



FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER No 6

17th February 2017

Dear Parents

It has been lovely to see the mornings getting lighter and at last there are signs of spring appearing. It's so nice to once again see the daffodil maze coming in bloom and the flowers around the school entrance!

A Few Thank You's!



A big thank you to Mr Shuter (Dad to Daisy in Puffins class) for supplying and erecting the trellis fencing around the storytelling chair.

Thank you to Mrs McRae (mum to Evan in Hawks) for donating 2,000 pencils.

Thank you to Ms Hargroves (mum to Oscar McKenzie in Hawks) for donating 4 large brightly coloured planters.

Thank you also to Miss Watkins (mum to Grace in Falcons) for donating a bag of Hay to be used in Forest School.

Finally we would like to thank the Bengal Curry House for welcoming our YR children and allowing them to sample some delicious Indian cuisine.



Rights Respecting School Video



We are all very proud of our Rights Respecting School status, and thought we would like to tell others about what we do. So, the staff and children have made an amazing video highlighting what we do at school and sharing some of the most relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on The Rights of The Child. You can see this brilliant video on the school website. It's not to be missed!

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWgAom41yVEtRNV6NRoN9iFvJ66kdm991>

World Book Day – Friday 3rd March

On Friday 3rd March we will celebrate World Book Day by sharing books within the class and writing book reviews, as well as wearing a hat representing your child's favourite book/book character. The 'Book People' company will also be in the hall after school on the Friday so that the children can buy a book if they wish. A separate letter will have gone out explaining more information about this.



Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers



Once again we will be collecting Sainsbury Active Kids vouchers this year. The scheme was launched in Sainsbury's stores on 25th January 2017. When members of our school community shop in a Sainsbury's supermarket, they'll get one voucher for every £10 they spend. All vouchers earned in a transaction will be issued on a single piece of paper. In local stores, they'll still get a '1' voucher for every £5 spent. Please bring vouchers into school and post them in the collection box in the front entrance of the school. Thank you.

Late Arrivals

If you are late arriving for school in the morning, can we please ask that you do not drive onto the school premises but park in the road as you would normally do. Many thanks.



Reminder from the School Council

The School Council would like to remind parents and carers that children can dress up on their birthdays. If children come into school in their own clothes they will need to bring in a donation of £1 for the School Council Fund.

If your child's birthday falls within a school holiday or a weekend they may come into school on a day of their choice but please remember the donation!



Lots of thanks.
The School Council
East Preston Infant School

Dogs

Could we please ask parents/carers to refrain from tying their dogs outside the access gates to the school. There has been a recent incident where a child was 'nipped' so we would appreciate your help in this matter to avoid similar occurrences. Also, could you please ensure that children do not approach the dogs for the same reason.

Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

Governors' Corner

We are pleased to welcome new parent governor Dr Rachel Keys (mum to Joshua in Year 1) to the governing body, and hope to appoint a new governor from the community at our March meeting. We still need to recruit two more governors to fill vacancies that will be arising as governors finish their term of office. This could be, for example, a grandparent, former parent or anyone with a connection to the East Preston community. If you know anyone who would like to be put forward, or who would simply like to find out more about the role, please ask them to contact me via the school office.

Dates for Your Diary

Attached are some dates for you to note on your calendar, please check each newsletter for any updates or amendments

Thank you once again for your interest in and support of the school – your children really do benefit from our mutual collaboration.

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher



Half term Monday 20th – Friday 24th February inclusive



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| Tuesday 28 th February | - | Y1 WOW start – Starlings class to walk to Ferring Nurseries |
| Wednesday 1 st March | - | Y1 WOW start – Woodpeckers class to walk to Ferring Nurseries |
| Thursday 2 nd March | - | Y1 WOW start – Blackbirds class to walk to Ferring Nurseries |
| Friday 3 rd March | - | World Book Day |
| Tuesday 7 th March | - | FEPIS Phil the Bag event |
| Wednesday 8 th March | - | YR Farm to Fork visit to Tesco, Littlehampton |
| Thursday 9 th March | - | 9am SPAG/SATS meeting for Y2 parents |
| | - | 9.15am – 10.30am Fire Brigade visiting Y2 |
| | - | YR Farm to Fork visit to Tesco, Littlehampton |
| Friday 10 th March | - | 3.30pm - Fair Trade Tea Break |
| Monday 13 th March | - | Maths Enterprise Week – whole school |
| Tuesday 14 th March | - | 3.30pm – 6pm Parent Consultations |
| Thursday 16 th March | - | 9am Maths workshop for parents |
| Friday 17 th March | - | Just Different visiting Y2 |
| Thursday 23 rd March | - | School Nurse – YR screening |
| | - | 3.30pm – 6pm Parent Consultations |
| Friday 24th March | - | Inset day: school closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 28 th March | - | YR trip to Coombe Farm |
| Wednesday 29 th March | - | 9.15am Year 2 Assembly – parents welcome |
| Thursday 30 th March | - | 9am – 10am Open Morning |
| Wednesday 5 th April | - | FEPIS Spring Disco – details to follow |
| Thursday 6 th April | - | School Grounds Day |
| Friday 7 th April | - | Y2 – Little Red Riding Hood Dress up Day |
| | - | End of term starts 3.15pm |

