbeing- The importance of sleep

We all know how important it is to support our children with their physical health but families sometimes can find it harder with their mental health. We have been busy updating our website to include information for you to easily access, you can find out more [here](#).

A good night's sleep is essential for your child's growth, development and emotional wellbeing. Sleeping well helps your child:

- ✓ have a better attention span and ability to learn and solve problems
- ✓ digest, reflect and store what they learnt in the day
- ✓ rest and repair their body
- ✓ support their immune system helping them fight off colds and other minor ailments
- ✓ be less irritable and better behaved.

Children who have poor sleep will find it harder to cope with daily life and may suffer with poor mental health. Research shows that a child who is sleep deprived can swing between being grumpy and hyperactive, with effects that can mimic ADHD.

The Sleep Charity have some useful information on their website to help with sleep, night terrors and other sleep issues: <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/> Sleep needs change as your child grows older but below are some tips for improving sleep. Whatever activities you choose, try to do the same ones every day in the same order so your child knows what to expect.

- ✓ Have a set bedtime every day and create a calming environment 30 minutes before bedtime.
- ✓ Have a routine during the 30 minutes so the child knows what to expect. This might include having a bath and reading a story.
- ✓ Put electronic devices away and dim bright lights 30 minutes before bedtime.
- ✓ Have good eating and exercise habits during the day.



The morning is important, too. Though it's tempting to let your children sleep in on the weekends, this can disrupt their sleep schedule and make it harder to wake up during the week.

Miss Philippa Moulson
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Dates for your Diary

Attached are some dates for you to note on your calendar – the summer term is always a busy one so please check each newsletter carefully for any updates or amendments.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your continuing support of your child and the school.

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher



Diary Dates



Thursday 2 nd May	-	Author, Sophy Henn, in Y1/Y2
Monday 6th May	-	Bank Holiday school closed
Thursday 9 th May	-	6.30pm – New Parents Meeting
Monday 13 th May	-	Class Photos
Tuesday 14 th May	-	Author, Christine Chambers
Monday 20 th May	-	Y1 Stay & Play Sessions all week
Tuesday 21 st May	-	2.30pm Wagtails Class Assembly
Wednesday 22 nd May	-	2.30pm Puffins Class Assembly
Thursday 23 rd May	-	2.30pm Robins Class Assembly
Friday 24 th May	-	Y2 Little Big Sing details to follow

Half Term – Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May inclusive

Monday 3rd June	-	INSET DAY school closed to pupils
Tuesday 4th June	-	Term restarts for all pupils
Monday 10 th June	-	Phonics Screening Check
Friday 14 th June	-	Y1 Disability Awareness Workshop
Monday 17 th June	-	YR Stay & Play Sessions all week
Thursday 20 th June	-	School Grounds Morning
Friday 21 st June	-	Sports Day – details to follow
Monday 24 th June	-	2.30pm Y1 Class Assembly
Tuesday 25 th June	-	2.30pm Y1 Class Assembly
Wednesday 26 th June	-	2.30pm Y1 Class Assembly
Thursday 27 th June	-	Mini Masterworks Art Exhibition - details to follow
Friday 28 th June	-	Annual Reports Home to Parents
Wednesday 3 rd July	-	Transition Morning to New Classes
Monday 8 th July	-	Early Transition – children move to new classes for rest of term
Tuesday 9 th July	-	FEPIS AGM 9am
Thursday 11 th July	-	Open evening: Year group meetings at 3.45pm and 5.00pm
Monday 22 nd July	-	Y2 Leavers Assembly & FEPIS Discos
Tuesday 23rd July	-	Term finishes at 3.15pm

INSET Days 2024/25

Monday 2nd September 2024
Monday 4th November 2024
Monday 6th January 2025
Tuesday 7th January 2025
Monday 24th February 2025

Learning, Playing and Laughing Together