

FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Volume ~Issue 13 20/21

Infant Department: 0121-675-4040

Junior Department: 0121-675-2685

1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Governors



With the coming of our Easter break we have got to another point along the way to hopefully getting back to normal school. I hope that all parents found their parents' evening appointments via Microsoft Teams really useful this past week and that you had a chance to share any information about how your children have settled back in to school life.

COVID Testing Advice

Last week we have had updated advice from the DfE in relation to the COVID testing of primary aged pupils. Previously we have worked with parents and have accepted a child back into school once they have had a negative result from either a Lateral Flow Test (LFD) or a full PCR test at a testing centre or via the postal system. The DfE have now changed that advice as below:

Public Health England has advised that there are currently limited public health benefits to testing primary-aged pupils with lateral flow devices (LFD).

We are advising that primary-aged pupils should only be tested if they are symptomatic, in which case their families should follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection and book a PCR test for the child.

In line with this new advice, if your child has to self-isolate due to COVID symptoms that begin either at home or at school, we will only be able to welcome them back into school with a negative result from an official PCR test. The result of this test will be emailed to you and we would ask that you forward this email on to us at school at enquiry@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Contact Over Easter

We have been advised by Public Health England to ask all parents to keep in touch about any positive COVID cases during the Easter break. Therefore, could any parents who have news of positive cases please inform us by emailing us at: covid@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk.

Social Distancing

Since the wider opening at school on 8th March our systems at school designed to guard against any COVID related infections seemed to have continued to be highly effective. Over the last two weeks two schools who are part of our Learning Trust have had to close 3-year group bubbles each, so we know that this health risk has not gone away. Can I ask all parents to keep the idea of social distancing at the forefront of their minds, as over the last few days it has been evident at the beginning and the end of the day that this is beginning to slip. Also can I ask that when lining up outside the school gates please make sure that there is a definite and clear gap between families. At the end of the day, although I understand the temptation is great, please also refrain from either standing or walking with other families and catching up with friends. Even though the rules on numbers who can meet outside has been relaxed we are still all supposed to be 2 meters away from each other.

I am sure that with a commitment from everyone we can continue to keep all of our pupils, parents and staff safe as we move along the road to more normal times.



New Reception Parents

On 16th April we will be informed by the Local Authority of the names of our 60 new Reception families whose children will start their school life with us in September 2021. Once we have this information we will contact these families and begin our induction process by hand-delivering a letter about how things will pan out during the Summer Term. If any of our new families have any questions or concerns then they can contact us by emailing us on: enquiry@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk or by telephoning 0212 675 4040.

Reporting Pupil Absences

A reminder that if your child is away from school due to illness you must contact us by **telephone** to report the absence by 9:20am. You should report the absence every day unless advised otherwise by the office staff. We are not always able to pick up emails at this busy time of day, especially if you are trying to email the teachers. In addition we can gain valuable information regarding any infections that may be spreading if we are able to talk to parents. Thank you for your co-operation.

Easter Science Fair

Last week a letter was sent to all families via our school website and our School Jotter app, explaining the details of our Easter Science Fair organized by Mrs. Morris. This is always a popular event in our school calendar and we know that many of our children love to take part. Due to COVID restrictions, for the second year running this event will be entirely remote.

This year's theme is experiments, there are many example on the sheet like 'can you make an egg bounce?' or 'can you catch a bubble?', but the choice is yours!

Key information:

- ♦ The Science Fair entries will be judged and there will be winners chosen from Reception/KS1, Y3/4 and Y5/6.
- ♦ Children will need to email photos of their project to science@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk or Tweet their photos (remembering to tag school so we can see them), by Thursday 22nd April.
- ♦ Children will have the opportunity to look at each other's projects when the photos are shared in class.
- ♦ If you are the winner of your group, you will receive your very own Science Fair Medal and have the opportunity to compete against children from other Trust schools to win the grand prize!



Scroll back through our Twitter feed to find some incredible entries from last year for more inspiration!

We look forward to seeing your 'eggcellent' entries!



Children Walking Home Alone

At Four Oaks we have always allowed our older children in Year 5 and Year 6 to walk home on their own if their parents have supplied us with written permission. The idea of this has always been that it has helped with the transition between primary and secondary school. At present however, we are getting some feedback that some groups of children are not being sensible walking home and are being irresponsible in the use of mobile phones. In light of this I would ask all parents involved to talk to their children about being sensible on the way home, and the importance of both staying safe and not doing anything that would bring the name of the school into question.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Scooters and Balance Bikes on Site

Could I ask all parents not to allow children to ride either of these whilst on site. Our rules have always stated, they can push them along but not ride them. We have an awful lot of people on site at once at the end of the day and last week we had several 'near misses'.





Super Stars and Acorns



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

Bumblebees	Beatrix
Ladybirds	Alice
Owls	Daia
Hedgehogs	Karter B
Turtles	Jessica C.
Sharks	Lily
3E	Sebastian
3R	Eleanor
4C	Freddie
4G	Jemima
5B	Elisia
5SB	Kira
6E	Daniel G.
6W	Reuben M.