Term restarts for pupils on Monday 24th April

Other INSET days:- Monday 5th June



We can't believe it is half term already! Where did the time go?

We have been very busy on behalf of everyone who is part of the school and have lots of exciting news for you...so read on.

EVENTS- past

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Fayre... it seems such a long time ago now. Our share of the profits raised was an incredible £1,693! This was up on the previous year's which was £1,285. This has gone into the 'pot' to be spent on facilities and resources as needed by the school.

EVENTS-future

Spring Disco- we will be putting on this popular event again (separate paper letter will be sent out so look out for it in your child's book bag) on **Wednesday 5th April**. You will be able to pay for your child from the Thursday before to the day of the disco. We **WILL NOT** be signing children's names up for it, without payment, as we have done in the past as a favour to some. We do not have the time to chase up payment and it makes the whole process far more complicated than it needs to be. If you are never at school pick up and cannot arrange for someone to do it for you on your behalf, you may send payment into the office, in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class and stating 'FEPIS Spring disco' payment. Thank you in advance for your co-operation and understanding on this. If you are able to help at either/both of the discos, catch one of us on the playground, contact us via our Facebook page or let the office know.



Cinema Afternoon



We have decided to run this event which will be put on straight after school (your children's teacher will lead children taking part straight into the hall). Days and specific dates still need to be agreed, but the children will be able to watch a film on the large screen in the hall with their friends. Ticket price will be £2 which will include drinks (squash or water). They are allowed to bring snacks to eat during the film showing. Watch this space for more information!

Matchbox Challenge

We are running this challenge again due to the huge success last year. We know that for Year 1s and 2s it will be familiar but for our Reception children, it is new! Please remember it is optional, and although it is a sponsored event, children may take part without collecting sponsorship; there is no pressure to do so. More information to follow.



Phil The Bag

Our last collection raised £171.50 and Blackbirds were the winners...but it was very close with a few other classes! So get collecting for our next collection on **Tuesday 7th March**. Bring your bags to the hall and place in your chosen class area. The winning class will again win a non-school uniform day.



Secondhand School Uniform Sales

We will be running these again regularly once the weather improves. We will notify you of dates prior to the sales but they will take place after school, outside the office area. If you are in need of anything particular, feel free to jot it down and hand in to the office for the attention of Maria Beasley. Many thanks to Maria for sorting and washing the donated uniform. If you have anything (of good quality!) please put into the bins provided in the office area.

AMAZING FUNDRAISING!

If you haven't already heard, we have been hugely successful in winning grants which were applied for by Megan Howdle, FEPIS Secretary, on behalf of FEPIS and the school, in order to pay for the wildlife ponds in the Forest school area. We were over the moon to hear that we had won...

- **£500** from Aviva (we didn't win the grant but they gave us this towards our ponds)
- **£2,000** from Greggs
- **£5,000!** From the Tesco Bags of help scheme



WOW! Thank you to all who voted for us and did all you could to help us win this huge sum of money. Therefore, this means that the ponds and the landscaping have been fully funded. We can also now purchase planting and resources needed so the children can start to use them as soon as possible. Please feel free to wander down to the Forest school area and have a look at them (although they are not quite finished yet!).

As we have such a healthy bank balance, this means we can spend other money raised on much needed facilities and resources (the school advise on this as they know what is needed). This is vital at a time that school's funding is being cut. If you have any ideas on what you think the money should be spent on, feel free to let us know but be aware that any updating of outside areas, playground, etc... cannot be done at present due to the planned building work.

Meetings

We had a successful AGM with a small group of parents attending. The committee is unchanged and is as follows:

Claire Woods: Chair

Tracey McRae: Co-Chair

Megan Howdle: Secretary

Kate McCarthy: Treasurer

Our next meeting is on: Thursday 23rd March at 9am.

Have an enjoyable half term everyone!
The FEPIS Team