



I hope you all had a lovely Christmas. Everyone at Fairfields would like to wish you a very Happy New Year. It been lovely to have the children back in school, for what is going to be a very busy term.

## Staffing

We now have some consistent supply staff in place and our recruitment process is going well. While we still have a number of staff on long term and short term absence, this has improved.

I would like to share with you all that Lexi Asamani left us at Christmas as she is relocating to Bristol. Kim Savage has now joined us to be the new teacher of Hedgehog class. We would also like to welcome Laurel, Latoya, Millie, Maddie and Faye to our support staff team. Jodie Walton was successful in being promoted to School Business Manager in December and Vicki Coleman will be joining us in January as our HR and Finance Assistant.

We are aware that having lots of new staff can create some challenges at the start and end of the day. We understand that it can be difficult for you to hand over your child when the adult is unfamiliar to you or your child. All our staff wear a black staff lanyard with their ID badge and if they are new to you or your child we encourage them to introduce themselves. If you do not know the member of staff who has come to collect your child, you are welcome to ask them to show you their ID. Our supply staff have now been issued with a green staff lanyard, so you can distinguish them.

We are aiming to have no class closures this term. However, if we do have to put the rota back in place, we will try and give you as much notice as possible.

## Intimate Care Policy

Our Intimate Care policy has now been approved by the Governors. A consent form will be sent home and a link to the policy, Please sign and return as soon as possible.

In your child's bag please ensure you send in the following items:

- ◆ A complete change of clothes
- ◆ Enough pads for the day (alternatively you can send in a packet of pads to keep at school) or spare socks and pants
- ◆ Wipes and barrier cream which is suitable for your child
- ◆ A healthy snack (fruit will be provided)
- ◆ A comforter - this will only be used to help your child settle in or if absolutely necessary.
- ◆ Appropriate resources to administer medication or health procedure e.g. syringes, giving sets and extension tubes

**We request that all clothes and items are labelled with your child's name.**

Please do not send your child to school with jewellery or other valuable items. Fairfields is unable to accept responsibility or liability for their safe keeping.

## Soft Play

Our soft play room is now finished and the children have thoroughly enjoyed using it this term. This space is accessed by children in small groups and is used to help them learn about emotional regulation, communication and social skills, while also developing their physical skills. It's been lovely to see the children accessing this additional provision we are able to offer as a school.

## Volunteering

We have had a number of people offer to support us through volunteering. As a school we are required to follow the DfE policy, Keeping Children Safe in Education, and there are a number of different things required for someone to regularly volunteer. This includes an application form, references and DBS checks. If this is something you feel you would like to do and you can regularly commit, please have a look at our website for more details.



## Parent Teacher Association

Our Parent Teacher Association has some great plans for the new year including a spring fair and some after school events for the children. We are always looking for new members so if you feel you are able to support the team, please get in touch. We are also happy to work with businesses who would like to donate their time or money to school. If you have any contacts to help us in this area, please let us know. Our Christmas events last term have raised approximately £400, thank you so much for your support.



## Building Works

The building work to rectify our RAAC situation in school has now started. The building work begins when we return in January and should be completed by Easter. We have managed to keep the building area as small as possible and should have minimum impact on the children in school. The second area will be replaced during the summer holidays. This means that we should be able to start warm water swimming and hydrotherapy (this is provided by the Physios) for some children in April. Initially we will be prioritising our pupils with the most complex physical needs. Once these sessions are established we can then review our swimming offer for other pupils in school as part of the enrichment curriculum.

## PSHE Curriculum

As part of our PSHE curriculum there is a statutory requirement to teach Relationship Education. The content is tailored to be appropriate to the needs, understanding and age of our pupils. The focus is on consent and safe and happy relationships, both face-to-face and online.

It is important that we consult with our families to ensure our content is appropriate. In our curriculum we cover:

- Personal space and boundaries
- What friendship means
- Saying 'No' if something makes us feel uncomfortable
- Families
- Puberty and how bodies change (where appropriate)

For more information about the teaching of this area, please see our PSHE Policy - this can be found on our website or a copy can be emailed to you by contacting the school office.

Your input is really important so we would appreciate your comments in this area.

Please use this link to add your comments:

<https://forms.office.com/e/6ww569X5Fv>



## Monster Phonics.



As a school we are required to have a validated phonics scheme. We have recently purchased Monster Phonics which, for our children who are ready for learning letters and sounds, uses a unique colour system to help children remember the sound of more complex spellings that can be confusing. The scheme also supports the children who are beginning to tune into the different sounds around them and begin to develop oral blending and segmenting skills. There are 10 different characters in the scheme and we have been busy introducing them to the children. A lot of time and effort has gone into selecting the right scheme for our school and the team at Monster Phonics really want to work with us to ensure it's fully inclusive and supports the learning of all the children in school.

We will be running reading and phonics parent workshops this term to provide you with more information and how you can support your child at home. We have organised the workshops in the day, but if you would find an evening workshop more suitable, let us know and we will add an additional date.

Monday Feb 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1.00-3.00

Tuesday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9.00-12.00

Thursday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> @ 1.00-3.00

Friday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9.00-12.00

Click on the link to book your place. <https://forms.office.com/e/2LMKvgWmgk>

## Lending Library

Your child will be coming home with a book from our lending library. This is for you to spend time sharing a story with them at home. Sharing books and stories with children helps their learning, development, language and communication. Don't worry if you share the story more than once as each time you share it, they're learning or noticing something new. When you're ready, send it back and we'll swap it for



## Dates for the Year.

We have been asked to share dates with you all with as much notice as possible. Below are the scheduled dates for the year. They are all to be confirmed nearer the time. Please keep an eye on the Parent App for updates

## Coffee Mornings

Thursday 8th February— 9.30am—please note change of date

Thursday 21st March— 9.30am

Thursday 9th May — 9.30am

Thursday 27th June — 9.30am

## Phonics and Reading Workshops

Monday Feb 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1.00-3.00

Tuesday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9.00-12.00

Thursday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> @ 1.00-3.00

Friday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9.00-12.00

## Assemblies

Easter Assemblies inc Easter Egg Hunt— Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th March

End of Year Celebration Assemblies — Monday 22nd July & Tuesday 23rd July

## Parents Evenings

Celebration Evening—Wednesday 6th March

Tea with the Teachers—Wednesday 10th July

## School Events

- Sensory Maths Day—Friday 26th January. *The theme is pattern so please send your child in wearing an item of clothing that has spots or stripes on it.*
- Chinese New Year Day—Friday 9th February. *Please send your child into school wearing something red and yellow/ gold for our Chinese New Year celebrations*
- World Book Day — Thursday 7th March
- Eid celebration—Friday 19th April
- Sports Week—20th—24th May
- Olympic Challenge Week - 10th—14th June
- Cooking Day—Friday 28th June

## Getting in touch

If you do have any questions or concerns, staff in school are always happy to talk with you. If you would like to get in touch you can do this through contacting the school office either on the phone or via email and a member of the leadership team would be happy to discuss this with you.

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