

FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Volume ~Issue 2 20/21

Infant Department: 0121-675-4040

Junior Department: 0121-675-2685

25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Governors



We now find ourselves four weeks into the new school year and so much has happened in that time with us all getting our heads around the new version of school, full of new timings, rules and safety measures.

First of all I would like to say thank you to everyone for trying to follow these new arrangements and keep everyone safe. **Here at Four Oaks we are determined to keep the school open** and to keep the children in the best place that they can learn, however at this point I would like to draw a few reminders and a few new arrangements to everyone's attention.

New Developments

- From Monday Morning the schools belonging to the Learning Trust have all decided that we would like all parents to **wear facemasks when collecting children on site after school**. Following on from the Prime Minister's broadcast earlier this week we all now realise that we need to take even more stringent measures to combat the spread of coronavirus, so I'm sure we will have no parents who will not want to play their part and do such a simple thing!
- Also from this point onwards, **if your child has symptoms of coronavirus and is awaiting test results we will not be able to have any siblings of that child in school** (whether they have symptoms or not) until the test results come through. Similarly if it is a parent who is taken ill with symptoms then we would ask that the children are kept at home until the parent's test results have been received. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.
- If any child does end up having to isolate from school because another family member has tested positive we now have a set of 2 week long "Remote Learning" packs available for every year group. Please access Wordpress, click on your child's year group and you will see the remote learning pack at the top of the screen. There is a suggested timetable to help guide you through their learning. This is really important so that all children can continue their learning journey back into school life and children will be expected to complete the work so that teachers can assess their progress. We hope that all parents will support their children in accessing this work on-line.
- From Monday if your child has come into school and they have forgotten either a drinks bottle, a book or maybe they have forgotten to wear their PE kit then please do not worry about dropping them to school later. At present this system presents a real challenge for us as we have been advised that our office staff should not be coming out to the gate and our Teaching Assistants cannot be leaving the classroom all the time. If there is a problem then just phone school and we will be happy to provide a drink for any child and it will be fine for to do a PE activity in the clothes they are wearing.



Reminders

- Can I remind everyone that the only parents that are allowed on site in the morning are parents of FOSBACS children and that once they have dropped their children they **must vacate the site straight away**.
- No parents are allowed on site during the day other than by agreed invitation and then they must wear a face mask.

Reminders ~ continued

- When parents come on site in the afternoon this is the time when the most adults are on site and because of this we must look after each other. Please do not stand around talking to friends once you have picked children up and please leave an appropriate space between yourselves and others whilst waiting. When coming through the two pedestrian gates please give everyone else enough space to feel comfortable and respect everyone else's feelings. Once through the gate then please do not congregate on Edge Hill Road with other families thus making it more difficult for other people to vacate the site.
- We are aware that the ice cream van is often outside school on a Monday, can you please keep two metres apart and move away as quickly as possible to avoid congestion.
- It would be fantastic if more families could walk to school and try to keep traffic to a minimum on Edge Hill Road. When I was on gate duty on Wednesday morning there was almost gridlock with some adults getting highly impatient with other drivers. **If we and our children are to remain safe then we must all play our part.** In addition to this can I also remind the many parents who are dropping off their children on the zig zags outside the Junior entrance that **this is not allowed** and puts everyone in a dangerous position.
- Lastly can I remind everyone that many children have been away from school for an extremely long time and are finding coming back to a whole school day a genuine challenge, and this is no surprise. We are seeing lots of yawning little faces and children starting to flag by the afternoon so the best thing that they can do is to get a good night's sleep. Thanks for your help in this.



Flu Vaccination Forms—Reception—Year 6

Thank you to everyone who has sent back the flu vaccination forms. Could any outstanding forms please be sent back on Monday. **Please note you need to send the form back even if you do not want your child to have the vaccination—please fill in the appropriate box on the front.** The nasal vaccination will take place for all years on Tuesday 13th October. This is obviously more important than usual in the present climate.

Outbreak of headlice in Year 3 & 4

There has been an outbreak of headlice in Years 3 and 4 letters have been sent home. Please check your child's hair regularly and follow the "Bug Busting" method.

Hand Sanitiser

Any donations of large bottles of hand sanitiser would be very welcome as we are getting through bottles at a rapid rate! Children are of course still welcome to bring in their own small bottles if they so wish. Thank you.



Parents Evening

We usually have our traditional Parents' Evenings for the Autumn Term at some point in October. This year we have been instructed that such an event cannot involve inviting parents to school to actually meet the teachers which is a great pity as we feel that is by far the best way to talk about how children have settled into school and how they are progressing with their academic studies. We are working on plans of how to facilitate these discussions and we will get news to parents very soon.



Dinner Money ~ Juniors

Please check your SchoolMoney account regarding any outstanding amounts for school dinners. If you have any problems accessing your account or making payments please contact Mrs Johnson in the Junior office

Milk Money ~ Infants

 Milk money is now due, please make payments via SchoolMoney. If you have any problems accessing your account or making payments please contact Mrs Johnson in the Junior office.

