

FARTHINGHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER : 15th June 2020



Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Friends,

On Friday afternoon we sent out the communication regarding our further reopening from Monday 22nd June. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the School Office. Please remember that if you would like to send your child back to school next week, could you let us know by **Wednesday** (17th). The choice to send your child back to school is, we know, an emotive one. We would like to continue to offer support to those who choose to continue to home educate. Teachers will be in touch with those families on a Wednesday either by phone or an online meet up.

Please note – there will be no further Google Meets or Zoom assemblies this week. This will allow staff extra time to prepare for our further reopening next week.

Mrs Catherine Farrell has been offered a fantastic opportunity to extend her role of SENDCO (Special Needs Lead professional) within the MAT. We are all very pleased for her although it does mean we will be saying a very sad goodbye to Mrs Farrell at the end of term. Mrs Farrell has worked at the school for 15 years often helping to steer the school through some challenging times. Her roles have included Acting Head for three periods of time, Keystage 1 co-ordinator, School Governor and Senior teacher. Her passion for Early Years Education was instrumental in not only securing the 'Outstanding Status' of the school but in guiding the first years' of all the children who have moved through her class. She has worked with over 40 people during her time at the school and each one has valued the support that Catherine has given to them.

Mrs Farrell has always been committed to furthering her own education and this has led her in the last ten years to complete her Master's level qualification in Special Needs as well as becoming an expert in Autism and Childhood attachment. She is also a specialist teacher of children with additional needs. We will miss her expertise greatly but it is in the classroom that Mrs Farrell's skills truly shine as she combines her no nonsense style with a nurturing quality which really helps the children to excel. Mrs Farrell and I trained together at college and on a personal level her support during the two occasions I have been head at Farthinghoe has been so valuable. The Governors, staff and I really appreciate everything she has done for the school and the children who have been in her charge. I am sure you will join with me in saying a huge thank you and extend your best wishes for her new role.

We will be holding a leaving party for Mrs Farrell when we are all able to come together and Mrs Thompson will be in touch separately with details of how, if you would like, to contribute to a leaving present.

Whilst we are not able to say goodbye to Mrs Farrell all together at the end of term we are preparing a film and photo book of memories. If you have any photos please could you email them to Mrs Thompson. Mrs Price is preparing a book of memories for Catherine and will be contacting you at the end of the week.

I will be teaching the Year 3 and 4 class in the morning next year. We will be recruiting a teacher for one and a half days a week to cover Ms Turner's management day and Mr Elson's PPA time. This will allow me to concentrate on teaching our lower junior class. Ms Turner will take on the role of SENCO, having held the post

How to contact us

Telephone: 01295 710406

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Website: www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk

at a previous school. She will be in touch with specific families for a meeting prior to the school returning in September

Please find below, the details of our midweek activity – I do hope you all enjoy taking part and we very much look forward to bringing all the pebbles together for our school display.

Many kind regards, Mrs Wendy Whitehouse

Well-being Wednesday task – Painting a Pebble for our School Display

Venture into the garden, find a few large, flat pebbles and paint them. It's best to clean the pebbles first and wait for them to dry before you paint them – you could even use permanent markers. Then, draw a stencil on the pebbles with a pencil. Once you have painted them, leave them to dry on a sunny windowsill or an airing cupboard. Then finally, cover them in PVA glue to make them weatherproof.

Bring them to school whether you are returning to school on the week beginning Monday 22nd June or in September. We are going to make a display in school.



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