

FOX WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



October
2019

Important Dates

Friday 25 October

School closes for half term

Monday 4 November

School re-opens

Monday 26 Nov to Friday 29 Nov

Enterprise Week for Whole School

Friday 29 November afternoon

Christmas Fair

Friday 6 December

Santa Dash

Friday 20 December

School closes for Christmas

Our Website address: www.foxwoodschool.org.uk

Message from Lucinda

Well – as usual – I am pleased to be able to report another extremely busy half term full of laughter, learning (and the occasional tricky challenge, it has to be acknowledged!)

Walking around Fox Wood at any time of the day there is such a buzz of business and exciting activities, but one which has particularly impressed me since September is our daily phonics, reading and number focus time. Once again we have challenged our children to try something new – and once again they have risen to that challenge in greater ways than we might have thought possible. Last week I took some visitors around school during this focus time and they were impressed by how engaged, eager and motivated pupils were! Knowing how welcoming (and occasionally nosy) our pupils can be I was particularly impressed that, in almost every class, the focus was definitely on learning instead of the new people who had entered the room!!

However, our pupils do love to show off their hard work too – and never more so than during Enterprise Week when they produce a range of items to sell at the Christmas Fair, so please put this important date in your diary (29th November) and start saving your pennies. Our very own entrepreneurs will be waiting – with a smile!!



Welcome

Welcome to our new Reception pupils, Jesse-Lee, Logan, Lee, Sam and Elissa.

Goodbye

We have said Goodbye to Donna who had been at Fox Wood for 16 years, we wish her well for the future.



Hello! I'm Louise and I'm teaching in Class 4. I have been at Fox Wood School for a number of years now, in different positions. This is my third year of teaching and I have been teaching over in the college for the past 2 years. I am looking forward to what this year will bring and the new challenges ahead!

Fox Wood Occupational Therapy

It's been a busy half term with lots of new activities going on for the pupils. All classes now have the opportunity to access Sensory Kingdom on a weekly basis with the option to engage in Rebound therapy and the Sensory Circuit where appropriate. In Class 5 and 11 parents have had the opportunity to come in and be with their child in Sensory Kingdom with Lucinda OT.

We have held our first parent workshop focused on Sleep and plan in the future to look at running some more informal sessions so that parents can drop in if they want to discuss anything with Lucinda OT.

Our Ready to Learn programme continues to evolve with lots of different activities offered in the morning to assist with the pupils being 'Ready to Learn'. After half term our formalised 'Ready to Learn' programme will roll out after lunch with lots of new creative activities being offered including 'Bear Hunt Yoga' and 'Dance Chair Aerobics'.

School based Occupational Therapy assessments and programmes are continuing to be carried out through a referral by the class teacher. Parents are to contact their class teacher if they feel that this would be beneficial for their child.

Friends of Fox Wood

We are starting to plan for the Christmas Fayre and want to ensure that it is as successful as last year.

We will be holding 2 Christmas Jumper/ Non-Uniform Days to collect prizes for the Tombola. On Friday 8th November pupils will be asked to bring in donations of chocolate and on Friday 15th November pupils will be asked to bring in a donation of bottled items.

If you are able to donate any prizes for the raffle or know of any organisations who will be able to donate prizes this will be fantastic; please ask to speak to Rachael or ask at the school office.

Hello to our new Class 1!

We have 5 pupils in class who have all settled in well and had a brilliant first half term here at Fox Wood. They have already shown us how independent they can be and are very good at transitioning round school with little support! The pupils in Class 1 love to engage in exploratory play and using their senses to learn. Our topic for this half term has been 'Feeling Good' so we have been exploring songs, sensory trays and sensory kingdom to find out what things we like and what makes us feel good!



This year as part of our anti-bullying project we have introduced 'Kindness Champions'. These pupils have been selected to be the school's role models for anti-bullying. These pupils were nominated and selected due to their kindness and helpful attitude within the school. Within their role as Kindness Champions the pupils have been assigned a very special badge and must attend important meetings weekly.

Classes nominate pupils every week who have shown kindness or been a good friend. The Kindness Champions then meet to discuss the nominations and with support, write them a certificate to celebrate this. They then hand out the certificates during assemblies and congratulate their peers for their good work. Over the first term the Champions have participated well and been fantastic role models for their peers. Our Champions will change termly. For Autumn term the elected pupils are: Mia, Sam, Andrew, Nikola, Tyler and Kirsty

Every class are currently creating a Kindness Tree for their classroom. These trees will display pictures of the pupils who have been awarded with a certificate or special kindness heart from their peers. The pupils will be shown with pride to celebrate their great work and kind hearts. The Creativity counts club are busy putting together our new anti-bullying display which will celebrate our Kindness champions and the great work of the pupils here at Fox Wood.



Training:

All staff renewed their annual safeguarding and health and safety training during our INSET day on 6th September. Lianne Buchanan is the named Safeguarding Lead here at Fox Wood, and Lou Messham leads on Health and Safety. Please feel free to contact them if you have any questions at any time.

Speech and Language Therapists will be providing staff training this coming half term in order to further promote total communication across the school.

Evidence for Learning:

We use an app called Evidence for Learning as an online learning journal for each child here at Fox Wood. Parents/carers can log in and see photographs and video clips of their child taking part in a range of different activities and find out about their progress. If you need any help with this or need to have your password reset, please contact Lianne Buchanan our deputy head, who will be able to assist you.

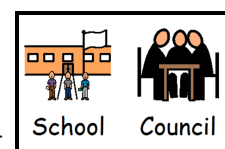
This September, we held our first PMLD Awareness day. Pupils and staff were invited to come into school wearing bright colours in return for £1 donation. We are pleased to report that we raised an amazing £55.60, which we will put towards sensory resources for Sensational Space.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Lyndsey Phillips

School Council

Both Upper and Lower School Councils met this half term. Pupils welcomed each other and discussed the ground rules of the committee. Each class is to think about their class names and make new displays for their doors. Council will visit classes to ensure they have the Council poster up.



Wellbeing

The holidays have soon come round and it's time to spend some quality time together. I found this whilst reading some articles and thought I'd share. We all want our children's well-being to be a key priority.

At the same time, we can think about ourselves too. How about a shared activity such as playing outside together or being creative such as, singing, dancing, mark making but most of all have fun!!!!



Figure 3: The six priorities for children's well-being

DINNER MONEY INCREASE

The cost of a school dinner is increasing from 4 November 2019. The cost will now be £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.

FACEBOOK /TWITTER

We now have a school Facebook page and Twitter feed.

Please look us up. Search for

Fantastic Fox Wood