

Farncombe Church of England Infant School

Inspiration Imagination Individuality



Newsletter 5

2nd October 2020

Contingency Plans

Schools in the Godalming Learning Partnership have all been creating contingency plans this week, in case we are asked to close one or more bubble. 95% primary schools are currently unaffected by positive covid cases, so closing a bubble seems unlikely. It is certainly unwanted, but cannot be ruled out. Please read and keep at hand.

To assist in keeping our school open, please continue to social distance at drop off and pick up. This includes on the Grays Road pavement, which is not a covid-free location!

Autumn Dates

October

6th Earlybirds open for Y1 (8.00 - 8.55)
7th Earlybirds open for YR (8.15 - 9.00)
8th Earlybirds open for Y2 (8.00 - 8.45)
9th School Photographs (individuals and siblings)
13th Earlybirds open for Y1 (8.00 - 8.55)
14th Earlybirds open for YR (8.15 - 9.00)
15th Earlybirds open for Y2 (8.00 - 8.45)
(From mid-October, Earlybirds will hopefully increase to Monday **and** Tuesday for Year 1 and Thursday **and** Friday for Year 2.)

12th - 16th Parent-teacher phone calls

16th Fun Friday: Baking Day

26th Half Term break

November

6th INSET

13th Fun Friday: Art Day (Remembrance Links)

27th Fun Friday: Toys Day (includes mufti)

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

Harvest Thanks

Thank you to all parents for your Harvest donations to the Godalming Food Bank. The services were peaceful and reflective, with the children showing exemplary behaviour.

Thank you to St John's for accepting our school into the church building and for providing the sermon and prayers of blessing.

All teachers and TAs have said how successful this new style of Harvest has been, so elements will continue for 2021.

Fun Fridays

Thank you to all the Year 1 and 2 children who completed questionnaires on the lockdown, return to school and suggestions for fun Fridays. Your voices have been heard!

The next three Fun Fridays will feature baking, art, toys and dressing up as requested by our pupils.

These Fridays are creating part of our Recovery Curriculum, supporting children in feeling happy, engaged and involved in school.

Wellbeing Walks

All parents are invited to attend the newly resumed monthly wellbeing walks. The first walk will take place on 7th October. Meet at the base of the path to Grays Road. If more than six parents gather, there will be two groups walking. These walks are a chance to improve your wellbeing by spending time in nature and possibly chatting through any difficulties with other parents.

Layers

Great hygiene and minimising contact are our main weapons in the fight against this virus. However, we are also following the guidance which recommends good levels of ventilation. As the weather cools down for Autumn and Winter, we will still have windows slightly open. Therefore, please ensure your child wears extra layers in A/W20-21. Vests, thermals and leggings are ideal. Gilets will also be permitted.

Talking to Your Child about School

Some children like to provide a 'daily download' of the day and will happily inform parents of their activities whilst at school. Other children are not so forthcoming. Here are some tips to help your child open up and provide a glimpse into their six hours here:

- Make sure your child has had a snack and rest before expecting any information. Chat at dinner or bath/bedtime.
- Instead of 'what did you do at school?' which requires a summary possibly beyond your child's language level, start to talk about *your* day. Your child may chip in with their news. This also models how to report back on activities, which will help your child talk to you about school on future days.
- Ask your partner (or older siblings) about their best thing, hardest thing or funniest thing.
- If you can't resist questions, start with '*did*' instead of '*what*'. Did you have a story today? Did you play with Monty today?

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.

It will be possible to make a follow up appointment for November if there are specific issues which require a longer discussion.

Should the covid situation improve, drop in sessions will run later in the year.

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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