



FOX WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



April
2020

Our Website address:
www.foxwoodschool.org.uk

**Viv Dunmore—School Nurse can be contacted on 07833082070
between 9 am and 4.30 pm week days except Wednesday.**

Message from Lucinda

As I write this I can't help thinking of all the things we should have been doing and celebrating over the last month, and of all the plans, activities and special events we should be looking forward to.

Everything has changed beyond all understanding, and with such speed, that it is more than understandable that we might be experiencing feelings of anxiety, confusion, sadness, disappointment and even frustration. However, as I type this the emotion that I feel most strongly is undoubtedly pride. Pride in my amazing team, pride in our amazingly resilient and inspirational children and young people and pride in our school community—never before has “Together We Shine” truly been so meaningful! At the end of the week we will—I really hope—all be able to join together virtually to celebrate the next of our Fox Wood Awareness Days for those affected by Epilepsy. Look out for further information on the School Website and Social Media and keep in touch via these means and Evidence for Learning—we LOVE to hear how you are all getting on, and we are still here to help in any way we can—Please don't forget that!

In other news—and only because a few parents have mentioned these things to teachers in their Wednesday catch-up calls:

Please be reassured that as soon as I hear of any changes in terms of school re-opening, or plans moving forwards, we will share updates with you—we find things out exactly at the same time as you do, and whilst we are keen to join together again, my priority right now is the safety of every single member of Team Fox Wood and this will come before everything else.

I have not even started to think about plans for September yet (you'd be amazed how many hours it takes to run school and lead/manage all that needs to be done even in the current situation!) However when I do start making plans I will be very mindful of all the changes that pupils have already faced this year, and will make decisions in the best interests of every child in the context of the whole school picture. Mentioning this does NOT mean I don't expect to see you before September—I hope to see you as soon as it is safe to do so. I am only mentioning it now because some parents have started to mention it to staff, and I am asking you to trust that I have this in mind.

This half term we celebrated **British Science week**. Class 7 hosted the event which saw each class from across the school join us for an investigation. There was lots of fun had by all and lots of mess created. The pupils loved working together to explore different materials and to experience how materials can change. Class 7 pupils did an amazing job of hosting the week and leading our activities and their peers all came with great levels of enthusiasm to try everything that was on offer. If you want to see more about what we got up to during Science Week, check our Facebook or Twitter pages to see lots of pictures!



During this term, **class 9** have been exploring the theme of 'knowing and growing'. Class 9 have been learning about our body parts vs animal's body parts, animals and their habitats, reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and tracing/ drawing self-portraits and collaborating completed self-portraits together to make a class piece. Class 9 have attended an educational visit to the Blue Planet Aquarium, finding a variety of animals and exploring different habitats!



We are still here...

At this current time, we may not be seeing you each day but as a school we are still here for you all. We understand that despite the current situation life still continues and we are still left to face the pressures of everyday life - whatever they may be for each family.

If you require any advice, support or a call back for a catch up please call us 01925 811534 or send us an email via the school website and we will make contact with you - just leave us your name, contact details and a convenient time to call you. These are challenging times and as a school we are trying our best to be as supportive as possible to the school community. So if you need us please drop us a line - we are all in this together!

"Look how much you've already managed to adapt to. Look how resilient you've already been. There's no "right" way to respond to this because it's never, ever happened before. Give yourself some credit. ☆ There's no one in the whole world who has this figured out yet. So it's absolutely okay if you don't either."

mellow doodles

Local support services

Below is a selection of community groups around the Warrington area and their contact information, should you know of any families that are struggling due to the current situation.

<https://www.mylifewarrington.co.uk/kb5/warrington/directory/directory.page?directorychannel=5>

Warrington food bank

Families do not need a voucher to access the foodbank at the moment. Contact them directly 07583080521 or 07925937659.

Torus Foundation Warrington/Nisa Dallam

Sign up to <http://dallamstores.com> there will be one drop off per household per day for essentials only.

Kings church Warrington

Are accepting food donations Wednesday 25th March 10.30-12.00 - contact King's Church and they can deliver to Bewsey and Whitecross. www.kingschurchwarrington.co.uk

Neighbourhood Food Larder

<http://nflfoods.co.uk/> or 07961834480 – check on Facebook

Warrington council

Warrington council will deliver emergency care packages to the most vulnerable Call 01925 442441/442443 or email emrgplan@warrington.gov.uk

St Joseph's Family Centre

Operating, but at a reduced level and with staff working from home. If you have a family in need of an emergency food parcel, please can you email them at contact@sjfc.org.uk, giving us the contact details of the family you are referring. We will contact them as quickly as we can to try and offer support. Please note that we have reduced stocks on many of our items and therefore may not be able to provide as much to families as we would normally be able to.

