



JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER No 6

11th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back and a belated 'Happy New Year' to you all. We hope that you had a peaceful Christmas and are now refreshed and ready to face the challenges of 2019!



Reminder: Siblings Starting School

If you have a child due to start school in September 2019, please remember the deadline for online applications to be received by the Admissions Office is **15th January**. If you have not submitted your application already you can still do so online at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions by the deadline.

Please also note the deadline for applications for transfer to Junior and Middle school is also **15th January**. Parents of Year 2 children should have received a letter with all the details from Pupil Admissions, West Sussex County Council.

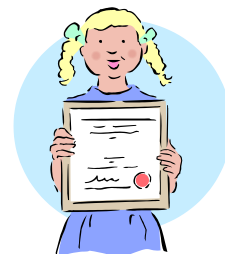
'Stay and Play' sessions

This term we are again holding 'Stay and Play' sessions for each class. These sessions will take place at drop-off time and will be an opportunity for you to learn alongside your child and find out about key areas of the curriculum such as Reading, Writing, Maths and Phonics. We were delighted that so many of you were able to attend the autumn term sessions and that you found them so useful – we hope that you will be able to join us again this term. Please see the diary dates section of the newsletter and your weekly home-learning letters for further details about the events for your year group.



Year Group Assemblies

Once again the children are holding Year Group Assemblies. These are an opportunity for the children to show their work and tell you about what they have been learning in school. Each assembly lasts approximately 15 minutes. Due to space restrictions the assemblies are limited to parents and family who have children in that year group. We do hope you are able to come along and show your support for your children. Please see the Diary Dates section for dates/times of your child's Year Group Assembly.



Parent Consultation Evenings: Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th March

We are holding our Parent Consultation evenings on **Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th March from 3.30 – 6.30pm**. A separate letter will follow. Please note that these meetings are for parents and teachers only. **Please make alternative arrangements for your children.**



INSET Day - Friday 15th February



Please remember that there is another INSET day this term. Children have to attend school for 190 days per year, but teachers have to work an additional 5 days for training and organisational purposes. We try to spread the INSET days across the year to enable us to deal with specific training issues, join with other schools or buy in experts. Wherever possible we try to synchronise dates with the Junior School and to tag them on to school holidays to enable families to have a longer break away if they wish, without impacting on attendance.

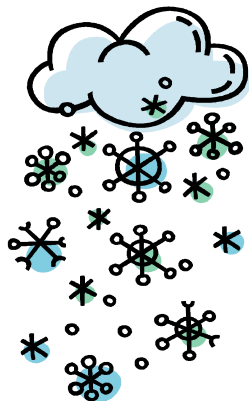
For your interest, on the February INSET day the staff will be joining the other staff in our Locality group of schools to hear a presentation by the renowned Educationalist Sir John Jones.

Open Morning – Friday 5th April



This term's Open Morning takes place on **Friday 5th April between 9.00am and 10.00am**. Although teachers will need to call their class together for registration, you are welcome to enter the classroom with your child on this morning and wait quietly whilst the register is taken. Once this is completed you will be free to spend time together, looking at their work and the work of others on display in all areas. Please do have a good look around the whole school and venture into other classrooms and the hall.

School Closure Procedures ...a reminder



We can assure you that we do not take the decision to close the school lightly and only do so when deemed absolutely necessary.

If the situation does arise, please check the school website or listen to Spirit FM, More Radio or Heart FM who read out lists of school closures regularly between 7.15am and 9.30am and detail local school closures on their websites. In addition, if we have your mobile number then you will receive a text message via the 'Call Parents' alert system. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Fiona Waller and Mrs Sue Woodcraft who send out the text alerts and update the website in order to inform parents and staff as quickly as possible.

Spotlight on Safeguarding

E-safety is another part of our safeguarding duty. The internet is a great resource to use in school but it's also important that the children stay safe online.



There are a number of ways in which we ensure that this happens. Firstly, we have a filter system built in to our computer network. This blocks inappropriate websites relating to pornography, dating, gambling, hacking and weapons and it also includes sites such as, Youtube, Facebook, and gaming sites.

We take a proactive approach to teaching the children how to keep themselves safe online. This is achieved in a variety of ways so that the children are regularly exposed to it. They learn about e-safety in their weekly computing lessons and in the half-termly e-safety assembly. There are posters up in all of the classrooms next to the computer areas, reminding the children how to keep themselves safe online (Our E-safety Rules can be viewed on our website) and the teachers give the children reminders when they are using the internet to inform other areas of their learning.

There are a number of websites that can give you more information about e-safety and what you can do at home to keep your child safe. Particular ones to look at are:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

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 continuing support of the school.

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher





Diary Dates

Friday 18 th January	-	FEPIS Meeting 9.00am
Wednesday 23 rd January	-	FEPIS 'Bags of Support'
Monday 28 th January	-	9.00am Hawks and Falcons Stay and Play – Literacy
Tuesday 29 th January	-	9.00am Kestrels Stay and Play – Literacy
Wednesday 30 th January	-	9.00am Hawks Stay and Play – Literacy
Thursday 31 st January	-	9.00am Falcons Stay and Play – Literacy
Friday 1 st February	-	9.00am Kestrels Stay and Play – Literacy
Friday 8 th February	-	Y1 Fab Finish – Cinderella dress up
Wednesday 13 th February	-	9.15am YR assembly – parents/carers welcome
Thursday 14 th February	-	9.15am Y1 assembly – parents/carers welcome
Friday 15th February	-	INSET day 3: School closed to pupils
	-	Half term starts at 3.15pm

