



FOX WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



August
2021

Important Dates

Our Website address: www.foxwoodschoo.org.uk

Wednesday 21 July

Thursday and Friday 22 and 23 July

Wednesday 1 September

Thursday 2 September

Friday 24 September

School closes for pupils

Inset Days or staff

Inset Day for Staff

Pupils return to school

PMLD Awareness Day

Message from Lucinda

I have written a letter to you all that contains much of the information/sentiments I would usually put in the end of term newsletter and so I won't repeat that – however please do read this letter (and if you can't find it, you can access it on the school website.)

Instead I want to take the opportunity to say a special thanks to our outgoing Head and Deputy Head Pupils, and welcome our new Head and Deputy Head Pupils for September. Joel and Patrick have been our Head and Deputy Head Pupils before and through the pandemic and whilst they have not been able to fulfil some of the key (and favoured) parts of their role – particularly awarding certificates at our Friday Achievements Assemblies in the hall – both boys have been excellent role models, and have ensured that they've had a considerable impact upon school life in a variety of ways. Joel has also particularly made a point of checking in with me whenever he's seen me to see if I am okay, which I have truly appreciated so much. Similarly I have appreciated how keen Pat has been to demonstrate that he is being especially sensible around school – and it's been lovely to see him becoming so grown up, and responsible (whilst having plenty of laughs with Joel – don't worry, there's always opportunities for that too!)

Our new Head and Deputy Head Pupils, Luis and Layton, are keen to start their roles in September and I look forward to seeing how they grow and develop in these roles too. Luis's campaign was all about increased outdoor learning opportunities (which was very popular with his peers who commented that they thought he'd make a good Head Pupil as he can be "thoughtful, funny, kind and happy.") and Layton tells me that he's looking forward to being a role model (when we met this morning and I explained what this meant he said "Woah . . . people will say I want to be like Layton when I'm a grown up!" – and I think he might very well be right!)

Those of you on Social Media will know that these four boys led our support for the England Team earlier this month – and whilst the team sadly weren't able to deliver us all a win for Euro 2020, what they did deliver was a reminder that passion, determination, bravery and – above all – true teamwork is something that can make so much more of a difference than simply the most obvious result – and not just to ourselves, but to those around us and beyond. Role models for us all!



Goodbye

We say good luck and good bye to:
Trish from the Office, she is retiring.
Teaching Assistants: Stacey, Kathryn and Tanya.
Pupils: Savannah and Jack who are moving up to College
We wish them all well for the future.

Good Luck



Two of our staff are getting married over the summer, we hope they have a lovely day.

Thank you

Thank you for your donations and support over the year, we are very grateful to you all.



Online Safety Update

For many young people with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND), the internet can be a place where they feel safe, calm and in control. Somewhere they can make friends without having to communicate face-to-face and build a community which they may not have in their offline life. Whilst recognising the internet is a great resource which young people enjoy using, life online for a child with SEND may pose additional challenges that require careful management and support.

Here are some ideas to ensure your child's safety when using the internet:

- Set up parental controls on your home broadband and any devices that your child uses.
- Make sure your accounts are all password protected.
- Be with your child when they are online and talk about what they are doing.
- Set rules for screen time and stick to them.
- Choose the sites that your child has access to.
Activate 'safe search' options on search engines such as Google and YouTube.

Check out #DITTO!

#DITTO is a free online safety magazine. You can find out more at <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

Social Media

For guides on how to ensure safe use of social media head to <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/social-media-guides>

Engagement Model and Pre-Formal Curriculum

The curriculum at Fox Wood School is divided into 3 tiers – the formal curriculum, the semi-formal curriculum and the pre-formal curriculum. Pupils who are working at a pre-subject specific level are working on the pre-formal curriculum. The curriculum is further divided into 4 areas – cognition, communication, physical & self-care and independence. A multi-sensory approach is taken in these classes, with activities such as maths massage, sensory stories and tacpac to name a few!

The Engagement Model is used to support assessment for pupils working at a pre-subject level. This looks at how pupils engage with the curriculum and the activities in five key areas – exploration, realisation, anticipation, persistence and initiation.



Other Notices - Dinner Money—Just a reminder that Dinner Money is £2.40 per day, (£12.00 per week) This is still payable on the Friday for the following week and must be paid on a weekly basis or termly in advance. Any monies sent into school must be in a sealed envelope with the pupil's name, the amount, and what the money is for, written clearly. School cannot take responsibility for any loose cash.

Out Door Learning Week

At Fox Wood we have been super busy with outdoor learning week! What a way to start the half term! The sun was shining, and we had great fun exploring fires with sensory experiences, making smores and even learning our own safety rules. Throughout the week we had a hedgehog day, explored the bear hunt story, took part in sports day races and even had our own tough mudder. To end a fun filled week we had our own fun fest festival with live music, ice creams and some very impressive talent from our own pupils. To end the half term on a high we have been busy working towards renewing our ECO award green flag and we are pleased to say we have been awarded the status, well done everyone!!



Information for September

The school-aged immunisation teams are going to be using e-consent from September 2021. E consent allows parents and carers to complete consent forms on a computer or mobile phone. Letters will be sent out in September. The flu vaccinations will take place on 18 October.

As part of the government funded HAF programme, children in receipt of free school meals can take part in 4 weeks of creative activity at Pyramid Arts Centre for free. Working with professional artists and exploring dance and drama, sculpture, film-making and so much more, children will learn new skills, meet new friends and have a lot of creative fun.

To find out more about the HAF programme locally visit <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/news/holiday-activity-and-food-programme> and to book directly for this activity, click here: <https://curiousminds.coordinate.cloud/list>

Thank you to Dunelm and everyone who voted for us, we have added the 'Wonderfully Wild' resources to our Forest Schools.



Thank you to everyone who has put clothes in our clothes bank, we have had it emptied twice now and have raised over £80. Keep up the good work.



Friends of Fox Wood & Pastoral Support

We were able to collect a fantastic amount of prizes for our Summer Raffle which included hairdressing vouchers, wine, chocolate, tattoos, electronics ... I could go on! Thank you to all of those who donated or who collected prizes on behalf of school.

The Fox Wood FunFest went well, pupils enjoyed lots of different games including hook a duck, dancing, throwing sponges at targets and splat the rat. There are lots of lovely photos available on social media for you to have a look at and I'm sure you will agree it looks like everyone was having lots of fun (including some of our parents who volunteered!)

Thank you to all those who take part in the "Your School Lottery" with some of the money raised we were able to surprise everyone with an ice cream from Matt's Ices. Please see the links on our social media pages or ask in the home school diary if you would like to take part.

We now have the clothing bin at school to help raise additional funds for school. Should the bin already be full when you drop any bags off please keep hold of these until the bin is empty again. Thank you to those who have already donated clothing as we have been able to have our first collection.

Please remember that I am here should you feel that you need any additional support, I am more than happy to talk through the early help process should you feel that you would like some additional support through the early help team.

I hope you have a lovely summer. Rachael, Pastoral Support Officer

"We welcomed two guitarists Sam and Ben in to perform concerts this week from Live Music Now. Everything was safe and socially distanced and pupils really enjoyed the concerts! We have enjoyed many virtual concerts recently, but it was great to get back to live music!



Epilepsy Awareness Day 2021

What a busy day this was alongside Fun Fest but as you will see our pupils took time out of the fun and enjoyment to practice skills to help others.



From role play to watching cartoon clips to designing posters, we did it all!! Now we all know we can do a little bit to help.