Farndon Primary School

Unlocking the potential...

September 2024

FARNDON NEWSFLASH

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and restful summer. As always, it's been an incredibly busy start to the year. We are now settled back in and school life continues once again. I just wanted to say a special thank you to all the children for making the school come alive in the first couple of weeks. The children have brought such energy, enthusiasm and excitement back into the building and we've absolutely loved every moment of them returning. A special hello and well done to all the new children who have arrived too. More characters and more fun for us all. The Reception pupils are settling in beautifully. I have been so impressed with the start of our youngest children – so mature and well behaved.

During this academic year we are looking to work on the following areas to lead to positive impact and further gains for all of our pupils. We will be embedding our pedagogical teaching approach, using the 4 Cornerstones of Learning and the focus will be on questioning, feedback and effective scaffolding. Also, we are looking to embed the zones of regulation school wide to support our pupils with the regulation of their emotions and we will also be participating in a project with the Local Authority on how we can be support pupils who are typically neurodiverse. With a start like this, I have a feeling this is going to be our best year yet!

Mr Walker – Headteacher

SCHOOL UNIFORM OPTIONS

Our pupils coming into school in their PE kits appears to be working well and it certainly has elongated the PE session as we have not had to waste time changing within the lesson time. However, in the summer term, branded items and different colours were beginning to creep in. In order for our pupils to receive their full entitlement to physical education across the week, we really want to continue with coming into school wearing the kit, but it **must** follow school policy: black shorts; black tracksuit bottoms; red T-Shirt with logo; trainers (pumps for inside). See below for examples taken from the policy. The hooded sports jumpers have become a popular addition to the uniform list. We have written a detailed school uniform policy which can be accessed on the school website:

http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/schooluniform/4141

There are some lower cost alternatives to our school uniform such as plain white polo shirts and our PTA also offer "pre-loved" uniform with prices ranging from £2.50 - £3.50. Parents can purchase this directly from their Facebook page https://en-gb.facebook.com/FarndonPTA/ **CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS** As part of our GET SET GO curriculum our Creative subject leaders have started



the year with a whole school project on "The Carnival of Animals", a humorous musical suite of animal movements. Each class has a chosen animal and they have been busy engaging in musical activities, dance and art-work. It will make for some lovely display in and around school. Mr Bond's "Cuckoo" dance with his Year 4 class will live long in the memory.

BEHAVIOUR REWARDS

We updated our behaviour policy last year which is now known as the Positive Relationships Policy. We will continue to follow the list of rewards where our pupils show that they are **ready**, **respectful** and **safe** or when they display our school values or good learning behaviours. Children will be rewarded with



Dojo points, praise pads from Senior leaders, awards on the School Spider app, class Star of the Week or even Champion status! Well done to Hattie and Edie – our first champions for fund raising.

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

- Junior pupils can buy snack at first break. A list of snacks and their cost is on the website. <u>http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/mornin</u> <u>g-snack/126034</u>. Infants have access to free fruit. If your child brings in a snack it **must** be of a **healthy nature** – no crisps, biscuits or chocolate please.
- At the front of the school it may well be mayhem at the Soapbox race, but we ask that parents park sensibly in the morning and at pick up. Please don't park on the yellow zig-zags; do not park on the school car park without prior agreement; and don't park in front of residents' drive ways.
- Please can parents ensure that ALL clothing and water bottles are labelled. At the end of each break, we have a team who look to return jumpers to their rightful owners if they're labelled.

ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL

It is vital for all our children to be in school. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks our pupils falling behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to



achieve less well. The usual rules on school attendance still apply, including the issue of sanctions, such as **fixed penalty** notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct. Please see our school website: <u>http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/attendance</u> /36986

With regard to leave of absence, we ask that parents complete the forms a week before. Where the leave is for family holiday it will have to be unauthorised and if **5 days** or over, it will lead to a **fixed penalty notice**.

Attendance will be scrutinised far more closely on a weekly basis and where there may be concerns, parents will receive "nudge" texts, letters and invited into school to meet and set attendance targets. Where no improvements are seen, it will result in a fixed penalty notice.

CALLING ALL ASDA SHOPPERS!

If you shop at Asda, you can download an app and opt in to **Cashpot for Schools**. Simply select Farndon, shop in store and scan your Asda rewards app at the checkout. Then, Asda will do the rest and will donate the money to the school. One family alone has already used it and raised up to £50!



GRAB YOUR DIARIES EVERYONE

- 14th September: Soapbox Race (School Parc Ferme)
 16th September: Receptions Early reading / phonics
 20th September: PTA Coffee morning meet / greet
 27th September: Knowsley Safari Park (Yr 5/6)
 7th October: Explore Wrexham trip (Yr 1/2)
 22nd October: Parents' Evening
 23rd October: Open day for new Parents
 23rd October: Halloween Disco
 24th October: Parents' Evening
 25th October: Half term break
 4th November: Pupils return to work
- 11th November: Anti Bullying Week

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners are now £3.00. The menus have been freshened up and are available on the school website http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/dinner-

<u>time/4281</u> Week beginning 9th Sept: Menu 2 Week beginning 16th Sept: Menu 3 Week beginning 23rd Sept: Menu 1

SOAP BOX RACE 2024

It is that time of year again - Farndon's Soapbox Derby! And this year there are even more entries of the weird and wonderful. The event will be taking place



on Sunday 15th September. School will again be at the centre of all the action with Parc Freme for all the race karts on the field behind school.

This year there will be a greater number of stall holders providing refreshments and food along with other goodies. The PTA will have a zoned area for kart racing, crazy golf and beat the goalie. The stage will also be on the large playground for the presentation. School are entering again so we ask our school community to

support us and give generously to a great cause. Look out for us as we are the aptly named Crash Test Dummies!



- School Hooded jumpers must ONLY be worn on their PE day.
- For PE, no branded tops please. If pupils don't have a hooded jumper, we ask they wear their school jumper.
- For school shoes, they must be black and be able to be polished.