

Folly Hill Infant School

Newsletter 2

October 2021

Dear Parents,

Well done to everyone, another great start to the year. It has been so lovely to be back to normal. We would like to keep it that way so during the holidays a refresher to all your lovely children on catch it, bin it, kill it, catching the runny nose before it reaches the sleeve! And of course, reminders about washing hands for 20 seconds. Thank you for your ongoing support.

One other reminder- From the 2nd November gates will open at 8.50 am. Please wait until an adult is there to greet the children before leaving the school site.

Have a lovely half term!

Rainbow class

This week in Rainbow class a few children discovered footprints in the outside area. We decided to make a trap to capture whatever had visited us. The children came in the next day to discover the trap had come down and a coloured feather were left behind with a note. The children were very excited to find out more about our mysterious visitor. They made signs, notes and even a cake. The following day the children came into school to find a nest and another note. The creature asked the children to kindly look after the eggs but there were no eggs to be found. The children became detectives and searched for the missing clues and eventually found them! The children have enjoyed writing letters and drawing pictures for our mysterious visitor. There has been a lot of excitement! They received a lovely letter today to say the eggs have hatched and the creature was very thankful to Rainbow class for their kindness.



Skills we have learnt in maths are finding compositions of numbers up to 3. Skills we have learnt in phonics are spelling words such as dog and red. Skills we have learnt in topic are how to be kind and thoughtful.

Sunshine class

Sunshine class have been busy learning all about animals and now have so many facts to share. The children enjoyed meeting Stanley the puppy recently as well as cats and rabbits previously. They have learnt lots about caring for a variety of animals and were very thoughtful when they considered what animals might need from us.

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Sunshine have been busily looking for signs of autumn and have been keen to collect different leaves, looking at their colours and shapes. We had a look at some pictures of animals made from leaves and some of us have had a go ourselves.



Skills we have learnt: Washing up *
Putting on a pillowcase * Folding
clothes.

Moonbeam class 🌙

As part of our topic 'In the garden', Moonbeam have been developing their understanding of plants and how they grow. They have learnt skills such as labelling parts of a plant and looking what a plant needs to stay healthy. We have grown beans hydroponically and have carried out an experiment putting a bean in a dark cupboard and predicting what we thought would happen. The children have acquired knowledge of how seeds disperse and learnt about the life cycle of a plant.



Next term is our topic 'Fire, Fire'. In history we will look at The Great Fire of London. The museum of London has an excellent exhibition running over half term. Please see their website for more details.

Farnham Fireworks:

A reminder to all families that Farnham Fireworks tickets are selling in record numbers, the school receives a donation for its ticket sales:

<https://farnhamroundtable.org.uk/events/fireworktickets/>

All proceeds from this event go directly to support our local community, including Farnham Schools.

Reading:

Each month we will be sharing information about our curriculum. As you know we have been talking a lot about reading at Folly Hill this term. An email was sent out on 19th October in response to the feedback from the questionnaires – please take time to read this. Also, don't forget to check out the Little Wandle website. <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

English Subject Curriculum Statement

Intent All aspects of English are taught following the National Curriculum and the Early Years Foundation Stage expectations, making links with other curricular areas where appropriate. A command of English in all its forms, reading, writing, speaking and listening – are essential to the all-round development of the child, vital for underpinning every area of the school curriculum. Our English scheme of is based on our commitment to developing reading and writing through engagement with high quality talk and drama in a range of learning environments. Emphasis is placed on the development of spoken and written English, with the teaching of reading and the fostering of a 'love of reading'. The children will learn skills through different genres including fiction and non-fiction. We use Little Wandle and TES phonics to develop the essential literacy skills of phonics, grammar, spelling and reading. The school's aim is to encourage the development of a literate, articulate child, who is able to approach both spoken and written forms of communication confidently.

Rainbow Lunch:

We look forward to welcoming some of our Rainbow parents for lunch on Wednesday 10th November. Please arrive at 12.05pm. You will be able to sit with your reception child while the staff serve you your lunch.

Absences:

If you know your child is going to be absent from school (including medical appointments) please complete an absence request form. The forms are available from the school office.

Keeping Warm and Dry:

Our playground is quite exposed so please make sure your children are wrapped up warm with coats and hats as the weather turns colder. Your child should have a coat in school every day.

Water Bottles:

If you need a new plastic water bottle you can buy them from the school office for £1.50 (while stocks last). Replacement lids are 50p.