Math Seeds & Mathletics

Letters will be coming out next week regarding Mathletics payment. Please pay on SchoolMoney once you receive the notification. Thank you



Super Stars and Acorns



The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly last week. Well done to them all!!

| | |
|------------|-----------|
| Bumblebees | Oliver G |
| Ladybirds | Edie |
| Owls | Sophia |
| Hedgehogs | Daniel |
| Turtles | Athier |
| Sharks | Valentino |
| 3R | Julia |
| 3E | Aneka |
| 4C | Avni |
| 4G | Francis |
| 5SB | Mykola |
| 5B | Alex P. |
| 6W | Ashmi |
| 6E | Lily H. |



Super Stars and Acorns



The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly this week. Well done to them all!!

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Bumblebees | Shan |
| Ladybirds | Martha |
| Owls | Aaryan |
| Hedgehogs | Vienna |
| Turtles | Amiee |
| Sharks | Lilly-Mae S. |
| 3R | Max W. |
| 3E | Etta |
| 4C | Miles |
| 4G | Francesca |
| 5SB | Erryn |
| 5B | Jasmine |
| 6W | Myles |
| 6E | Holly |

Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week

| | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Reception | Aaminah / Isaac B. |
| Year 1 | Ryan / Mustafa |
| Year 2 | Faith / Laina |
| Year 3 | Milo / Elise |
| Year 4 | Oliver / Aron K. |
| Year 5 | Arish / Lily V. |
| Year 6 | Alex W. / Kyan |



Well done to all the winners!

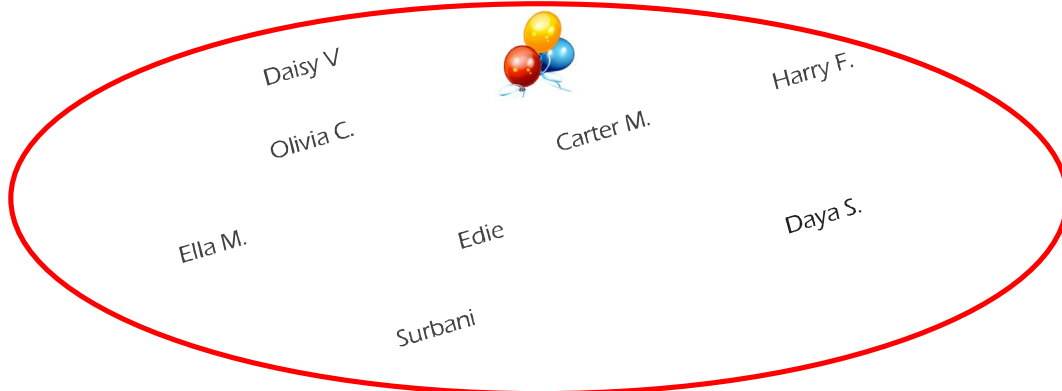
Courtesy Cup Winners ~ this week

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Reception | Zachary C. / Carys |
| Year 1 | Daia / Georgiana |
| Year 2 | Charlotte B. / Oliver J. |
| Year 3 | Sonny / William H. |
| Year 4 | Sarjan / Maisie |
| Year 5 | Lauren / Erin C. |
| Year 6 | Fionn / Alfie |



Well done to all the winners!

Infant Birthdays



Secondary School Open Days

This year all schools have been instructed that they are not allowed to stage Open Days or Open Evenings where adults and children are actually invited onto school sites. Therefore all Open Evenings will be virtual. For all parents of children beginning to think about secondary transfer all they need to do is to go to the website of a particular school and they should find a clearly marked section about 'Virtual Open Days'. Here at Four Oaks we will be running a similar system at some point in October - watch the next newsletter for further news.

A letter about the virtual open evening at our main feeder school Arthur Terry is attached to this newsletter for your information.

The timetable for applying to secondary school for next year is included below.

Timetable for the secondary school admissions 2020 to 2021

| Stage of process | Date |
|---|--------------------------|
| Application period starts | 1 September 2020 |
| Grammar school test | 12 September 2020 |
| Results of grammar school test | Prior to 31 October 2020 |
| Closing date for applications | 31 October 2020 |
| National Offer Day | 1 March 2021 |
| Deadline for accepting the offer | 15 March 2021 |
| Deadline for submitting appeals | 29 March 2021 |
| Appeal hearings for appeals submitted on time | May and June 2021 |
| Induction day at secondary school | 7 July 2021 |
| Term starts | 2 September 2021 |

We will publish a similar timetable for the process of applying for a Reception place for next year as soon as Birmingham Local Authority have decided upon their deadline dates.

.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....

