

FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Telephone Number: 0121-675-4040

www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk

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Next Week—Menu 4

28th January 2022

Dear Parents and Governors

Welcome Back to Staff and Pupils

It has been lovely to see the return of 3E since Wednesday. We have missed them and it's great to have them back with us!

I am also in the lovely position of being able to say that hopefully next Monday I will be able to say welcome back to a whole staff team. For the last few weeks we have had various staff missing from school, all of whom play pivotal roles across the site, but Monday will be the first time in a while that I can say, with a big smile on my face, that we have the whole staff team back together.....long may it continue!

COVID-19

Just to let all parents know that at present we are working under the Government Covid-19 guidelines stating that anyone in school who tests positive on an LFT or PCR test must isolate for a minimum of 5 full days. Please see below for further details. We are still working under the guidelines that state that if any child presents with any Covid symptoms in school, then parents will be contacted in order to pick up their child from school and arrange for a PCR test to be taken.

We are also still having to follow any guidance given to us by Public Health Birmingham surrounding any increase in positive cases within any of our classes, and we have no option but to abide by this guidance.

Day 0—this is the day you have symptoms or have a positive lateral flow test. (Take a PCR test if you have symptoms)

Day 1-4—Self isolate

Day 5—take a lateral flow test

Negative continue to self isolate and take another test 24 hour later

Positive continue to self isolate

Day 6 take a lateral flow test

Negative you may return to school

Positive continue to self isolate.

Day 6-10 continue to take lateral flow tests and when you have 2 negative lateral flow tests 24 hour apart you may return to school.

As you can see our advice would be to test first thing on a morning on day 5 and 6 so your child can come back to school on day 6 if they test negative on both days.

Can all parent please advise school when their child has had their 2 negative tests . Thank you.

Join Our Team! A Vacancy in School

At present we have an opportunity for someone to join our very happy and effective cleaning team. Further details of this opportunity can be found on our school website in the 'Latest News' section of the homepage or by following this link to our 'vacancies' page:

<https://www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk/our-school/vacancies-1>

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

I am in the very happy position of being able to tell parents that we have been successful in our bid to gain funding from Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust. In the past they have been very generous in their support of us, helping us to fund the large touch screens in each classroom five years ago. This time round we have written our bid to enable us to help finance securing a new server to run our computer systems and they have awarded us £25,200. A big thank you to the Trust who support many worthy causes within Sutton Coldfield!



BUG Club Reading

I would like to ask for the help of all parents when it comes to reading.

At present in school we have a growing number of children who are just not reading every night at home. When this happens, it soon begins to reflect in a slowing of progress across the curriculum, and it's something that can easily be put right.



We always tell the children that reading is the key to absolutely everything, and that if your reading improves then everything else gets easier. So I would ask all parents to make reading with their child a real priority each evening....it doesn't take long, but that drip-drip effect of building on really solid phonic sounds, spelling skills and word building ability definitely pays dividends in the long run!

Whilst we understand that some of our children towards the higher end of the Infants may now be starting to read small chapter books, reading Bug Club books alongside this will really help to improve their comprehension skills. Thank you for your support in this push to improve every child's life skills.

Behaviour—End of Day Collection

Can I remind all parents that once the pupils have been dismissed from the classroom at the end of the day, they are then the responsibility of their parents and carers, and the children should stay with the adults. We seem to have a growing trend of children running off from parents to run around or play football on the field, or leaving parents to play on the trim trail or adventure equipment. None of these things should be happening as accidents can easily happen, and recently children have begun to get injured. I'm sure I can count on the co-operation of all parents in looking after the safety of all children at the end of the school day!

Parent Volunteers

In the past we have often had parent volunteers who have given up their own time to come to school and help the teaching staff in various ways, but for obvious reasons this situation changed during the periods of national lockdown. These tasks have varied from reading with individuals and small groups, to the preparation of teaching materials, and helping to complete classroom and corridor displays. If there are any parents who have some free time and are willing to help out, then we would be more than happy to hear from them and return to a working partnership with parents. To begin working in school any parent would have to have a DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) certificate stating that they are an appropriate person to work with young people, but school will pay for this application.

Parking

Many thanks to those parents who have taken on board our pleas about careful driving and parking around the school entrances. This seems to be improving situation, and therefore our children will be safer as they arrive and depart at either end of the school day. With a new version of the Highway Code coming out can I make a timely reminder to everyone that it is illegal to park on traffic islands and zig-zags by school entrances. Many thanks for your support.