Warrington wellbeing service (the safe and well service)

If you know a family who can't get access to food due to being vulnerable etc then you can send a referral into warringtonwellbeing@warrington.gov.uk or phone 44 33 22 with the parents name and phone number and someone will be in contact with the family as soon as they can.

As a first point of contact families can seek advice/support from: My Life Warrington,

TURN2US, The money advice service, British Gas Trust, Citizens Advice Bureau

Gas/Electric – contact supplier in the first instance

United Utilities

For support with water bills follow link <https://wwtonline.co.uk/tags/coronavirus>

Care UK Charity - Have essential items available for front line workers and the vulnerable:

Hygiene packs, Nappy Packs, Milk, Masks and Gloves, Hand Creams

The National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACOA)

The Nacoa helpline will be open throughout the closure period:

2-7pm via phone 0800 358 3456 and 12-9pm via email helpline@nacoa.org.uk

Here is a link to our Covid Online Resource Pack.

https://nacoa-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/communications_nacoa_org_uk/E1XaeybTlrlAiEkWVOC4aRgBeQCtmFKPOeE30X6V1FI18Q?e=tbpGIG

Learning Activities

Please log into Evidence for Learning where your child's class team are uploading daily activity ideas for your child. If you need your password reset or the link resending just let us know! On the Parent Portal you can choose 'Journal' to see the activities, or 'Upload' to send us a photo of what you have been getting up to at home, we would love to see what you have been doing!

There is a library of activities on our school website, just visit www.foxwoodschool.org.uk and click on the 'Home Learning' tab. You will also find a range of sensory challenges on our school social media pages – find us at 'Fantastic Fox Wood' on Facebook or @FoxWoodSchool on Twitter.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Contact details</u>
Creamline Dairies	Basic and fresh products delivered within 48 hours	www.creamline.co.uk
Warrington Independent Domestic Violence Advocates	Support with domestic violence	warrintonidvaservice@refuge.org.uk
Community and voluntary groups	Coordinating and organising those willing to volunteer	01925 246880 info@warringtonva.org.uk
Foodbank donations	Donations are being received for foodbanks at the following stores: Sainsbury's in Lymm, Culcheth and Chapelford, Tesco Extra on Winwick Road, Morrisons in Stockton Heath, all 3 Asda stores, SPAR stores and Fearnhead Cross Community and Youth Centre.	
Salvation Army	They are able to support the elderly and vulnerable with shopping.	01925 451000
Cheshire Community Foundation	Charitable fund supporting charities that are meeting the needs of the community during the COVID-19 outbreak.	office@cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk grants@cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk 01606 330607
Alzheimer's Society	Offering telephone support: Dementia Connect Support line	0333 150 3456 www.alzheimers.org.uk
Helping Hands, Orford, Poplars and Hulme	Street Ambassadors scheme offering support to elderly neighbours in terms of care packages and pen pal messages from children.	Facebook.com/groups/2594923974167016

Emergency Contact Numbers

Education Services: 01925 442211 telephone lines will be staffed 9 to 5pm Monday to Friday. This number can be used by schools, parents and professionals alike, as a way to communicate with Education Services.

Education Services email: education@warrington.gov.uk will be checked regularly and is quick access to all service managers in WBC Education Services

Public Health England: Cheshire & Merseyside Health Protection Team 0344 225 0562 (option1)

3 Boroughs Public Health Infection Prevention and Control Tel: 01744 457314 or 01744 457312

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): 01925 444140 (also Contact Warrington main number 01925 443322)

Education Safeguarding Team:

Tel: 01925 442928 Email: educationsafeguarding@warrington.gov.uk

Latest Government Guidance:

Guidance for parents and carers: keeping children safe online

The Government have updated their information for parents and carers to include a section on keeping children safe online. It provides links to online resources that will help support parents and carers in keeping their children safe online.

Full details can be found in section 6.3 of the guidance for parents and carers on the closure of educational settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Updated guidance for schools about temporarily closing

The Government have updated our guidance on the temporary closure of schools to include more information on areas including social distancing, vulnerable children and working with other schools.

You can read the guidance at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures>

Handwashing advice

The most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves is to wash their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, everyone should also wash hands after using toilets and whenever you return home.

The latest guidance and video on hand washing can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>