

OCTOBER 2017

NEWSLETTER 2

20th October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Harleigh Osborne, Alfie Young and Anderson Poole who have joined us in Woodpeckers class this term.

As usual there are lots of events going on in school, so please carefully check the diary dates section at the end of this newsletter so that you do not miss out on any of the events that are coming up later this term.

Thank You

We are always extremely grateful when families so generously donate to the school and we would like to thank the following who have recently given items:

Mrs Cox (Mum to Ralph in Wagtails) – new wooden calendar.
Mrs Cooper (Mum to Lewis in Hawks) – Phonics books
Mrs Austin (Mum to Bertie in Wagtails) – lots of books and dressing up clothes

And finally **all the families** who helped during School Grounds day today – you have done a great job.

Staffing Update

We are sad to tell that Mrs Marta Marino left us on Friday 13th October. Mrs Marino has been a Learning Support Assistant at School for five years and has worked really closely with a number of children and their families. Recently, Mrs Marino was offered her dream job, working as a guide at Petworth House and I am sure you will join us in wishing her well in this new venture.

Mrs Marino very kindly donated some waterproofs for the children to use in either Forest or Beach School.



Reminder: Individual Photos – Tuesday 31st October

Individual and family photographs will be taken on Tuesday 31st October.

Please note all Infant and Junior children will have an individual photo taken in their own school in school time unless parents inform the appropriate school that they do not wish one to be taken.



All family groups including pre-school children, Junior and Secondary children, will be taken before school from 8.00am onwards at the INFANT SCHOOL. They will need to be accompanied by an adult. Each family will be given a number to make queuing fairer.

Family groups including **ONLY** Infant School children will be taken during school time at the Infant School.

Building work update



As you have seen, the external building works have been moving ahead at a good pace this half term. The first floor is currently being installed and the roof will be put on during the half term break. After the holidays work will begin on getting the walls in place.

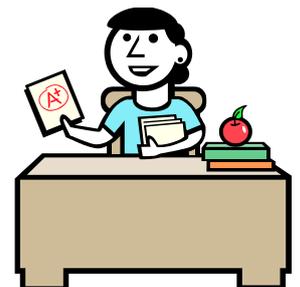
Inside the building the 'old woodpeckers' classroom has been transformed into a disabled toilet, two storage areas, a large group room and an interlinking corridor. These works will be completed this week and we look forward to moving into them during the half term break.

The building contractors have been amazing and have worked closely with us to minimize disruption to the children's learning. Noise has been kept to a minimum and notice has been given to us when we have needed to move out of spaces for Health and Safety reasons. The safety of the children and staff has been paramount. The children have very much enjoyed seeing the various stages of the works and the builders have become minor celebrities to them!

We would like to thank you all for your consideration and support during these works. You have been very patient in using the much smaller waiting area and when we have forgotten to unlock the gates at 3pm!

Reminder: Parent Consultation Evenings: Wednesday 8th and Tuesday 14th November

We are holding our Parent Consultation evenings on **Wednesday 8th and Tuesday 14th November from 3.30 – 6.00pm**. A separate letter has already been sent out. Please note that these meetings are exclusively for parents and teacher only. **Please make alternative arrangements for your children.**



Reminder: Junior School Transfer/ Reception 2018



All Year 2 children will by now have received their Junior School transfer packs. Please note that the **deadline for applications is 15th January 2018**. For those of you who have younger children due to start school in September 2018 please make sure that you apply for your place by the closing date of **15th January 2018**. These deadlines are extremely important and we have had parents in the past miss out on places as their paperwork was not submitted on time.

Children in Need: Friday 17th November

This year we will again be supporting Children in Need during the week of 13th November and culminating in a non-uniform day on Friday 17th November. More details will be sent out after half term about the range of events and competitions your children will be partaking in, but Pudsey badges and wrist bands will be on sale from Monday 13th November.



Poppies for Sale



The School Council will be selling poppies in school up to Friday 10th November 2017.

The British Legion suggests a minimum donation of £1 for wristbands and 20p for poppies. Thank you for your support.

Parking

This term we have once again received a number of concerns/complaints about parents who are parking in a manner which potentially endangers the lives of our children. Can I please ask all families to park in a **safe and considerate manner** at drop off and pick up times i.e. not parking on the zig-zag lines, double yellow lines, up on the curb or in the staff car park in St Mary's Drive. If parents see parking which concerns them they are asked to report it to Operation Crackdown online www.operationcrackdown.org or call 01243 642222.



Reminder: Smoking/Vaping



Smoking is not permitted anywhere on site – **this includes vaping.** Thank you.

Reminder Scooters and Bikes

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. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

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

As this will be the last newsletter before half term I hope you all have a great half term break and a happy Halloween.

