



Fairfields School

Helping children to help themselves

www.fairfields.northants.sch.uk

No.3 Term 3 2019

Important Dates

Thursday 3rd January 2019

Staff training day

Friday 4th January

Pupils return for start of Term 3

Friday 15th February

Last day of Term 3

Monday 25th February

Start of Term 4

Friday 15th March

Red Nose Day

Friday 5th April

Last day of Term 4

Tuesday 23rd April

Staff training day

Wednesday 24th April

Start of Term 5

Monday 6th May

Bank holiday

Thursday 16th May

Sports Day

Friday 24th May

Last day of Term 5



If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.

Martin Luther King Jr.

Colourful Semantics

As a school we work hard to continually develop our knowledge, skills and understanding to best support the children. Our training day at the start of this term was Colourful Semantics.

Colourful Semantics is an approach created by Alison Bryan (speech and language therapist). It is aimed at helping children to develop their grammar but it is rooted in the meaning of words (semantics). It is an approach suitable for children with speech, language and communication difficulties.

There are a range of benefits to using this approach, including but not limited to:

- Encouraging wider vocabulary
- Making sentences longer
- Helps children to answer questions or generate responses to questions
- Developing use of nouns, verbs, prepositions and adjectives
- Improves story telling skills
- Can be transferred to written sentences and written language comprehension
- Can be carried out individually or in small groups

Staff found this training informative and are now considering how we can use this strategy to help your child.

Use this link to find out more information

<http://integratedtreatmentservices.co.uk/our-approaches/speech-therapy-approaches/colourful-semantics-2/>

A resource pack is also available on our school website (parents: newsletters, news and useful information).



So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, goodbye.....



*On Friday 18th January we are saying a **fond farewell to Philippa** our family support worker. Philippa is relocating with her family after working with many of our children and their families for the past 6 years.*

I hope you agree that Philippa has provided great support and advice. Philippa has also been a great communication champion. Along with Amy, she has helped to manage and lead our signing choir. On many occasions making us feel incredibly proud of their achievements, most notably when the Countess of Wessex visited our school. Not only has Philippa encouraged the children to sign she has also trained staff, supporting them to develop a wide range of signs to help them communicate with the children.

We will miss her enormously but wish her all the very best.

Home-School partnerships are incredibly important to us; I am confident that Janice will be available to liaise with you offering support and advice.

Change Of contact details



If you have changed your contact details e.g. phone number, moved house etc. please make sure you let us know.



Attendance Matters



Last year our attendance target was 94%, we actually achieved 92.84%

Our current attendance is 91.74%

Regular attendance really does matter so please try to send your child into school every day; unless of course they are feeling too poorly. If you have difficulties with your child's attendance please contact Janice Crane, our Assistant Family Support Worker who will be happy to try to help.

Please note, due to government regulations, **the headteacher is unable to authorise holidays in term time** except in very exceptional circumstances.