Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter: September 10th 2021

A message from the Headteachers:

Well what a week it has been so far!

The children have settled back to normal school life absolutely brilliantly. There is a wonderful buzz around the school - the children are happy, calmly busying themselves with learning and excitement is already building about their new topics.

We'd like to thank the staff for all their hard work to get the school ready for the new year, making sure that new systems are in place and running smoothly so that we are able to run things 'normally', whilst maintaining the safety measures we have in place to ensure that risk of COVID transmission remains as low as possible.

Welcome

It has been lovely getting to know our newest pupils in Reception, new pre-school, as well as welcoming two more new Y5 and Y2 pupils. They have been settling in really well to school life and we look forward to getting to know them better over the coming weeks and months.

A curriculum newsletter will come out shortly, outlining the learning in each phase in full.

Google classrooms are being set up this week - invites will be sent out at some point before Tuesday. If you have any problems getting logged on or haven't had an invite, please get in touch with your child's class teacher. Teachers will be adding pictures of the work children

have produced to celebrate the learning and give you a snapshot of what is happening in school.

Year 6 - Ambassadors of Excellence

Now that we are able to organise more 'whole school' events and so on, we are already raising the profile. They will be taking a lead role in the School Council, as well as numerous other responsibilities around the school and over the course of the year.

We have really noticed and praised their role-modelling exemplary behaviour, which is being noticed by the younger pupils which is already resulting in excellent behaviour around the school, with behaviour incidents at a record low and house points being awarded at a record high! This also includes leading by example when we had a fire drill earlier this week and they and the rest of the school were fantastic, getting out of the building quickly and calmly.

Wellbeing is really important to us across the school.

Our successful Social, Emotional & Mental Health interventions continue to run over the course of the week. If you have concerns over your child's mental health or feel that there are recurrent social issues, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher so that we can talk this through and look at how we can work together to support them in resolving matters and/or seeking support where it would help.

Healthy eating is a big part of wellbeing too. We will be

having a number of healthy eating events over the coming year, starting with a Roman Lunch day kindly run by our award-winning school kitchen. The children will have the opportunity to try Roman foods. A copy of the school lunch menu is attached with this newsletter.

We want to remind you that chocolate is not allowed as a snack or lunch box treat and we will be awarding healthy lunch box stickers and awards to children who help us promote healthy lifestyles by leading by example.

Communication and building good relationships with parents is at the heart of our work over the year, especially as that was such a challenge when we were unable to invite parents in, other than in exceptional circumstances.

Please be assured that we are here to help and to talk through any concerns or worries that you may have. Meeting with parents is still by appointment only, whilst we continue our COVID transmission reduction regime, therefore please make contact with your class teacher or a member of the SLT (Senior Leadership Team) via the school office.

Contact numbers and permission to retain personal information:

As part of our safeguarding duty, it is vital that we have at least two contact numbers for children so that we are able to make contact with the family, especially in an emergency.

GDPR states that we are unable to send out paper records of pupil/parent details. Therefore,

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we provide a website based application where parents log on and check their child's information and can amend where applicable.
Please check via the SIMS Parent App that we have your correct and current details for you and your children. Logging in details are the same as Pay360 (SIMS Pay new name) www.sims-parent.co.uk

School Bus

The school bus is operated through the County Council School Transport contracts and therefore school is not responsible for the journeys to and from school. However, we want to ensure that the children's behaviour is to the same high standard that we expect inside and outside of school at all times. Therefore. both Mrs Calverley & Mrs Gore-Rowe will periodically be travelling on the school bus to monitor the behaviour of the children. If you have any concerns relating to the bus, please get in touch with us as soon as possible, either calling or emailing the school office and these will be dealt with, as per the school behaviour policy.

Guitar Lessons

Our resident guitar teacher, Mr Cory, may now have some available slots for this school term. If your child is interested in learning the guitar, please contact Mr Cory via email at jimmypagefans@hotmail.com. Please include:- pupils name, parent/guardian name, school name, class teachers name for 21/22 term, lesson duration requirements (15mins (£8.25) or 30mins (£16.50)) & mobile

phone number. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

School Dinner Menu

Please find attached the School Dinner Menu for this term which is published on the school website. There are no changes to the menu until after October half term therefore the menu on the website is the same as published earlier in the year.

The three week rolling menu dates are stated at the top of each menu.

Dates for the Diary

Fri 22nd Oct - additional day off to benefit from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday on 3rd June 2022

25th-29th Oct - Half term

17th Dec – Autumn Term Ends