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher





Diary Dates

Monday 30 th October	-	School reopens for pupils
Tuesday 31 st October	-	Individual Photos (8am for EPJS siblings)
Tuesday 7 th November	-	FEPIS 'Phil The Bag' 6pm FEPIS meeting in staffroom
Wednesday 8 th November	-	3.30 – 6pm Parent Consultations
Friday 10 th November	-	Y2 trip to Hove Synagogue
Tuesday 14 th November	-	3.30 – 6pm Parent Consultations
Wednesday 15 th November	-	Prospective parents Open Morning
Friday 17 th November	-	Children in Need non-uniform day Just Different visiting Y2
Wednesday 6 th December	-	5-6pm Forest Camp Fire Carols (details to follow)
Thursday 7 th December	-	5-6pm Forest Camp Fire Carols (details to follow)
Friday 8 th December	-	FEPS Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 13 th December	-	9.30am Y2 Christmas Play 2pm Y1/R Christmas Play
Thursday 14 th December	-	9.30am Y1/R Christmas Play 2pm Y2 Christmas Play 5pm Y2 Star gazing (details to follow)
Friday 15 th December	-	Christmas Jumper Day Whole School Christmas lunch
Monday 18 th December	-	pm Christmas parties
Tuesday 19 th December	-	9-10am Open Morning – all welcome 1.45pm Christmas at Our Lady Star of the Sea*
Wednesday 20 th December	-	am Whole School Pantomime 'Puss In Boots' Terms ends at 3.15pm

The term will restart for the children on Thursday 4th January 2018

Other INSET days:- **Monday 22nd January 2018 ****
 Friday 16th March 2018
 Monday 4th June 2018

*** Provisional date to be confirmed**

**** Changed from Friday 9th February 2018**



Friends of East Preston School

We at Friends of East Preston Infant School (FEPIS) would like to welcome all the new children and families who have joined our school this year.

We started the year off with our Teas and Tissues event which was incredibly successful and we were thankful for all the support and kind words we received. This event was held to welcome (and console) parents and carers on the first full day of reception. We hope that new friends were made and faces put to names.

Our first meeting of the year was very well attended with lots of new faces coming to add their help, support and ideas and to make some new friends.

We have some exciting things planned for this year, some familiar and some new....so keep a look out in the newsletters and on the school website. A great way to keep updated on FEPIS events is to like our Facebook page – Friends of East Preston Infant School. This is a public page, so we have started another private group to help organise events and would love to get as many people signed up to that as possible – please request to join the group ‘FEPIS Organising Team’.

GLOW IN THE DARK DISCO

We hope that your children enjoyed the first ever Glow in the Dark Disco last night! We loved it and thought the children looked fantastic glowing under the fluorescent lights! Thank you to everyone who came along to help out! Our next disco will be in the Spring! Thank you to everyone who entered our colouring in competition and congratulations to the two winners from each year group!



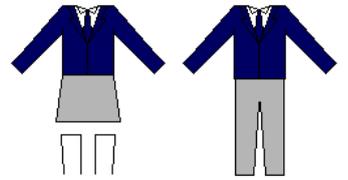
CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Planning has already begun on the Christmas Fayre – a joint event held with East Preston Junior School. It will be held on **Friday 8th December** at the Infant School! We are hoping to get as many people involved as possible to help on stalls so that everyone has a chance to enjoy the event. If you are excited and eager to help out before or at the event, please email us at fepis@epinf.co.uk or contact us via Facebook. A letter will go out soon with more information.

PRELOVED UNIFORM SALES

Did you know that you can recycle any outgrown uniform that is in a good clean condition? We have a box in reception that you can pop it into. We then sort through and have regular sales. This is both good for the environment as well as helping out other families.



This year we are going to be trialling having stalls at school events. Our first preloved uniform stall will be held on both parents' consultation evenings (**8th and 14th November**). We will be in the hall so come and find us and see what you can find. All we ask for in return is a donation to FEPIS (suggestion of 50p per item).

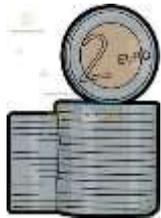
FUNDRAISING

FEPIS will continue to apply for grants this year, so if you hear of any available please let us know. We were really successful last year, getting funding to cover the complete cost of our Dipping Ponds. During the Summer holidays, we got notification that we had been successful in getting £577 for Forest School equipment! This is on top of the £2000 given to the school by the Southover Trust for a tool station for Forest School.

We will be sending out a letter about match funding soon, but if you know any employers that match fund (eg: Lloyds Bank) please let us know.

BREAKING NEWS!!! – Our application for the Aviva Community Fund has been successful! Voting opens on 24th October so keep an eye out for the link to register and vote. We have applied for £5000 to purchase outdoor fitness equipment for the children.

COINS 4 CASH



We have so far had a great response to our Coins4cash fundraiser. If you have any foreign coins sitting around, there is a bucket in reception that you can drop them in to. We then send these away and they are converted to Sterling! Please ask any family, friends or neighbours that you know have been on holidays recently! They accept any foreign currency as well as old British currency (did someone say round £1 coins)!

PHIL THE BAG

This is always a successful fundraiser. We collect bags of unwanted textiles – clothes, shoes, duvet covers, cushions – in a good clean condition. Phil the Bag then come to the school and pay us per kilo for what we have collected. Our first Phil the Bag of the year will be **Tuesday 7th November**.



MEETINGS

Current Committee:

Megan Howdle: Co-Chair

Andrea Chapman: Co-Chair

Kate McCarthy: Treasurer

We are currently in need of someone to be Secretary, or even just do the minutes at the meetings. So if you are interested or would like more information, please email us at fepis@epinf.co.uk

Our next meeting is on the evening of **Tuesday 7th November** – at 6pm in the School Office!

Have a great half term everyone!

The FEPIS team