



FOX WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



December
2020

Our Website address: www.foxwoodschool.org.uk

In January we will following the same procedures at the beginning and end of the day, may I just take this time to remind you that children are required to wait inside the vehicle until they are collected by a member of staff from their class or bubble. At home time you need to wait inside your vehicle, until your child is escorted to you, if you do leave your vehicle, could we ask that you wear a face covering. Many thanks for your support with this.

Message from Lucinda

Well. . .What a year! We started 2020 with so many exciting dreams and plans, and I am well aware that not all of those have been possible; and that many of our families (linked to pupils and staff) have experienced terribly difficult times. It has, for us all, been tough to focus on the positives this year, but as the saying goes: "This is not the year to get everything you want. This is the year to appreciate everything you have." With that in mind in 2020 I am grateful for:

- ◆ The willingness of our whole school community to quickly adapt to, and embrace, our new Covid19 related rules and routines in line with keeping everyone safe.
- ◆ The many creative ways in which our staff and the services that we work with have changed and adapted to a 'new normal' which continues to keep our pupils and their families at the heart of all we do.
- ◆ The ways in which so many of our families have reached out to express their support and gratitude for what we do, despite the barriers that currently makes this more difficult.
- ◆ The joy, laughter and sense of hope that our pupils continue to inspire in us.
- ◆ The opportunities to share magical moments and experiences via technology (including Evidence for Learning, Social Media and our Website.)
- ◆ Happy memories of shared times and opportunities before the pandemic, which we can reflect upon now and which hold the possibility of things that we will hopefully be able to share again—and really understand the value of — in the future.
- ◆ All of our staff, pupils, families and the wider services who work with us—just for being wonderful you!
- ◆ Those members of our school and local community who have served our community and local area with courage, care and dedication, taking risks so that they can continue to help others, and making such a difference to the lives of so many.

On behalf of myself and the Governors, Staff and Pupils of Fox Wood I would like to thank you all for your support and trust over the past year, and wish you all a Happy, Peaceful and Safe Christmas—here's to brighter and better times together in 2021!

Important Dates

Friday 18 December
Santa Dash and Pupils finish for Christmas
Monday 4 January
Pupils return to school
Friday 12 February
School closes for Half term

Goodbye

Goodbye to Holly, Teacher in Class 7. She is moving to pastures new and we wish her luck .

Goodbye to Natalie, Teaching Assistant. Natalie is moving to a new job and we hope that she will keep in touch.

Welcome

Welcome to Sally, New Teacher in Class 7 after Christmas. Sally has been coming in to school, so the children in Class 7 all know her.

Welcome back to Leah, TA in Class 1. Leah is returning after maternity leave.

Class 1 have had an amazing start to the school year! Due to Covid restrictions our new starters in Class 1 didn't get a chance to visit before the summer holiday but they have all settled in brilliantly and you would think that they have always been at Fox Wood. The pupils have all been working hard on engaging with our school routine and showing the staff in class just how clever they all are! All pupils in Class 1 have enjoyed our topic of 'In to the Woods'. They have taken part in sensory stories, created lots of woodland art work and have been exploring natural materials. We can't wait to see where this school year takes Class 1!



Pupils have been keeping fit and healthy at Fox Wood School. Members of staff from the Rebound Team have completed Rebound training and are supporting pupils within their class group to access Rebound on a regular basis. Each pupil who accesses Rebound is working towards an award and pupils are gaining skills and proudly showing progress. Rebound has many benefits, such as, communication, freedom of movement, relaxation, fun and enjoyment. Two members of staff have completed advanced Rebound training and are working with pupils from their class on advanced techniques. New Rebound permission/medical letters have recently been sent home, please send them back as soon as possible. Pupils who are unable to access Rebound have access to other forms of physical and sensory input. Identified pupils will soon be able to access Sensory Swimming weekly. If your child is accessing Sensory Swimming, information will be sent home by class teams, so look out for this. All pupils have access to Sensory Kingdom on a weekly basis. The sensory based classes use this time as an opportunity to have physio and take care of their sensory needs. The more formal learners use Sensory Kingdom to support their Sensory Steps and help build social skills.