Super Stars and Acorns



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

Bumblebees	Simran
Ladybirds	Mati
Owls	The Whole Class / Reuben
Hedgehogs	Daniel
Turtles	Alayna / Zara
Sharks	Harry R.
3E	The Whole Class
3R	Milo
4C	Eva
4G	Aron
5B	Anita
5SB	Willow
6E	Poppy
6W	Kian

Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week

Reception	Umaima / Dylan
Year 1	Aaryan / Freya
Year 2	Noah / Jacob M.
Year 3	Oliver / Darcy
Year 4	Molly / . Francesca
Year 5	Gregory / Gracie
Year 6	Ashmi / Lily



Well done to all the winners!

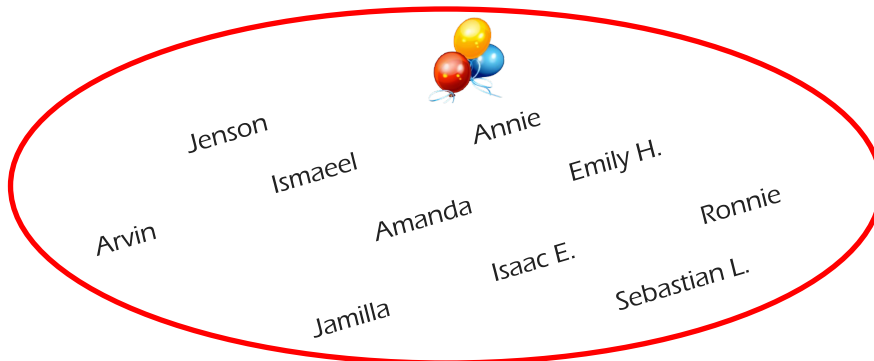
Courtesy Cup Winners ~ this week

Reception	Caesar / Lucia
Year 1	Annie / Surbani
Year 2	Nikki / Zara / Max
Year 3	Max w. / Pola
Year 4	Jessie / Adam
Year 5	Jasmine / Aimee
Year 6	Evan/Lilah



Well done to all the winners!

Infant Birthdays



Alison Mander—Kindness Award

Last half term it was awarded to:

Infants— Ralph—Bumblebees

Juniors— Holly S.—6W

The award for this half term is awarded to:

Infants- Rupert—Turtles

Juniors- Isabella B.—5B



PTA—Reception Pupils



Our Reception pupils can look forward to an exciting time when they return after Easter. During the first week back, we will take delivery of our annual batch of hens' eggs and an incubator. The children will be able to experience trying to predict what will happen with the eggs, and then watch their progress as the life cycle play out in front of their eyes. A huge thank you to the PTA for financing this as they have done for many years.

Year 5 Anglo-Saxon Workshop—21st April

Year 5 are looking forward to their workshop when they return from the Easter break. This is to support their work on the Anglo-Saxons.

Extra-Curricular Activities—Summer Term

Attached to this newsletter is a timetable of the extra curricular activities we hope will be running throughout the summer term. Please follow the links on our website if you wish to book a place for the Premier Sports dance clubs and a reminder that if your child is having **musical instrument lessons with YMES** these will commence after Easter. Guitar will take place on a Tuesday and keyboard and violin on a Thursday. Can you please ensure that your child remembers to bring their instrument if they play the violin or guitar.



Juniors—Payment for School Dinners on SchoolMoney



A reminder that your SchoolMoney account should always be in credit when paying for school meals. Please deposit a sum to cover your child's meals in advance either weekly or monthly. Can we urge all parents to pay any debts owing over the Easter break. If you have a child in Juniors who wishes to switch their choice from Sandwiches or School Dinners for next term could you please let Mrs Johnson know, if you have not already done so, on the first day back after the Easter holidays.

Infants—Milk

Thank you to all the parents who have paid their milk money for this half term. Can those parents who have not paid please make sure this debt is paid over the Easter holidays. If you no longer wish your child to have milk next term, and have not already done so, can you please ensure that you contact Mrs Underwood in the Infant office on the first day back after the Easter holidays. Thank you.



PTA 200 Club

The winners of our March draw are:

£50 No 112 Mrs S Sokhi

£10 No 42 Mrs Morris

£10 No 19 Mrs S Kay

The Little Green Bakery Voucher (£20) No. 108 Mrs S Sokhi



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

Extra-Curricular Activities - Summer Term 2021					
	Activity	Staff	Location	Time	Yrs
Monday	Rounders	Mr Boughton	Junior Field	3.30 - 4.30pm	5/6
Tuesday	Multi-sports	Mr Boughton	Junior Field	3.30 - 4.30pm	3/4
Thursday	District Netball	Mrs Goldspink and external coaches	Inf. Hall / Jnr. Playground	3.30 - 5.00pm	5/6
Friday	Dance	Premier Sports / Miss Appleby	Infant Hall	11.50 - 12.30	1
	Dance	Premier Sports / Miss Appleby	Infant Hall	12.30 - 1.10	2
	Gymnastics	Premier Sports / Miss Appleby	Infant Hall	3.20 - 4.20	R
Science Ambassadors / Y6 Rotary Award Pupils / School Council		Mrs Morris, Mrs Elvins and Miss Appleby will let all pupils involved know when to meet as events/activities arise.			
French Club	Starting back up in Summer 2				
Instrument Lessons	Various in-school sessions across both Key Stages.				
The start dates of these activities will be announced by the adults running them.					