



# FARNDON NEWSFLASH

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and restful summer. As always, it's been an incredibly busy start to the year. We are now settled back in and school life continues once again. I just wanted to say a special thank you to all the children for making the school come alive in the first couple of weeks. The children have brought such energy, enthusiasm and excitement back into the building and we've absolutely loved every moment of them returning. A special hello and well done to all the new children who have arrived too. More characters and more fun for us all. The Reception pupils are settling in beautifully. I have been so impressed with the start of our youngest children – so mature and well behaved. I thoroughly enjoyed reading a story to Reception called "Little One". They were all so knowledgeable about the seasons.

During this academic year we are looking to work on the following areas to lead to positive impact and further gains for all of our pupils. Early in Autumn, changes will be made to our Behaviour policy with 3 step routines introduced and a clearer escalation of school sanctions for poor behaviour choices. The Computing curriculum has been over-hauled and in our classrooms we will further embed our work on meta-cognition with the focus on retrieving prior learning and effective modelling. We also aim to implement zones of regulation school wide to support our pupils with the regulation of their emotions. With a start like this, I have a feeling this is going to be our best year yet!

Mr Walker – Headteacher

## SCHOOL UNIFORM OPTIONS

Our pupils coming into school in their PE kits appears to be working well and it certainly has elongated the PE session as we have not had to waste time changing within the lesson time. However, in the summer term, branded items and different colours were beginning to creep in. In order for our pupils to receive their full entitlement to physical education across the week, we really want to continue with coming into school wearing the kit, but it **must** follow school policy: black shorts; black tracksuit bottoms; red T-Shirt with logo; trainers (pumps for inside). See below for examples taken from the policy.

The hooded sports jumpers have become a popular addition to the uniform list. We have written a detailed school uniform policy which can be accessed on the school website:

<http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/school-uniform/4141>

There are some lower cost alternatives to our school uniform such as plain white polo shirts and our PTA also offer "pre-loved" uniform with prices ranging from £2.50 - £3.50. Parents can purchase this directly from their Facebook page

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/FarndonPTA/>

## BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL

Since our return from the summer break, we have had a big push on our behaviour management, systems and routines around school. It is now called a "Positive Relationships Policy" and we are in the process of updating it. Our 3 rules will remain the same - Ready; Respect; Safe, as will most of our rewards. One big change is Star of the Week certificates will be given out in class rather than assembly. Instead, I will be rewarding just 1 **champion** in behaviour and learning in Friday's assembly. They will have VIP treatment that week along with other rewards and they will be posted on the website and in this monthly Newsletter.

Our policy also focuses on 3 step rules for many of the routines we do daily in and around school. Staff have already started to trial some of these and we are seeing a big impact.

Finally, another change is how we better manage our sanctions and consequences for any rule breaks or poor choices. Staff now have a very clear pathway with which they must follow. But having seen the first few weeks, I'm sure they'll barely have to use it.



## YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE.....

- Junior pupils can buy snack at first break. A list of snacks and their cost is on the website. <http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/morning-snack/126034>. Infants have access to free fruit. If your child brings in a snack it must be of a **healthy nature** - no crisps, biscuits or chocolate please.
- At the front of the school it may well be mayhem at the Soapbox race, but we ask that parents park **sensibly** in the morning and at pick up. Please don't park on the yellow zig-zags; do not park on the school car park without prior agreement; and don't park in front of residents' drive ways.
- Please can parents ensure that **ALL** clothing and water bottles are **labelled**. At the end of each break, we have a team who look to return jumpers to their rightful owners if they're labelled.

## ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL

It is vital for all our children to be in school. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks our pupils falling behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well. The usual rules on school attendance still apply, including the issue of sanctions, such as **fixed penalty** notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct. Please see our school website:

<http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/attendance/36986>

With regard to leave of absence, we ask that parents complete the forms a week before. Where the leave is for family holiday it will have to be unauthorised and if **5 days** or over, it will lead to a **fixed penalty notice**.

Last year our average overall attendance was **93.8%** - this puts us below national for the first time. For persistent absenteeism - below 90% - we are again below national at 17% of our pupils. Clearly, for a school like ours this is not good enough and must improve.

Attendance will be scrutinised far more closely on a **weekly basis** and where there may be concerns, parents will receive "nudge" texts, letters and invited into school to meet and set attendance targets. Where no improvements are seen, it will result in a **fixed penalty notice**.

## Attendance Matters



## GRAB YOUR DIARIES EVERYONE

- 17<sup>th</sup> September:** Farndon Soap Box race
- 20<sup>th</sup> September:** Phonics talk for parents.
- 26<sup>th</sup> September:** Harvest at St Chads for pupils
- 18<sup>th</sup> October:** Year 2 Storyhouse trip
- 19<sup>th</sup> October:** Year 1 Storyhouse trip
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October:** Historic Workshop Yr 5/6
- 24<sup>th</sup> October:** Parents' Evening
- 26<sup>th</sup> October:** Open day for new Reception 2024
- 26<sup>th</sup> October:** Parents' Evening
- 30<sup>th</sup> October:** Half term break-up
- 6<sup>th</sup> November:** Return to school
- 13<sup>th</sup> November:** Odd socks day (Anti Bullying)
- 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Strings concert Yr 5 in hall
- 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Panto trip Yr 1 - 4

## SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners are now £2.75. The menus have been freshened up and are available on the school website <http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/dinner-time/4281>

- Week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> Sept: Menu 3
- Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> Oct: Menu 1
- Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct: Menu 2

## SOAP BOX RACE 2023

It is that time of year again - Farndon's Soapbox Derby! And this year there are even more entries of the weird of wonderful.

The event will be taking place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. School will again be at the centre of all the action with Parc Freme for all the race karts on the field behind school. This year there will be a greater number of stall holders providing refreshments and food along with other goodies. The stage will also be on the large playground for the presentation. School are entering again so we ask our school community to support us and give generously to a great cause. Please follow the link below.

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/banana-no-splits?utm\\_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAROLbVZJS SCUNK8Rda0ZQtiAqVHkDCx2unrE7zsXsnvVk54TY hfpdphELM](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/banana-no-splits?utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAROLbVZJS SCUNK8Rda0ZQtiAqVHkDCx2unrE7zsXsnvVk54TY hfpdphELM)



**Winter**



**Summer**



**PE**

