



Foreland Fields School Newsletter

October 2023



Well, where did that term go?

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the year. To anyone new to the school, we send newsletters out termly (6 times per year) to pass on information, celebrate school successes and achievement and remind parents/carers of upcoming events.

For day-to-day news, parents/carers should sign up to ClassDojo, the app we use for daily communication. If you have not yet signed up, please contact your child's class teacher for further details.

Fireworks

Our Firework Event will be held at the school on Wednesday 1st November. Tickets can be purchased from the school office at £3 per adult. Children are free however, every child requires a ticket in order that we can ensure we know how many people are attending the event.

Doors will open at 5.45pm with the main event starting at 6.30pm. Could we please ask that everyone arrive promptly as doors will be shut at 6.30pm in order to ensure that everyone can enjoy the display.

Please note, Foreland Fields School is a no smoking site. The use of sparklers or any other kind of personal firework is not permitted, so please do not bring them with you to the event. Dogs will not be admitted.

Should the event need to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, we will notify parents/carers on the day through ClassDojo and our website.



Royal Shakespeare Company – Associate Schools Programme

Our school have been selected to join The Associate Schools Programme in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company. Students who enjoy performing will have the opportunity to take part in weekly drama sessions and workshops and work towards a final performance at The Marlowe Theatre in the summer. This year's play is Hamlet.

More news on this exciting project as we have it.



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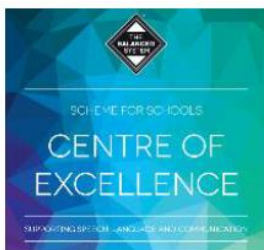


Arrangements for the Beginning and End of the School Day

Outside the front of the school are a number of disabled parking bays. These spaces, which are marked as disabled bays, have dropped kerbs and are wider to accommodate vehicles with tail/side lifts. They are intended to be used by parents/carers of children who require the use of a wheelchair. Could we please ask that any parents/carers whose child does not use a wheelchair does not park in these bays in order to ensure all children can enter and exit school with ease.



Could we also remind parents/carers not to walk in the roads outside school but to use the pathways. We need to set an example to our young people and show them that it is not safe to walk around busy traffic.



The Balanced System®

In July 2017, Foreland Fields School was first accredited as a Centre of Excellence for our work supporting speech, language and communication needs. We recently went for re-accreditation and are pleased to announce that we have been awarded Centre of Excellence status for a further 3 years.

The report states that the school 'demonstrates high quality evidence and a robust approach to provision for SLC (speech, language and communication) across the school'.

Special recognition must go to Nikki Gray, our Communication and Literacy Lead, for coordinating and leading our bid for re-accreditation and for her ongoing work supporting the speech, language and communication needs of children and young people across the school.



Later today (Friday 20th October) we are due to be holding our annual Harvest Festival event. We have already received food donations which will be donated to the homeless / poorly housed. We will be holding a special assembly to be presented by Samuel Hearle from Queens Road Baptist Church.

Pupils and students have taken part in varied art activities across the week including making scarecrows. These will be used later today in a scarecrow trail.



Sarah Thorp made her own Barbie scarecrow which will be used later in the trail!



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Reception

Due to the high volume of people using the reception area, can we please ask that at the beginning and end of the school day, parents/carers wait outside until their child is collected by staff/brought to them, and do not wait in the reception area.



Illness

Many of our pupils and students are vulnerable to infections which can spread quickly at this time of year. Remember, your child should be kept away from school for 48 hours from the last period of sickness or diarrhoea.

Details from Public Health England about infectious diseases and exclusion periods can be found on the school website or through the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases>



Details for Respiratory Infections (including COVID-19) can be found on the school website:

<https://www.foreland.kent.sch.uk/assets/Respiratory-Outbreak-Action-Card-Education-and-Childcare-Settings-September-2022.pdf>

The current guidance is:

- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and, where possible, avoid contact with other people. They can go back to an education or childcare setting when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough.
- It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.
- If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and, where possible, avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test.

Staff Training Day

Please remember that Monday 30th October is a Staff Training Day and school will therefore be closed to all pupils and students.





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Towards the end of last term, we received the news that we had achieved self-validated Healthy Schools Status. Should anyone want to know more about the Healthy Schools Award please follow this link: <https://www.healthyschools.org.uk/>

The Hive Update



With the building now in place we are moving to the final and most exciting phase of the project which will be called Phase 3 - completion. Within this phase we will be kitting out the building, putting in access paths, cladding the building, putting in 700 trees/bushes, building the forest school, horticultural centre and the sensory garden.

We will be highlighting specific needs over the next 3 months, but if you'd like to volunteer, get involved or have any donations or business/ company links that you think could help us with completion please get in contact with Diarmuid Molloy.

Here is what the final area will look like! [The Hive at Foreland Fields by GPM2 Design Architects & Surveyors - YouTube](#)



Huge thanks to Julie Wilson, nan to one of our Junior pupils George Mansfield, who raised a staggering £500 which she donated to the Hive project. Julie raised the money by completing a sky dive back in June. Thank you so much Julie. Should anyone else want to support the school in any fund-raising venture, please get in contact with Diarmuid Molloy at fundraising@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Evidence for Learning



All parents/carers should now have received login details via email for the Evidence for Learning Family App. This enables teachers to share video evidence of your child's progress. It also enables you to share video of your child achieving at home, so that we can include this in their assessment and Learning Journeys. You can download this app for free from the Play Store/App Store.

If you have not received any login details – please could you inform your child's class teacher with an up to date email address, so that we can resend log in details to you.



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Within the next couple of weeks, we will be saying goodbye to Ria Foulds one of our Teaching Assistants. We will also soon be saying a temporary farewell to Naomi Tweedale who is leaving us to have a baby.

After the break we will be welcoming two new Teaching Assistants, Jodie Winch and Mary West. In addition, we have a new transport operative starting with us, Michelle Voss. Welcome to Foreland Fields. We look forward to getting to know you all.



Reporting



Absences

Could we remind all parents/carers to phone into the main office to report a child's absence. Parents/carers whose children travel on school transport should inform the driver or passenger assistant that their child is not attending however, parents/carers still have a responsibility to inform the school - messages cannot be passed through drivers or passenger assistants.

School times are 8.30am (school starts at 8.40am) until 2.50pm other than Thursdays when school ends at 2.00pm.

In the event that a child is late for school, they need to be brought to the main reception where classroom staff will be contacted to collect the child. If you need to collect your child early for an appointment, please ensure that the school know in advance.

It is important that every effort is made to ensure pupils arrive on time in order that they are prepared for the school day.

Dates for your Diary



- Monday 30th October – Staff Training Day (School is closed to all pupils and students)
- Tuesday 31st October – First Day of Term 2
- Wednesday 1st November – Firework Display
- Friday 3rd November – Halloween Celebration Day
- Friday 10th November @ 10am – Remembrance Reflections



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- Monday 13th – Friday 17th November – Anti-Bullying Week
- Friday 17th November – Children in Need Day
- Tuesday 12th December 2023 – Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 15th December 2023 @ 10am - Christmas Assembly
- Friday 15th December @ 2.50pm – End of Term 2



- Tuesday 2nd January – First Day of Term 3

I hope you all have a great break and we look forward to seeing all pupils and students back on Tuesday 31st October.



Adrian