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Friends:

What a fantastic start to the new school year! We held our first event of the year; the quiz night was held up at the school on 15th October. We had a great turn out and amazing puddings in the auction. Thank you to all of those who took part and Congratulations to the winning team The Cheetahs!

We have had lots of lovely Halloween themed cakes for this week's Cake Sales, thank you for all your support so far.

Coming up after Half Term will be the School Disco on Friday 19th November. Letters will be sent out when we return to school, so you will be able to purchase tickets. Then Friday 26th November will be Crazy Hair Day for the children. The children are being encouraged to wear their hair in a crazy style, in return for a contribution to the Christmas raffle and tombola.

With Christmas fast approaching, it won't be long before we start asking for contributions and volunteers for the Christmas Fair... we will be in touch after Half Term with more details about how you can get involved.

Don't forget about the other ways in which you can support us with the 100 club, coin challenge and of course you can always purchase something on the school's Amazon wishlist : https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/494KA5KP8NA7/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

Finally, our next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th November at The Alma pub. We would love for you to join us. From all of us at the Friends committee thank you very much for all of your ongoing support!



Online safety:

Safeguarding - Squid Game

There were a lot of media reports last week about Netflix's *Squid Game*, currently the most watched Netflix show in over 90 countries. *Squid Game* has a rating of 15+ as the visual content includes many graphic depictions of violence, gore, suicide, murder and sexual assault.

Due to the popularity of *Squid Game* and its challenge-based plot, many of the themes within the show have become popular on social media platforms. Several people, including schoolchildren, have been filming themselves recreating dangerous challenges and, in some cases, using physical violence to 'punish' others who fail these challenges.

Below there is a link with important information from the 'Safer Schools' organisation about the potential risks that this show poses to children, including some top tips to help parents keep their children safe.

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2021/10/08/squid-game/>



[Safeguarding Update: Squid Game - Safer Schools](#)

Due to the popularity of Netflix's most recent viral show, Squid Game, our online safety experts have received several questions about it from concerned parents, carers, and teachers. We decided to release a Safeguarding Update that highlights the main risks and concerns our experts found when researching the show.

oursaferschools.co.uk

Community:

A colorful poster for a community event at Hale Community Centre. The poster features various illustrations including autumn leaves, a hedgehog, a pumpkin, a squirrel, a fox, a child, and a cup of soup. The text is arranged in a central column with side graphics. The main text reads: 'Hale Community Centre', 'HALF TERM HARVEST FUN & SOUP SHARE!', 'THURS 28TH OCT', '11AM-12PM: (FOR FAMILIES)', '12PM-2PM BIG SOUP SHARE (ADULT VISITORS/ PARENTS/KIDS WELCOME)', and 'FREE ENTRY'. Additional text includes 'Toys, books and games', 'share farnham', 'pumpkin treat hunt!', 'CRAFT FOR kids', 'BIG SOUP SHARE', 'lucky dip win ice cream!', and 'FREE refreshments'. The address is '130 UPPER HALE ROAD, FARNHAM, GU9 0JH.' and contact information is provided: 'FOR MORE INFO CONTACT CATHY / SUE 01252 722362 | HALECOMMUNITYCENTRE@GMAIL.COM'.

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PARTIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE!

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Important dates for your diary

October

- 21st Break up for half term at 3pm
- 22nd Additional bank holiday – school closed

November

- 1st Inset Day – school closed
- 2nd Children return to school
- 4th Outdoor classroom day
- 6th Farnham Fireworks 5pm – 8pm
- 9th YR, Y1 and Y2 – nasal flu immunisations. Consent letter has been sent by email.
- 10th Rainbow parents invited to lunch
- 11th Road Safety Workshop all classes
- 11th Friends Meeting at the Alma – 7.45pm
- 19th School Disco
- 23rd Coffee workshop on anti-bullying at 2.30pm
- 26th Crazy Hair Day/Tombola donations
- 30th St Andrew's Day– children can wear their club uniform e.g. Beavers, Rainbows.

December

- 1st Space drama workshop – all classes
- 1st Bedtime Story/Countdown to Christmas – after school
- 7th Pied Piper Theatre Company to perform to the children
- 10th Christmas Fair
- 13th Rainbow nativity. Parents invited (2 people per child) 1.30pm

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14th Evening songs with Sunshine and Moonbeam 6pm – 7pm

15th Christmas lunch

17th Christmas jumper day. Children can wear their own clothes and/or a Christmas jumper - collecting donations for Farnham Food Bank. Suggested amount £1.

17th Last day of school. Pick up at 1.15pm

FARNHAM