



# FOX WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



December  
2019

## Important Dates

**Friday 20 December**

*Pupils finish for Christmas*

**Monday 6 January 2020**

*Inset Day for Staff*

**Tuesday 7 January**

*Pupils return to school*

**Thursday 16 January**

*Parents Evening 3.30 to 7.00 pm*

**Friday 14 February**

*School closes for Half term*

**Our Website address: [www.foxwoodschool.org.uk](http://www.foxwoodschool.org.uk)**

## Message from Lucinda

Christmas can mean many things to many people, and I appreciate that for some of our pupils and families it can be a time of anxiety and increased demands. However, I hope that amongst all the hustle and bustle, the routine changes and the potential for sensory overload there will also be opportunities for you to enjoy time together, share some of the wonder and joy of the season, and reflect upon all of the things that you and your children have achieved over the past year.

As we look ahead to 2020 and another year full of new possibilities, hopes and achievements I would like to ask you to assist us by making a New Year's Resolution that will encourage your child to be more independent and will enable them to make the most of their school and learning experience. This is absolutely not a criticism of anyone but an acknowledgement that our children can be incredibly cute, and even better at getting their own way (and getting us to do their tasks for them!) So – for 2020's Home Learning Challenge - I ask you to:

Step 1 - Encourage your child to be a little bit more independent with some aspect of their life, this could be communicating with you and/or making choices using Eye Gaze/Switches/Makaton/Visuals/Voice, doing a new 'job' around the house, tidying up their toys/bedroom, sharing something with one of their siblings, assisting with or independently dressing or feeding themselves.

Step 2 - Share the new achievements that have resulted from Step 1 on Evidence for Learning (a reminder that we can help you if you are having trouble logging on – just please let us know!) **Remember that every moment that makes you proud also means the world to us!**

On behalf of myself, the Governors and staff of Fox Wood I would like to wish you all a very Peaceful and Happy Christmas. We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2020 to ensure that **Together We Shine** and to enable us to continue to fulfil our ambition of:

**Encouraging independence and personal development through communication, engagement, laughter and learning.**

## Goodbye

Goodbye to Lois, Teacher in Class 6. She is moving to another school, we wish her luck.

Goodbye to Elaine, Teaching Assistant. Elaine is moving to pastures new.

We have said Goodbye to Natalie Silk, Teaching Assistant this half term

## Welcome

In January Class 6 will have a new teacher, Hollie. Hollie has been working in school this half term, so knows how things work and all the pupils.

We will also welcome a new Teaching Assistant Amy.

Staff Training:  
Fine Motor and Early Mark Making,  
EYFS Inspection Framework,  
Team Teach Advanced,  
Safeguarding, Building Resilience  
and Management,  
Basic Suicide Prevention,  
Mental Health & Wellbeing,  
Ambitious and Inclusive Story Telling

Hello! I am Hollie and I am the new teacher in Class 6. This is my first-year teaching and I am very excited to be working in a specialist setting. I have been working in school for a few months now and cannot wait to have my own class. I am excited to see what the year ahead brings.



This half term, Class 7 attended a regional panathlon tournament. We were one of 6 teams in the competition and had to participate in a variety of team activities such as boccia, table cricket and bowling. The team did exceptionally well on the day, securing a second place finish; missing out on top spot by a single point. The pupils all received a medal and certificate for their achievements as well as the runners-up trophy. Due to finishing in the top 2, the pupils will be receiving an invite to a regional event being held in Ellesmere Port to compete against schools from across the North West area.

Even more impressive than their achievement in the competition, the pupils were praised by all 3 event organisers for their outstanding behaviour and attitude on the day. There were even comments passed by other schools about how good our pupils had been. Everyone at Fox Wood are extremely proud of the Class 7 pupils for their achievement and fantastic representation of our school.

Well done Class 7!

Class 9 held a mental health awareness day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. We organised a mindfulness and wellbeing afternoon tea for all pupils, this included a variety of cakes, flavoured lip balms, smell jars and 'tea' playdough! Pupils engaged in a friendly chat with their peers and staff using a range of communication methods. The day was very successful and class 9 raised £36 for a local Warrington mental health charity called 'Time To Change'.



### Santa Dash

Fox Wood School's Annual Santa Dash took place on 6<sup>th</sup> December, organised by Geta and staff. All the school set off at 9.30 in santa hats and festive jumpers. They walked 2 laps around Woolston Park whilst singing Christmas tunes and dancing. Thank you to all parents that helped out and to Friends of Woolston park who organised refreshments at the end of the dash. We raised an amazing £275 through pupil sponsorship which will go to school fund and will be used for Easter PE activities. All children that took part were given a medal and a selection box donated by Heatone Fitness and Silver Daisies Hypnotherapy.





## Friends of Fox Wood

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fayre; we had lots of really nice raffle and tombola prizes. We have worked in partnership with Class 9 for their "Time to Talk Coffee Afternoon" to support with pupils, parents and staff wellbeing.

Thank you to those who returned their questionnaires, all your feedback will be collated and shared when we come back after Christmas.

Parents evening invites are being sent out, please remember that appointments are on a first come, first served basis.

Please keep an eye out after Christmas for more Friends of Fox Wood Events, it is lovely to see our parents and carers coming together.

Rachael, Pastoral Support

Please remember to log onto our online learning journal, Evidence for Learning each week to see the progress your child is making here at a Fox Wood, if you need any help or you need your password reset, please let us know in the home school diary!

Homework: Reading books are sent home weekly for all pupils, if you would like additional homework for your child, please let the class teacher know in the home school diary and they will be happy to provide it for you.

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Class 10 held their 'Raise Awareness' day- World Heart Day. Pupils were invited to come into school wearing something red or sports clothes and they took part in different 'healthy living' activities. Some classes made use of the 'Green Mile' and did several laps, some classes spent time in the Sensory Kingdom and other classes did TACPAC and dance massage.

Throughout the day, Classes also made their own healthy snacks- ranging from fruit salad and yoghurt to fruit smoothies! We all had a wonderful day!



## Thank you

### Christmas Fayre

We raised an amazing £744 for school Fund and £534 to be split between Classes from their Enterprises at the Christmas Fair. Kevin the Carrot made £137, thank you to Danielle Lippett for providing Kevin. It was again a very successful event, thank you everyone that supported us.



### SING AND SIGN CHOIR

Our 'Sing and Sign Choir' gave a performance at Fearnhead University on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. We performed some of our Christmas songs which we have been practising in school. I'm sure you will agree that this is an exciting opportunity to showcase our hard work.

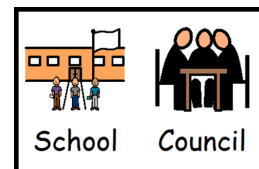


### Class 6 Sensory trip:

Class 6 attended SPACE sensory centre for their end of year trip. It was an amazing opportunity for pupils to access a range of high tech sensory equipment. The slide, dark den and interactive music floor were popular! Class 6 pupils then enjoyed lunch in the café which included MacDonald's chips (YUM!) and a fun day was had by all!

### School Council

School council met at the beginning of the term. We discussed classroom names and looked at ways to improve playtimes. We have asked for music to be played on the playgrounds when we are outside and plans for this are now underway!



**Other Notices - Dinner Money—Just a reminder that Dinner Money has increased to £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**