Half term: Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February **Term restarts for pupils on Monday 25th February**

Monday 25 th February	-	9.00am YR stay and Play – Maths
Tuesday 26 th February	-	9.00am YR Stay and Play – Maths
Friday 1 st March	-	School Grounds morning
Tuesday 5 th March	-	9am – 9.45am Y2 SATS/Spelling & Grammar Meeting – details to follow
Friday 8 th March	-	JustDifferent visiting Y2
Tuesday 12 th March	-	Farm visiting YR – details to follow
	-	3.30 – 6.30pm Parent Consultations
Thursday 14 th March	-	3.30 - 6.30pm Parent Consultations
Friday 15 th March	-	Red Nose day – details to follow
Monday 18 th March	-	9.00am Woodpeckers Stay and Play – Phonics
Tuesday 19 th March	-	9.00am Woodpeckers and Starlings Stay and Play – Phonics
Wednesday 20 th March	-	9.00am Starlings Stay and Play – Phonics
Thursday 21 st March	-	9.00am Blackbirds Stay and Play – Phonics
Friday 22 nd March	-	9.00am Blackbirds Stay and Play - Phonics
Thursday 28 th March	-	Y1 trip to Wakehurst Place – details to follow
Wednesday 3 rd April	-	Y2 assembly – parents/carers welcome
Thursday 4 th April	-	Y2 Fab Finish – Little Red Riding Hood dress up
	-	FEPIS discos 4.45pm YR; 6pm Y1 and Y2
Friday 5 th April	-	9.00 – 10.00am Open Morning
	-	Term ends for pupils at 3.15pm
Tuesday 23 rd April	-	Term restarts for pupils

Other INSET days: Friday 24th May 2019
Monday 24th June 2019



Friends of East Preston School

Happy New Year from all at FEPIS!



We are having our first meeting of 2019 next Friday 18 January, starting just after 9am. We are currently a **very** small team and would love just another couple of more 'regular' members to help plan some more fun events for the children this year.

We appreciate that life is very busy, however if you can spare an hour or so to come along to the meeting or would like to be more involved in helping to plan events we would absolutely love to hear from you.

Our meetings are really informal and friendly and you would be made to feel very welcome. If you can make it please sign in with the ladies in the school office who will show you to the meeting room.

Alternatively, if you have any ideas or comments please feel free to email us at fepis@epinf.co.uk or via our FEPIS Facebook page.

Thank you so much!

FEPS Christmas Fayre

Did you come along to the Christmas Fayre? If so, a huge thank you for supporting this event.

It was a great night and it looked like the children had a really fun time.

Congratulations to those of you that won some of the amazing Grand Raffle prizes and we extend our appreciation and thanks to anyone that helped to make the event such a success whether that was by donating items or by volunteering time to help.

The final total raised was an amazing £3,373.64.

Bags of Support – 23 January

Having a post-Christmas clear out? Or do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you don't wear anymore? Then we will take them off your hands!



Simply bag up any clothes (both adult/children's); shoes, bags or belts and drop them into school on the morning of Wednesday 23 January.

Bags of Support will collect the bags and then 'weigh and pay' FEPIS 50p per kilo which we are then free to spend on resources and equipment for our school.

Thank you very much!

Match Funding – what is it?

Many companies throughout the UK offer employees the chance to boost their child's school's fundraising efforts by 'matching' the money they raise. It really is money for nothing, and PTA's such as FEPIS could double the amount of cash we raise with very little effort.

Match giving or match funding is a simple way of maximising the fundraising efforts of individual PTA volunteers. It is an informal, albeit corporate arrangement between a company and their employee. Not all companies offer matched funding but those that do will pledge a sum of money relating to the amount their employee has raised for, or donated to the charity of their choice. Some organisations will match fund on a £ for £ basis, others will stipulate what they are prepared to give. It is likely that an upper limit will be applied along with certain criteria such as the recipient organisation being a registered charity, which FEPIS is.

Some companies will also pledge time and resources instead of money, so enabling their employees to support a cause during their working week, or offering a tangible service such as the opportunity to print posters, programmes, newsletters and so on.

To give you an example, if you are someone who has previously volunteered on a stall at the Christmas Fayre perhaps, or helped out at one of our disco's or other events, it maybe that your company would have matched the amount that particular stall or event raised!

So, please, please can we ask you to check with the company you work for to see if, firstly, they already offer match funding, or if they would be interested in finding out more. Let us know by emailing us at fepis@epinf.co.uk or via our FB page or please leave us a message in the school office.

Thank you!

Outside play equipment

All of the new outside play equipment funded by FEPIS is now installed. This replaces the old 'trim trail' equipment which was looking very old and some parts had been unusable for some time. Mrs New has advised that the children are loving the new play pieces, which include a climbing wall and climbing A frame as well as a rolling walk and a mini traverse.





The area around the equipment is rather muddy so FEPIS will be looking into whether we can offer some fund for astro turf to ensure the area is accessible all year round.

Upcoming dates for your diary

...these will be sent out following our FEPIS meeting next Friday 18 January so keep a look out for what we have planned!

Finally, I would like to extend sincere thanks to **Charlotte Gray** who has been on the FEPIS committee for some time now but has recently stepped down due to a change in circumstances which has meant her daughter, Phoebe is no longer a pupil at the school. We wish Phoebe all the very best in her new school and extend our very best wishes to Charlotte and her family.

Lisa

FEPIS Chair