At home life skills challenge!

I am setting a challenge to see how many pupils across the school can improve their life skills at home. Please upload any evidence of your child practicing their life skills at home onto evidence for learning, any pupils who upload evidence of the 'life skills challenge' on evidence for learning will be entered into a prize draw, the lucky winner will be announced Monday 7th December and will win a 'life skills based' prize!

Here are 5 ideas for Fox Wood pupils to be developing in a variety of life skill areas at home.

Fine motor skills – screwing bottle tops on and off, manipulating dough (baking), prewriting/writing skills

Personal care – dressing/undressing skills, tooth brushing, hair brushing, contributing to their personal care

Safety- practicing road safety, stranger danger, safety in the bathroom/kitchen, understanding what is and isn't edible

Emotions- discovering a variety of emotions, exploring other's emotions, exploring/identifying own emotions using a mirror

Communication- exploring a variety of communication methods, practice a new way of communicating, practice the best communication method for you, practice requesting etc.

Class six hosted a PMLD awareness day on Friday 25th September. We made a Power Point presentation to explain to pupils what the term means and to recognise how students have succeeded in overcoming individual challenges as well as celebrate all their successes and abilities. We made multi-coloured sensory bottles and wore bright clothes to celebrate our differences. We raised £62 which we have put to good use by ordering some shadow boards to be used in the Multi- Sensory room with pupils. Class six would like to thank everyone for wearing their fabulous bright clothes and helping to purchase resources to enhance our sensory curriculum.



Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education

From September 2020 the delivery of Relationships education, Sex and Relationships Education and Health Education has changed. At Fox Wood School, we have always delivered statutory relationships education, relationships and sex education and health education in a sensitive, age and developmentally appropriate manner. As pupils progress through school, they are encouraged to build on skills, relationships, feelings and emotions. The curriculum is cyclical so pupils will visit topics throughout their school lives.

During the primary phase, pupils work on 'Relationship Education' which teaches about friendship, happy, healthy relationships and where to go for support if needed. As pupils transition into Key Stage 3, the primary curriculum is built upon and ensures that relationship and sex education is accessed in a developmentally appropriate manner.

Throughout this 'Health Education' is also taught which will give information that pupils need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, recognise issues in themselves and others when they arise and seek support as early as possible.

The scheme of work that we use to deliver PSHE, Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education is written by the PSHE association for pupils with SEND.

The Relationships Education, Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education policy is available on the school website if you require any further information, or call school and I will be happy to speak to you.

Lyndsey Phillips
(PSHE LEAD)

On Wednesday 18th November, we held a mental health awareness day. The aim of the day was to support our pupils in recognising the importance of mental health and what we can do to support others, and ourselves, when we are struggling. Pupils were invited to come into school wearing green; representing the colour of the mental health awareness ribbon. The pupils engaged in a range of art, and other well-being, activities to promote mental health awareness and to help us identify ways that we can support each other. The pupils had a fantastic time doing their art activities and some wonderful 'Be Kind' banners were produced by the class groups. As a school, with the difficulties posed to us all throughout 2020, we felt it was important to recognise, support, and promote mental health awareness – the pupils all did an amazing job engaging with the day and learning about how to support those around them.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Raffle, we had some brilliant prizes and managed to raise £195.50. This will go School Fund and will be used for all the pupils. We will let you know how the sale of Enterprise goods went in classes, the profits from this are divided and each class can choose what to spend their hard earned money on.



Other Notices - Dinner Money—Just a reminder that Dinner Money has increased to £2.40 per day, (£12.00 per week) This is still payable on the Friday for the following week and must be paid on a weekly basis or termly in advance.

Any monies sent into school must be in a sealed envelope with the pupil's name, the amount, and what the money is for, written clearly. School cannot take responsibility for any loose cash.

