

# Farncombe Church of England Infant School

Inspiration Imagination Individuality



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Newsletter 1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Welcome!</b></p> <p>Welcome to the new school year. It has been lovely to see our returning Year 1 and 2 pupils, looking so tall and grown up, and also lovely to spend time with our new starters in Reception. It's going to be a brilliant, vibrant and fun-packed term. Please make a note of the dates below.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Early Autumn Dates</b></p> <p><i>September</i></p> <p>10<sup>th</sup>: YR begin school, 8.55 - 14.55          17<sup>th</sup> Friends Association Coffee Morning*          18<sup>th</sup> School Open for Heritage Weekend          22<sup>nd</sup> Apple Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*          23<sup>rd</sup> Lime Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*          24<sup>th</sup> Beech Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*          27<sup>th</sup> Willow Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*          27<sup>th</sup> Bedtime Stories from The Friends**          28<sup>th</sup> Sycamore Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*          29<sup>th</sup> Oak Welcome Meeting, 9.05am*          30<sup>th</sup> Harvest Services (donations please)**</p> <p><i>October</i></p> <p>11<sup>th</sup> Lime Grandparents' Tea Party, 2.15pm          12<sup>th</sup> Apple Grandparents' Tea Party, 2.15pm          15<sup>th</sup> Sycamore Grandparents' Tea Party, 2.15pm          18<sup>th</sup> Beech Grandparents' Tea Party, 2.15pm          19<sup>th</sup> Willow Grandparents' Tea Party, 2.15pm          20<sup>th</sup> Oak Grandparents' Tea Party, 2.15pm</p> <p>Next INSET: 22<sup>nd</sup> October          * = Parents invited to event          ** = More details to follow</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Risk Assessment</b></p> <p>Please find attached an updated risk assessment which reflects the current government guidance for this school term. Parents are welcome to email the school office with any questions or just additional clarity over any details.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Values and Wellbeing: Hope</b></p> <p>Our first focus value of the school year is Hope. Please see the attached information. Also attached is an Action for Happiness Calendar for September. This is a lovely thing to display and use at home.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reading Books and Phonics</b></p> <p>Part of our School Development Plan this year involves changing the way we teach reading. Children at Farncombe have always achieved extremely well in reading and we expect our standards to rise even higher this year. The key change for Reception and Year 1 parents is the shift in emphasis from a request from school for you to listen to your child read each evening, to an increase in the time they will spend in reading practice with their teacher. Each child will now read three times a week in class, with a focus on confidence in phonics, expression and developing great comprehension. For Reception parents, your child's teacher will share some reading tasks each week for you to support at home. For Year 1 parents, the current book bands will be optional, only used if you would like to continue reading with your child. Your child's teacher will also share some reading tasks. Book bands will be introduced at the end of Year 1/beginning of Year 2 for all children. Year 2 parents are asked to read 3 x weekly with their child, to support their fluency and expression. Year 2 children should change reading books during the school day, building independence. We will be asking all parents to support 'reading for pleasure' by committing to daily bedtime stories. More information will follow in the class Welcome Meetings.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Contact Details and Support</b></p> <p>Please ensure your contact details are up to date with the school office. This includes your address and home/work/mobile phone numbers. Every child should have three contacts for collection. These can include extended family members or friends. The office staff are experienced in handling confidential information. Please do let school know if your family circumstances changed during the pandemic and if you or your child would like any support.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>School Clubs</b></p> <p>It is wonderful to return to the full extra-curriculum offer, with school clubs taking place every day. All children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are welcome to attend Earlybirds each morning from 8am and Owls on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3-4pm. These clubs are for childcare. The following interest clubs are taking place for 10 weeks this term:          Year 1: Church Club on Wednesdays, SCL Football on Thursdays*.          Year 2: Singing Club on Wednesdays, DPA on Fridays. (All run until 4pm.)          *As covid bubbles are no longer in operation, SCL may offer spare spaces to Year 2. Please contact the school office to book club places.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grandparents' Tea Parties</b></p> <p>Our first Whole School Topic this year is My Family. As our Wow Factor for this topic, we will be holding a series of Grandparents' Tea Parties in October. In the past when we have held these events, relatives have travelled from around the country (and beyond!) to attend. With covid restrictions easing and families being able to see each other again, such an event seems even more important this year. Each class will bake biscuits, cakes or scones and these will be served to visiting grandparents. The children will also sing a song to welcome their grandparents into school. Ideally we would like to see one or two grandparents for each child. If this is not possible in your family, then an uncle, aunt or other relative would be welcome. The events will take place in the hall. Please let the office know in advance if assistance will be needed for access and this will be arranged. Grandparents are invited to bring in a small toy or game to play with their grandchild. They may choose to bring something from their own childhood. Children will be bringing home invitations to the tea parties later this half term. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to help make and serve tea to help at one of these parties. Thank you.</p>	

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Instagram: @Farncombe\_infants

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*'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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