



Forefield Community Infant and Nursery School

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'Learning and Growing Together'



9th July 2021

NEWSLETTER No 19

Dear Parents,



We are looking forward to having all children and staff back in school next week after Reception children and some of our Y1 year group have had to self-isolate over the last two weeks. **With cases of COVID-19 in the local area remaining high, and in-line with advice from Sefton LA, we will not be changing any of our arrangements currently in place, before the end of term.** Whilst the Government guidance will change from 19th July with regard to the wearing of face-coverings/masks, we would still advise parents and carers to do so whilst on the playground for their own protection as well as that of others.



Arrangements for September

Further to recent Government announcements, it is likely that there will be changes to current arrangements come September. We will be taking advice from Sefton LA and Public Health to inform our risk assessment and plan arrangements accordingly. We will share anticipated arrangements before the end of term, however, these may be subject to change should the current situation and advice change over the summer holiday period. Any amendments will be communicated to parents via the school app.



Y2 Dance Group

Children who have participated in the Y2 Dance Group thoroughly enjoyed a special dance workshop today led by dance tutor, Esmee Collins-Murphy from Sefton Schools' Dance Association. The children worked on the theme 'dreams and aspirations' which is particularly poignant for the children as they transition to the Junior School. The children developed a dance with Esmee's support which we filmed and will be included on the Y2 Leavers' Celebration DVD. A performance to look forward to! A big thank you to Esmee and Sefton Schools' Dance Association for organising and funding the workshop for the children to enjoy.



Fiesta Day in Nursery

Nursery was a riot of red and yellow yesterday with children dressing up in the colours of the Spanish flag and enjoying a special Fiesta Day to celebrate all things Spanish. This included tasting Spanish tapas; learning some Spanish words; playing Spanish instruments and joining in a spot of Spanish flamenco dancing - oley!!! A great day was had by all whilst learning all about Spanish culture and language.



Y2 - Olympic Family Art Project

We know how creative our families here at Forefield are and look forward to seeing all of the creations produced as part of the Y2 Virtual Family Art Workshop. Y2 children will all be bringing home a little resource pack and receive a link to access Mrs Byrne's video of ideas and instructions. We would love as many families as possible to participate. Please do take photographs of your creations in the making and the finished products - we are so looking forward to seeing them all. Have fun!



Living the Olympic and Paralympic Values

A big thank you to Mrs Byrne and Mrs Boardman for organising the initiative which we hope you will enjoy together as a family. Hopefully next year, we can offer Family Art afternoons to other year groups in person, but if not, virtually too.

Sports Week

Next week, the children will be taking part in sports days in year group bubbles. Although we had hoped that this year we would be able to hold our traditional Sports Days with parents and carers invited to come along and cheer the children on, the current high rates of transmission locally, combined with the very challenging implications of the Government guidance around holding such events; make hosting spectators a very significant challenge. This is especially as we are such a large school. We have therefore made the difficult decision to hold sports days for the children without grownups attending this year. Hopefully the situation will be very different next year and we can hold our normal sports days and welcome grown-ups to join in the fun. We appreciate your understanding.

Y2-Y3 Transition Meetings

Mr Swift was very sorry that owing to an OFSTED Inspection at the Junior School, transition meetings planned for parents of current Y2 children had to be cancelled this week and rescheduled for next Wednesday and Thursday. Please sign up for your preferred workshop via our school app and we will pass on the details to the Junior School to send out links for the virtual meetings. Mr Swift and Mrs Russell are very much looking forward to welcoming you all to the Junior School and sharing key information to support the children's transition in September.

Reading Books

Please could all families have a good hunt round the house for any school reading books. We would very much appreciate all books being returned by the end of next week to enable us to undertake a stock take before we finish for the summer. Thank you.

All children will be allocated books on Bug Club to read over the summer break. If you haven't accessed the Active Learn Platform for a little while, please check that your child's password still gives access. If you are having any difficulties, please see your child's class teacher who will be able to help with any queries before we break for the holiday. Continuing to read regularly with your child over the summer break will ensure that learning isn't lost and your child gets off to the best possible start in their new class.

