

Farncombe Church of England Infant School

Inspiration Imagination Individuality



Newsletter 4

25th September 2020

Covid Control

Parents will be pleased to hear that this week the Health and Safety Executive contacted Farncombe for a 'spot check' on our covid controls. We passed with flying colours, with no further action required. Thank you to all staff, parents and pupils for working together to keep our school as safe as possible.

Autumn Dates

September

28th: Sycamore YR Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*
29th: Beech YR Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*
30th: Harvest Services in year groups

October

1st Earlybirds open for Y2
6th Earlybirds open for Y1
7th Earlybirds open for YR
8th Earlybirds open for Y2
13th Earlybirds open for Y1
14th Earlybirds open for YR
15th Earlybirds open for Y2 (then reviewed)

12th - 15th Parent-teacher phone calls
26th Half Term break

INSET 2020-2021: 6th November, 26th February,
21st July (plus a final day in Summer 2021, TBC in Autumn.)

School Lunch Procedures

All pupils are welcome to bring in a supplement to lunch, which they are able to eat after the school lunch has been served. For the majority of pupils this isn't necessary but if your child is fussy about some foods, this can be a helpful way to ensure they are not too hungry. Supplements can consist of a small bread roll, bread sticks, cereal bar or piece of fruit. No nuts please. Almost all children will still appreciate a snack at 3pm!

Year 1 and 2 Questionnaire

Please do help your child to complete this before the half term break. Their answers will help shape our recovery curriculum for this term and next. The DfE have advised that schools should work towards teaching the full national curriculum by Summer 2021, so we have some leeway and autonomy right now to address any needs or gaps we identify. There will also be a cathartic questionnaire for parents and staff regarding lockdown!

Modified Harvest Service, Wednesday 30th September

I am pleased to inform parents that Harvest celebrations are still planned for this year. Usually the full school gathers together in St John's Church to donate produce, sing and see Year 2 pupils recite a poem. Many parents come along to watch the service, which is led by James Rattue, the rector at St Johns. While our usual service is not possible this year, the children can still visit the church, pray, listen to James and donate to the Godalming food bank. We will be taking children in year group bubbles to the church throughout the morning of 30th September. Please give your child a suitable donation for the food bank (a packet of biscuits, teabags, rice, pasta are ideal). Do not supply anything fragile such as glass containers, as children will be carrying their donation from school to church. Thank you in advance for these important donations.

Resuming Earlybirds

Earlybirds forms part of our popular and successful wrap around care, allowing parents to drop children here before school officially begins, paying £4 for childcare. As a school we are being very cautious regarding our full re-opening, but would like to work towards operating Earlybirds. As a first step, weekly year group sessions will run as above. All welcome, from 8am in the school hall. Provision will increase ASAP.

Whole School Topic: Farncombe

Our whole school topic this half term is Farncombe. Children will be learning about the geography of their local area and what makes Farncombe special. There will be local walks as part of this topic and an opportunity to find out about Eastlake Care Home, with children drawing pictures for the residents there. We will not operate our usual post office visit.

School Clubs

Each Wednesday afternoon from 1.15- 2.15pm, our pupils enjoy clubs. These provide part of the 'imagination' strand of our mission statement and give children a chance to experience new activities and challenges. Usually the whole school mixes together to form seven groups which rotate around the seven different clubs, attending each for five Wednesdays before changing. This term and next, to reduce mixing between bubbles, children are remaining in their year groups for this time and will move between two or three clubs only. Reception will attend Sewing, Puzzles and Art & Wellbeing. Year 1 will attend Dance and History. Year 2 will attend Cookery and Games. Hopefully by Summer 2021 we will be able to increase these rotations, allowing pupils to enjoy the clubs other year groups are currently attending.

Parent-Teacher Consultations, 12th -15th October

For safety reasons this term, the usual parent-teacher consultations will be by telephone. Please look out for the list of times available outside your child's class and sign up for a ten minute slot. Please indicate which telephone number you would like to be reached on at that time. (Don't actually list the number, but say whether you will be at work, home or by your mobile please.) The consultations will be a chance for your child's teacher to provide some feedback on how your child has settled into their new class. It is also an opportunity for parents to ask questions about their child's learning and possible next steps. Some parents find it helpful to make a list of questions in advance. Top Tip: Don't waste your ten minutes by asking routine questions - the answers to these have probably been emailed or can be found on your class whatsapp group from 'second-time-around' parents.

Email: info@farncombe.surrey.sch.uk

Instagram: @Farncombe_infants

Headteacher: Andrea Simonsson

'Let all you do be done in love' is our guiding vision for our speech, deeds and thoughts. This enables us to create a nurturing and inspiring environment in which everyone can have life in all its fullness.

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