Cake Sale—11th February

Mrs Clark will be holding another one of her yummy cake sales on Friday 11th February. This will be raising money for McMillan Cancer Support and for our school. It will be held in the outdoor classroom at the end of the school day.



Teacher Training Dates

A reminder from our last newsletter that we have now arranged our last staff training day of the year which will be on the first day after February Half-Term: Monday 28th February.

The dates for the whole year are therefore as follows:

Thursday 2nd Sept 2021
Tuesday 4th January 2022
Monday 28th February 2022
Tuesday 3rd May 2022
Thursday 21st July 2022



School will also be closed on Thursday 5th May for local elections, and on Friday 22nd July for a day in lieu for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.



Super Stars and Acorns



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

Bumblebees	Not awarded
Ladybirds	Thea
Owls	Alice
Hedgehogs	Heath
Turtles	Taran
Sharks	Ryan
3B	Logan
3E	Not awarded
4B	Aarun
4R	Wildan
5C	Molly
5ST	Scarlett
6B	The Whole Class
6E	The Whole Class



Super Stars and Acorns



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

Bumblebees	Alfie G.
Ladybirds	Charlotte
Owls	Ismaeel
Hedgehogs	James
Turtles	Joseph
Sharks	Aaryan
3B	Zach
3E	The Whole Class
4B	Daniel
4R	Thea
5C	Nicole
5ST	Keirath
6B	Evaleen
6E	Harry B.

Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week

Reception	Avni / Tobias O.
Year 1	Dylan / Nisharne
Year 2	Georgiana / Thomas
Year 3	Amelia / 3E not awarded
Year 4	Ben / Zach S.
Year 5	Anna / Georgina
Year 6	Finn / Louis



Well done to all the winners!

Courtesy Cup Winners ~ this week

Reception	Amelia / Daisy
Year 1	Edie / Jenson
Year 2	Isabella / Sophia
Year 3	Jessica C. / Olivia
Year 4	Libby / Esme
Year 5	Fraser / Aleena
Year 6	Zach / Willow



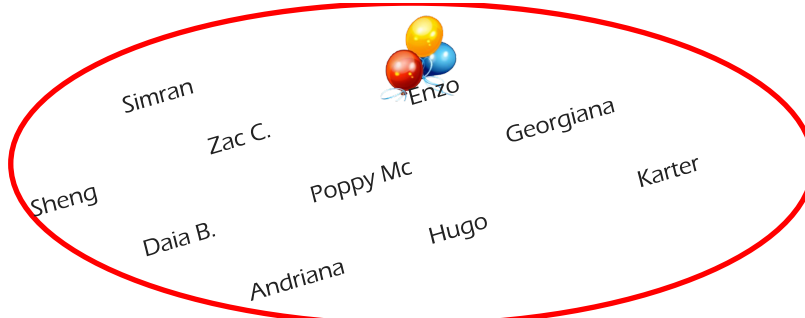
Well done to all the winners!

Kindness Tree Award

Last week Infants: Daya S. (Turtles)
 Last week Juniors: Isla C. (5C)
 This week Infants: Toby M. (Ladybirds)
 This week Juniors: Olive Clarke (5ST)



Infant Birthdays



Milk Infants

Can we remind parents that if they wish to cancel their child's milk they should notify Mrs Underwood in the Infant Office **before** the end of each half term. We are unable to cancel or refund during the half term as the milk order will have already been placed. May we also suggest that you speak to your children about whether they wish to have milk next half term as we do have some children who are leaving their milk saying they no longer want it. Thank you.

PTA Comedy Night—18th February



The annual PTA Comedy Night is nearly with us and parents can now buy tickets. Please visit our PTA website at www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary to read further details and book tickets for this very popular event!

School Show

From this point onwards Mrs Bambury, Mrs Smith, Miss Everitt and their creative team will be having two practices a week with the children in Year 5 and Year 6 who are part of the school show. Parents of children involved have now received a letter with details of what is needed in terms of practice attendance, so keep your eyes peeled for that.

The show itself will happen as a matinee on Monday 4th April and as evening performances on Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th April, and nearer the time all families will get the chance to order tickets and interval beverages to watch this extravaganza.

