



July 2023 NEWSLETTER No 11

21st July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I can hardly believe that the end of term has arrived already – where has the year gone? We were very proud of the children as they all moved into their new classes two weeks ago, and they have all settled well and are enjoying working in their new classrooms. Our 'old Year 2's' have enjoyed visits to their new schools and they are steadily growing in confidence, in readiness for their big move in September!

Thank You

Although we have not had as many FEPIS events as usual this year, I would like to thank Claire Cox and Laura Wheatley (Co Chairs), Becky Lucas (Secretary), Debs Lebeau (Treasurer), Scarlett Parker and Caroline Schelander, and those who have helped at the Disco's, Uniform and Ice-Lolly sales, who have given freely of their time and have worked hard to ensure there have been events for the children whenever possible. I am sure you will join me in saying a big THANK YOU to all of them.



The current FEPIS team is extremely small and I know that next year they are keen to increase the number of events for our children and families, including having a Christmas Fair. These events take a great deal of planning, organisation and man-power, so please do give consideration over the summer break as to whether you might be able to support them next year.

STAFF UPDATE

Staffing Update

After working with the reception classes for the last year, Mrs Justine Langley will be leaving us and joining the East Preston Junior School team. We are sure you will join us in wishing her well in her new role.

We are pleased to advise that Mrs Leanne Wallace will be joining the reception team in September. Some of you will already know Mrs Wallace as she has been helping in Starlings class, midday meals and her two children are at the school.

Monster Phonics!

The Government now require schools to use an accredited Phonics scheme and therefore, from September, we will be using the 'Monster Phonics' scheme. Having closely examined the wide number of schemes available we have chosen this one because of its practical, interactive and sensory approach which we believe will closely align with our ethos. Our INSET day on 1st September will be for staff training to enable us to begin delivery of this approach to the children. We are currently in the process of purchasing and organising a significant number of resources, including new reading books.



The accredited Phonics schemes all have a different approach to our current way of teaching reading, with the Phonics reading books all needing to be at a fully decodable level for the child. This will have a significant impact on 'reading at home' and there will no

longer be book bands for children to work through. Once we have undertaken our training we will be in a position to give you more information about what this looks like and your role in supporting your child at home.

In the meantime, you might like to take a look at the website where there are videos and further information: <https://monsterphonics.com>

ECO-School award

We are delighted to share with you that we have once again received the Eco-school award. A big thank you to Miss Giorkatzi who has been the coordinator of our Eco work this year and to the Eco-Committee members for all their hard work, ideas and commitment: Meadow, Sonny, Annie-Rose, Joel, Holly, Isaac, Iris, Joshua, Freddie, Lily T, Esme, Alex.



Our application afforded the following comments:

"It's brilliant that young people were given the responsibility for recording meeting minutes. This will allow them to take ownership over the Eco-Schools programme and develop their listening, communication and teamwork skills. It was lovely to read all the comments on your Environmental Review and gain a real insight into the debate and discussion that took place whilst completing it. It's clear your Eco-Committee are constantly considering what actions they can take to improve their local community and benefit our planet. We love the variety of activities that you and your Eco-Committee have included in the Action Plan. This will no doubt support multi-disciplinary skills and shows how integrated environmentalism is in your school. We loved hearing about your Bake sale for the UNICEF Ukraine Appeal, the art home challenge, your walk to school week and your dress up Earth Day! You have provided practical and fun curriculum examples, which impressively build on the projects you have worked on in your Action Plan. This is a great way to add context to your Eco-Schools work, it means young people at your school are given the opportunity to learn about important environmental issues and then the chance to work on these issues – a great dual approach. We enjoyed hearing about your science themed junk modelling projects! Your Eco-Committee have used a wide variety of methods to inform their school community about their work including your suggestion box and Eco-newsletters - this shows they take pride in their achievements and are working hard to involve and educate all around them. Your greatest success is a brilliant achievement. Your pupils clearly feel more involved in your Eco journey and we are happy to hear that the pupils enjoy discussing environmental issues! It's

clearly something that pupils will be proud of and leaves a great legacy to build upon. Your Eco-Code is very punchy, clear and easy to digest for those that see it. It's a direct call to action. We love this! Thank you so much for submitting such a terrific application. We have loved reading about your journey and are incredibly impressed by all you have achieved. We have no hesitation in awarding you an Eco-Schools Green Flag - congratulations!"