Staff Changes

Today we have said 'good-bye' to our Site Supervisor, Mr Whitford. We would like to pass on our appreciation to him for all that he has done to make our school the lovely place it is to learn and to work. Since the start of lockdown, he has literally repainted the whole of the interior of the school which looks fabulous as well as completing all the jobs around school that keep our school site and building safe, secure and welcoming for us all. He will be greatly missed and we wish him well for the future and hope that he will keep in touch.

The Governors are currently appointing a new Site Supervisor to continue Mr Whitford's great work.

At the end of term, we will be saying 'farewell' to Mr Houghton who has been teaching for the last year in Y2 covering for Mr Hall. Mr Houghton will be greatly missed by children, parents and staff and we wish him well as he takes up a new teaching position at Trinity St. Peter's CE Primary School in Formby. Once again, we very much hope that Mr Houghton keeps in touch.

Mrs Williams, one of our Lunchtime Supervisors will also be retiring at the end of the summer term to enjoy more time with her family and friends and to enjoy all of those things that are put on hold whilst working. We thank Mrs Williams for all the care and support that she has given to a number of children over a number of years and send her every good wish for a happy and healthy retirement.

This term, we have welcomed Mrs Summers, Mrs Westlake and Mrs Halbert to our lunchtime supervisor team and Mrs Murphy and Mrs Westlake to our teaching assistant supply team.

In September, we will be welcoming Mrs Gilroy, Assistant Headteacher and Reception class teacher back from maternity leave. Ms Birch will be joining the Nursery team and supporting Mrs Evans and all of our new Nursery friends - a big 'thank you' to Mrs Hindley who has covered this role so well during the Summer Term. Mrs Murphy will be providing support in KS1 and Mrs Cordey and Mrs Westlake will also be joining the staff team and supporting individual children in school.

We warmly welcome all new members of staff to our Forefield Team and know that they will all do a great job ensuring the safety, well-being and academic progress of all of the children here at Forefield.

End of Term Collection Arrangements

A reminder that staggered collection times on the last day of term (Wednesday 21st July) are as follows:

Classes 1,4 and 5 - 1.30pm

Classes 2, 6 & 7 - 1.40pm

Classes 3, 8 & 9 - 1.50pm

Sefton Library Service Summer Reading Challenge

This is a national challenge which aims to encourage 4 to 12 year olds to make the most of the summer break by visiting their local library and enjoying reading. The challenge is for children to read six books of their own choice. Those who do, will be rewarded with special certificates in an assembly during the Autumn Term. This year's challenge is on an environmental theme 'Wild World Heroes' inspiring the children to stand-up for the planet, sharing some important environmental messages. Children can sign up on-line or at Crosby Library which is currently open Mon and Thurs 10-4.30pm and Sat 10-1.30pm. This is a great way to keep the children busy over the summer holiday, keep up with their reading, as well as learn more about new topics of interest and gain a certificate and rewards - Win! Win!

In 2019, we were the school in the Crosby and Waterloo area with the most children completing the Summer Reading Challenge - we would love to win the special trophy again in 2021 so please do all sign up and complete the challenge!

Further information and ideas for holiday activities to keep the children entertained can be found at

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/schools-learning/libraries/your-local-library.aspx> - finding your local libraries opening times and contact information

Holiday Sports Club for Children Attending Forefield Infants

It can be a challenge to keep the children busy during the holiday. In order to support parents and families, Active Sport will be running a Holiday Sports Camp at Forefield Infant School 26th - 30th July and 16th - 20th August 9-3pm. Places can be booked for 1 or all 5 days. Football and other sports and games will be offered. Please see separate leaflets already sent home and contact 0151 538 7684 or email info@active-sport.co.uk for more information or to book a place.

Uniform

Further to parental feedback and our observations over the last year, the Governing Body propose to make permanent, the temporary changes to school uniform that were implemented owing to the pandemic situation. A revised Uniform Policy is available on the school's website.

Essentially, we will be retaining royal blue or white polo shirts instead of the white shirt and tie and will also be asking that children come to school on PE days dressed in their PE kits with navy jogging bottoms and a school jumper/cardigan and school shoes. In addition to ensuring that PE time is maximised, this has also significantly reduced the amount of lost property which I'm sure is a relief to parents too.