We need your help! Our budding actors and actresses have been busy for months now practising their lines for the up-and-coming school show. We are currently busy making a selection of props to support the show and was wondering if anyone could donate any of the following items:

- A rubber chicken (which will be returned unharmed).
- 2-3M of plastic chain (like that used in partition fencing).
- An old chair (preferably with arms) – that can be transformed into a throne.



If you have any of the following items, please inform either office or speak directly with Mr. Cope.

Thank you in advance.

The Props Team.

Balance Bikes in EYFS

We hope that our Reception pupils are enjoying their 'Balanceability' sessions provided by Aspire Sports. It was the last session this week, and this has been another example of our pledge to support our children in their development as a whole, not just in academic terms.

Dinner Money—Juniors

Can we remind parents to please pay promptly for their child's school dinners when they receive a reminder from Mrs Johnson. Thank you.

Four Oaks Primary School PTA Spring Ball 2022

The 2022 school ball will take place on Friday 13th May at Moor Hall Hotel. We had a fantastic time back in 2019 and raised £3,500 for the school. Now it's time to book the babysitter and dust off your glad rags and dancing shoes again! Tables (each seating 10 people) are now available to book via the PTA Events website and cost £420 each. A deposit of £200 will secure your table and the balance is payable by 31 March 2022. Tables in the main room usually sell out quickly so don't delay!



More details can be found on the PTA Events website (www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary) but if you have any queries in the meantime, or if you have any contacts that could help us to source any extra special prizes for the silent auction or discounted entertainments, please let us know at fopspta@gmail.com or speak to Laura Phillips, Julia Smith or Wendy Todd.

Job Vacancy — Just For Starters Day Nursery

We, at Just for Starters Day Nursery, located on the site of Four Oaks Primary School are planning to increase our staffing to cover holidays/sickness.

If you are looking for occasional hours of work in a flexible and friendly working environment, please give Estelle (Director) a call on 07932 736424 for further information.

Or contact via email at ethomasjustforstarters@yahoo.com

Childcare experience is desirable but not essential.



School Choir—Certificate of Appreciation

Great News! We have received a Certificate of Appreciation for the efforts of our children from University Hospitals Birmingham Charity. Before Christmas the children, Mrs Smith, Mrs Brown and Mrs Bambury all went off to Good Hope Hospital to raise the spirits of both staff and patients. They managed to raise £58.17 whilst singing at the hospital so a big well done to all involved.

PTA 200 Club

The winners of the January draw were as follows:

£50 No. 113 L. Phillips
£10 No. 85 P. McKoy
£10 No. 48 K. Mullally



Congratulations to Everyone!!!



Angie's FM Fragrance Perfume Voucher No. 145 Mrs Litwinowicz

Block of 10 swimming sessions—Sue's Swim School Voucher No. 182 D. Makinde

The draw was carried out on Monday 24th January by the Hedgehog class overseen By Mr Benton

You can still take part —Sign up by 10th February to be entered into the remaining 6 monthly raffles for only £6.00 <http://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary>

Many thanks, as ever, to everyone who has donated prizes this year, and to everyone who takes part. It is very much appreciated!

FAO: Anyone who has paid their 200 Club fees via standing order in the past...

Firstly, thank you so much for all your support! Secondly, we would like to let you know that we have now closed the 200 Club bank account that your standing orders have been paid into in the past. Whilst we regret having to do this, it has become necessary due to HSBC implementing new bank charges which makes it unviable for us, as such a small charity, to continue using that account.

Please be assured that everyone's joining up fees have been received for this academic year. Going forward, we will be using our PTA TSB bank account for the 200 Club, where we currently don't incur bank charges. You may have already used this TSB bank account to pay for other PTA events. It will of course be possible to set up a new standing order to this account, so you can still be automatically signed up to the 200 Club annually, from September 2022 onwards. Details will follow nearer the time.

Have a question? Feel free to drop an email to Katy at 200club@fopspta.onmicrosoft.com

ICT Tip of the Week

Recent reports from parents and school staff suggest that there is an increasing amount of inappropriate content appearing in the online gaming platform Roblox. As always, we recommend talking to youngsters and asking them to keep you informed of their online interests. Get involved, find out what they're up to, what they like doing, what games they play and the purpose. It will help support them and ensure you are also knowledgeable. Here are some useful links for parents to understand more about Roblox:-

- <https://ineqe.com/2022/01/19/roblox-parents-guide-and-age-restrictions/>
- <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/roblox-2021>

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

Mr M Benton
Head Teacher