Fund Raising Events



Our fantastic PTA Committee had a virtual meeting this week to see how they can adapt their fund raising activities now that we are not allowed to have parents congregating on the school site. Lots of great ideas were discussed and hopefully soon there will be news of our annual "Smartie Tube Challenge" where the children fill a Smartie tube with small coins and enter a draw to win a giant tube of Smarties. We are so lucky to have such supportive parents who give of their time and energy to raise funds to improve the lives of all of our children in school and long may this continue !!

PTA School Fund

Due to the tight budgeting restrictions our PTA decided to set up a School Fund about a year ago. This School Fund has just paid for all the children's exercise books, stationery and art supplies. These donations are gratefully received to ensure we can still deliver the diverse exciting curriculum that we wish to for your children. Any donations large or small are gratefully received. Please see our website for details.

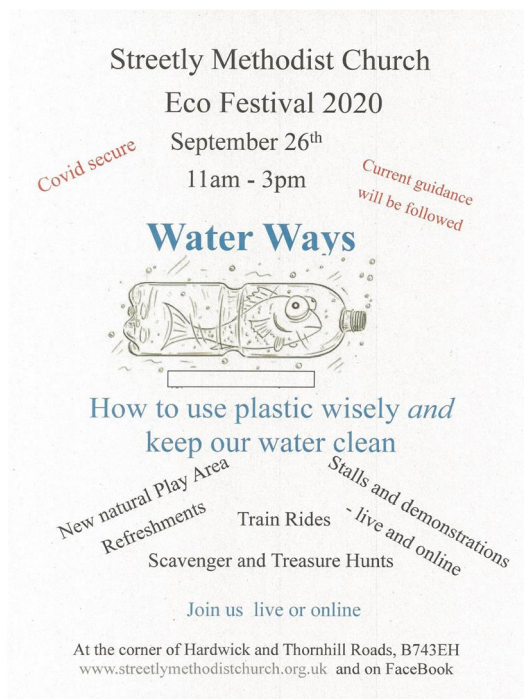
Amazon Smile

The PTA have now registered Four Oaks Primary School on Amazon Smile. The link is www.smile.amazon.co.uk. When you first access Amazon Smile you will be asked to search for your charitable organization and you will need to enter Four Oaks Schools and then hit search. You should find Four Oaks Parent Teachers Association, please select this and then check the box on the next screen—all you have to do then is start shopping for your usual items!! The PTA will receive 0.5% of the net purchase price from Amazon.

Easyfundraising

In addition to the above the PTA have also registered our school with Birmingham easyfundraising which means over 4,000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you shop with them. Visit www.Easyfundraising.org/causes/fouroaks. These donations will help SO MUCH so please sign up to support our wonderful PTA—it is completely free and doesn't take long. Thank you.

.....COMMUNITY NEWS.....COMMUNITY NEWS.....COMMUNITY NEWS.....



ICT Tip of the Week

Be a Selective Sharer. These days, there are lots of opportunities to share our personal information online. Be cautious about what you share, particularly when it comes to your identity information. This can potentially be used to impersonate you, or guess your passwords and logins.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Benton
Head Teacher



The Arthur Terry School

Registered Office:
 Kittoe Road, Sutton Coldfield,
 West Midlands, B74 4RZ
 Tel: (0121) 323 2221 Fax: (0121) 308 8033
 enquiry@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk
 www.arthurterry.bham.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr. N R Warner, JP, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, NLE

Associate Headteacher: Mrs S Kibble, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Associate Deputy Headteacher: Mr N C Bowater, BSc (Hons), PGCE

Associate Deputy Headteacher: Mr M N Gannon, BSc (Hons), PGCE, MEd

September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Transfer to Secondary Education – September 2021 – Virtual Open Evening

Choosing the right secondary school for your child is such an important decision. I am fortunate to lead a school that cares about students, has high academic standards, outstanding teaching, and a positive climate for learning.

We have an excellent relationship with our partner primary schools, so it is important that your child can continue to flourish in the next stage of their education.

We believe that exam results, although important, are not the only driver for the success of a school. You will want your child to be loved, cared for, listened to, nurtured, and developed, leaving school with the confidence and self-belief to make a real contribution to society. This is all part of what we offer at the school.

This year, in line with Government Guidance, we will be holding a Virtual Open Evening, as unfortunately we are unable to accommodate visitors on to the school site. This will include videos from each department, a tour of the school, information about admissions, SEND and many more areas of school life. All of this information will be live on our school website on Thursday 1st October. This will be clearly signposted from the front page of the website, and we do hope you and your child will enjoy seeing what our school has to offer.

Educating our young people is a privilege and we hope you will see how seriously we take this responsibility.

Yours faithfully,

Samantha Kibble
 Associate Headteacher

The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership, a charitable company limited by guarantee,
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 Registered office: The Arthur Terry School, Kittoe Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B74 4RZ
 CEO Richard Gill, NPQH, NLE, FRSA

