

FARTHINGHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 2 : 14th September 2020



Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Friends,

At the start of our second first full week back, I would like to say a huge thank you and well done to everyone – children, parents, carers and staff – for the commitment and support shown in making the start of this academic year such a success.

There are so many smiling faces around the school – the children are clearly very happy to be back with their friends, are settled and eager to learn and look exceptionally smart in their school uniforms. It is wonderful to have the Farthinghoe community back together and we are all looking forward to an exciting school year ahead.

The teachers will be assessing the pupils over the next week in reading, writing and maths so that the learning progression is tailored to meet the needs of every pupil. We are aware that some learning may have been missed during the lockdown period so teachers will prioritise teaching the pupils the key skills in reading, writing and maths to ensure a good understanding before moving forward to the next steps. We are also ensuring that pupils continue to access all of the curriculum subjects together with a focus on wellbeing and being able to talk about anything that is worrying them.

Virtual Assemblies: As you know we are not currently ‘assembling’ in the Junior Room for a traditional assembly but instead we would like to experiment with delivering these online to classes. In order to try to widen children’s experiences at this time we would like to appeal to you - children’s parents, carers, grandparents, friends and so on - to see if you have an interest, hobby, role, profession, charity, community involvement, religious celebration or so on and if you would like to make a short clip/YouTube or PowerPoint etc about it, that we may share with the children over a virtual assembly. It would be great if we could find out more about the talent, skills and diversity within our communities and share this with the children. If you think you might be interested in sharing something and doing this, please email Mrs Thompson.

COVID Update: We are following the current NHS guidelines in school should there be any children that develop symptoms of Coronavirus, at which point they should not attend school. We are directing anyone whose child has symptoms to the link below to follow the NHS 111 online instructions which will lead to testing if necessary. If a test is required parents/carers should follow the self-isolation rules until test results are received. At this point we would ask you to let us know so that we can follow our guidance if any positive case is identified.

Main symptoms The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

We are aware, as children return to school and begin to mix again, colds and sniffles will become more prevalent. Therefore, we are extremely grateful to those parents that have erred on the side of caution, keeping their child home, if they have a cold or runny nose.

How to contact us

Telephone: 01295 710406

Email: head@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk or bursar@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk

Website: www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk

Information about school routines

We have now established good routines in our classes and have uploaded short videos to each class page :

- EYFS and Keystage 1 - <http://www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk/eyfs-information.html>
- Year 3 & 4 - <http://www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk/years-3--4.html>
- Year 5 & 6 - <http://www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk/years-5--6.html>

These updates replace our traditional 'Meet the Teacher' afternoons. Please take a look and use the parents' meetings as an opportunity to ask any questions.

PE

A gentle reminder that children in **year 1 through to 6**, will need to come into school on Mondays and Wednesdays - in their PE kit. They will stay in their kit for the duration of the day.

Parents' Meetings - INSET DAY MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

Parent-teacher meetings during the day on Monday 21st September - this will be an INSET day and therefore closed to the children.

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

Zebra Crossing

Northamptonshire County Council conducted their initial survey of the pedestrian crossing last week. They have now confirmed that works will be carried on the crossing for the next 2 weeks (commencing Mon 14th Sept). Please be aware, they have set up 3-way traffic lights on Cockley Road and the Main Road - we anticipate this will cause long delays so please be mindful of this when arriving and collecting from school.

Music Tuition

NMPAT music tuition will recommence in school this week. Guitar will take place with Mr Reynolds on Wednesday and Mrs Mold will be in school on Thursday to teach piano and strings - please remind your child/ren to bring in their instrument.

Online Safety

Some of you will be aware of a very concerning video that has been circulating on the social media platform, TikTok. Whilst TikTok have stated that they are doing their best to remove the video, it has been shared across all social media platforms hundreds of thousands of times including under fake captions.

We cannot state enough that this video is extremely distressing and we urge children, parents and carers to avoid the app whilst this video is in such high circulation. **Please be aware that children must be 13 years and over, to access TikTok.**

Dolce School Meals

Please find attached communication from our school caterer's, Dolce, regarding their reduced menu.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 21st September – INSET DAY, school closed for children

Monday 21st September - Parents-Teacher Meetings, please book your meeting with Mrs Thompson

w/c Monday 28th September - EYFS children to attend school full time

Tuesday 6th October - School Photographs, individual portraits only

Thursday 22nd October - End of Half Term

Friday 23rd October - INSET DAY

Monday 2nd November - Back to School

Friday 6th November - Swimming at Brackley Leisure Centre for Keystage 2 children (weekly)

Friday 11th December - Flu vaccination for all children in Reception through to Year 6.

Friday 18th December - **END OF TERM**

With warmest wishes and kind regards,

Mrs Wendy Whitehouse



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