Should you need to purchase items of uniform for the new school year, a direct link is available on our school's website to our uniform provider 'Mapac' should you wish to use them. Just a reminder that to maintain our high standards and for health and safety reasons, our Uniform Policy, specifies footwear as black, sensible shoes not trainers or pumps and neutral coloured sandals. Unless your child is able to tie his/her own shoelaces, please could I also ask that shoe fastenings are either Velcro or buckles. Please ensure all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name so that if they do wander, they can be returned to their rightful owner. Many thanks.

Crosby Housing Association Shop - pre-loved uniform event

Last year, Crosby Housing Association Shop held a free school uniform event which proved really popular so are intending to hold further events this year at their Lorne Road, Waterloo shop. In order to ensure the events are successful, they would really appreciate donations of pre-loved school uniform in good condition.

Any size.. any age...any colour...school shoes...PE pumps/trainers...PE kit...book bags...coats.

Donations can be dropped off at the shop Mon-Sat 10am-4pm. For further information, contact staff at the store on 0151 665 0230.

Uniform Events will be held between 11am and 4pm on Sunday 18th July, Sunday 25th July and Sunday 15th August.

Free School Meals

There are two types of Free School Meals - Universal Infant Free School Meals and Income Related Free School Meals:

Universal Free School Meals -For pupils who attend Reception, Y1 or Y2 they are eligible to receive Free School Meals regardless of their parents' income. You do not need to apply for these Free School Meals, however, if you are on a qualifying benefit we urge you to make a formal application for Income Related Free School Meals as this can benefit your child as school can claim additional funding (Pupil Premium) which is used eg to fund extra-curricular activities, wider curriculum opportunities eg trips and visits and to provide any additional support that your child might need.

Income Related Free School Meals - As a Sefton resident, you are eligible for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit ONLY (not entitled/receiving Working Tax Credit) and have an income of less than £16190.00
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit and have a net household income of less than £7400 per annum
- Support under VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act

Here is the link to Sefton Council website for further information and how to apply for Income Related Free School Meals if you feel that you might be eligible.

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/schools-learning/grants-and-funding/free-school-meals.aspx>

Please do speak to Miss Edwards in the school office should you require any further information or advice.

Home-testing for Families

All families can now access home testing kits should they wish to make use of these. They can be ordered online or collected at testing stations. Further information and guidance can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Dates for Your Diary

July

Mon 12 th July	Nursery Sports Day
Tues 13 th July	Reception Sports Day
Wed 14 th July	Y1 Sports Day
Thurs 15 th July	Y2 Sports Day
Fri 16 th July	Reception Olympic celebration Transition visit for children new to Reception in September Transition visits for current Rec and Y1 children
Mon 19 th July	Y2 Leavers' Party & Celebration
Tues 20 th July	End of Term for Nursery children
Wed 21 st July	Transition visits for children new to Nursery in September End of Term - staggered collection times 1.30pm, 1.40pm, 1.50pm

Sept

Wed 1st Sept INSET Day - school closed to pupils

Thurs 2 nd Sept	8.50am Y1 & Y2 Return to school 8.50 - 11.50am Reception - children who did not attend Forefield Nursery to start
Fri 3 rd Sept	8.50am to 11.50am Reception - children who did attend Forefield Nursery only to start
Mon 6 th Sept	8.50am to 11.50am all Reception children in school 11.15am children in Class 1 to sample lunch Pm Reception Parent Meetings (appointments)
Tues 7 th Sept	8.50am to 11.50am all Reception children in school 11.15am children in Class 2 to sample lunch Pm Reception Parent Meetings (appointments)
Wed 8 th Sept	8.50am to 11.50am all Reception children in school 11.15am children in Class 3 to sample lunch Pm Reception Parent Meetings (appointments)
Thurs 9 th Sept	Reception children in school full-time
Mon 13 th Sept	8.50-11.50am/12.30-3.30pm 15 hour morning or afternoon children to start Nursery
Tues 14 th Sept	8.50-3.30pm Group 1 30 hour children to start Nursery
Wed 15 th Sept	8.50-3.30pm Group 2 30 hour children to start Nursery

Our next newsletter will be circulated on Tues 20th July 2021.

Yours sincerely

E. Haney
Headteacher