

# FARTHINGHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER 1 : 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable break. It was lovely to welcome the children back on Wednesday and we have been really pleased with how quickly they are settling back into school.

We are very pleased to welcome George, Olivia, Felix, Kasper, Scarlet, Ella, Arlo, Elle and Mary to our school in EYFS. We also welcome Jess in to Year 3. Please do welcome our new families into the Farthinghoe School community.

Thank you to all our families for supporting our social distancing measures and staggered times at drop off and collection time; the children are very quickly getting into the new routines.

I will be teaching year 3 and 4 this year in the mornings. At the start of the day I will be focussing my time on teaching, therefore if you have anything you wish to discuss with me as a Head, please make an appointment with Mrs Thompson to see me in the afternoon. I would like to strongly encourage you to maintain a dialogue with your child's class teacher, whilst we may not be able to discuss issues on the playground, please drop Mrs Thompson an email and an appointment/telephone call will be arranged quickly.

### **School day for EYFS**

Our new starters have taken so well to joining our school and we hope all the parents would agree that they are all happy and smiley as they come in each morning! Therefore, from next Thursday (10<sup>th</sup>) Ms Turner is happy to welcome the EYFS children into class at 8.50am. The school day will continue to end at 12pm until Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Information about school routines**

As we have now had 3 days at school and have established routines, we would like to share them with you on our class website pages. The updates will replace our traditional 'Meet the Teacher' afternoons. Please read these carefully and use the parents' meetings as an opportunity to ask any questions.

### **PE**

PE will resume next week for all children in year 1 through to year 6. PE will be held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and children are expected to come into school, wearing their PE kit for the duration of the day. If the weather is fine, we will be outside but if it is inclement we will use the Village Hall.

### **Parents' Meetings - INSET DAY MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER**

Please note, we will be holding our parent-teacher meetings during the day on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September - this will be an INSET day and therefore closed to the children. We hope that by holding these meetings so early in the term it will provide both families and staff the opportunity to catch up after the school closures, whilst also providing parents an opportunity to discuss the assessments which will be carried out w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September.

\*\*These meetings will ONLY be for year 1 through to 6. EYFS Parent-Teacher meetings will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October\*\*.

Parents will be able to make 15 minutes appointments with your child's class teacher, via the school office. Appointments will be held in your child's classroom and staff and parents will adhere to the 2 metre social distancing guidelines. If you would prefer to hold the meeting via Zoom - please let Mrs Thompson know when

### **How to contact us**

Telephone: 01295 710406

Email: [head@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:head@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk) or [bursar@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:bursar@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

Website: [www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk)

requesting your appointment - meeting details will then be shared via email.

Meetings will be held between 9.00am - 4.10pm. Please email Mrs Thompson with your requested time slot/s.

### **Outside Space**

During the summer holidays our outside space was upgraded. The area now has a bonded mulch flooring, a roadway for the trikes, a post shop and box and a new Fair Bear climbing frame. We are sure you will agree, the new space looks fantastic and the children have certainly enjoyed making use of it this week!



### **Zebra Crossing**

Please be aware, Northamptonshire County Council will be carrying out works on the zebra crossing near school, next week (w/c 7<sup>th</sup> September). Please therefore be mindful when collecting and dropping off for school.

### **Reading Books**

In line with DfE guidance, when books are returned to school they will be subject to a 72 hr quarantine before being returned to the shelves. The children in years EYFS - year 4 will read to an adult at least twice a week. A reading note will be sent to parents via Marvellous Me each time a child has read to an adult - notifications on Marvellous Me will also provide an electronic record of your child's reading. Books will be changed once per week on a Wednesday so please ensure your child has theirs with them.

### **Ms Turner, SENDCO**

Ms Turner is our new Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. This is a role which Sharon has held at a previous school. She is very much looking forward to using her SEN qualifications to support children who may need additional help. Ms Turner will make contact with relevant parents next week.

### **New Staff**

We are very pleased to welcome 3 new members to our teaching staff. Mrs Linda Thompson will be teaching EYFS and keystage 1 on a Wednesday. Mrs Rheanne Sanders and Mrs Rhiannon Perkins join us as music and language teachers respectively. We are sure all the children will thoroughly enjoy their time with these new teachers. In addition, we also welcome Mrs Claire Webb who will be volunteering in keystage 1 on Tuesday and Thursday. Mrs Webb previously taught in the private sector and is keen to gain experience working in a state school.

### **Remote Learning Plan**

On Monday evening the staff will be working on formalising our remote learning plan, which would be implemented if school closures were advised. We hope to share these plans with parents after our Governor meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October. Mr Elson is working on a way to allow all children (from year 2 upwards) to be able to borrow a laptop, in the event that they could not come into school. If your child/ren has access to a laptop at home and would not require this provision, please let Mrs Thompson know.

### **Grounds Maintenance**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Ben Butcher (Darcy's Daddy) for all his hardwork and help during the school closure and holidays. Mr Butcher has done a fantastic job of tidying up the outside space and completing some much needed gardening.

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**Thank you message from Mrs Farrell**

*I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for your kind words and amazing gifts. Farthinghoe School is a very special place which I shall miss very much. I have felt privileged and fortunate to have taught in such a unique and special environment and been part of your children's lives over so many years. I look forward to hearing all about the school and all the wonderful things that you are all doing.*

With warmest wishes and kind regards,

Mrs Wendy Whitehouse



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