Library Books

Thank you to everyone who has returned Reading and Library books. If you have not yet had the opportunity to do this, or find some over the holiday, please do drop them in to the office in the autumn term.



Summer Reading Challenge

West Sussex Libraries are once again running their summer reading challenge – this year it has a nature focus and is called 'Ready, Set, Read!'. Your child will already have brought home a bookmark with details on the back. The challenge started on Saturday 8th July and finishes on Saturday 9th September. During the challenge you just need to try and read or share six books of your choice and make three visits to the library. Visit the [Summer Reading Challenge website](#)



Summer Building Works

Over the summer holiday, a new play system of hoops and goals will be installed on the playground, ready for use in the autumn term. In addition, the Herras fencing across the field will be replaced with permanent fencing which matches that around the rest of the school.

Scooters & Bicycles on School Ground

Parents and children are politely reminded not to scoot or ride on the playground before and after school. This is for the safety of the other parents and children. Bikes and Scooters can be left in the appropriate racks or we ask that you kindly dismount and walk. Thank you.

Reminder – registration time

From September the registers will be taken at 8.55am and so children need to be in school by this time. Classroom doors will be opened at 8.50am and the playground gates closed at 8.55am.



Class organisation for September 2023

Just a reminder of the classes and staffing arrangements from this September:

| Year group | Class Name | Teacher | Support staff |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| R | Puffins | Mr James Jones (YR) | Mrs Dawn Boulton |
| R | Wagtails | Miss Molly Bouch | Mrs Bethany Henton |
| R | Robins | Mrs Jo Rickard | Mrs Jessica Tapping Mrs Leanne Wallace Mrs Sadie Watson |
| | | | |
| 1 | Blackbirds | Miss Anna Woodiwiss (Y1) | Miss Laura Brooks |
| 1 | Starlings | Miss Lily Jee | Mrs Elita Finn |
| 1 | Woodpeckers | Mrs Clair Lovell | Miss Kristina Loosemore Mrs Gemma O'Keefe |
| | | | |
| 2 | Kestrels | Mrs Helena Lilley & Mrs Stephanie Vinicombe (Y2) | Mrs Sue Buchannan Mrs Carol Chilvers |
| 2 | Falcons | Mr Michael Lake | Mrs Helen Gingell |
| 2 | Hawks | Mrs Sophie Condliffe (covering maternity leave for Mrs Rachel Bean) | Mrs Louisa Houghton Mrs Sally West Miss B Winstone |

Mrs Laura Wheatley (Learning Mentor) will continue to work across all the year groups.

Governors Corner

On behalf of the governors, I would like to thank you for your support over this last year.

To those children moving on, we wish you every success in your new schools. To Mrs New and all the staff, a huge thank you for all you do and we wish you a restful and wonderful break. Finally, we wish all our children, parents and carers well and hope you have a very happy and safe summer holiday.

Paul Willetts

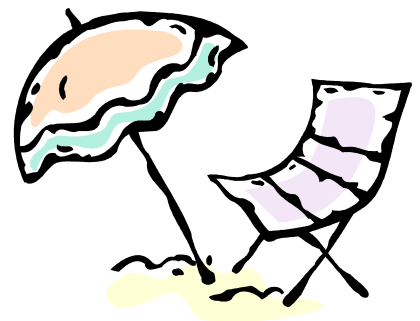
Chair of Governors

And Finally...

As we say goodbye to the Year 2 children, we wish them every success in their new schools. For those of you who will have no more children with us in September, we also wish you well and thank you for your support whilst your children have been with us.

The staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cards, kind words, gifts, biscuits and cakes and we wish you all a very happy and safe summer holiday. See you in September!

School reopens to our Y1 and Y2 pupils on Monday 4th September. See you then!



Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher

Diary Dates

Friday 1st September - **INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**

Monday 4th September - **School reopens to Y1 and Y2**

Tuesday 17th October - Individual Photos

Friday 20th October - School finishes at 3.15pm

Half term - Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October inclusive

Monday 30th October - **INSET DAY**

Tuesday 31st October - Term restarts for pupils

INSET days 2023-2024

Friday 1st September 2023

Monday 30th October 2023

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Monday 19th February 2024

Last Inset Day to be confirmed