

FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Telephone Number: 0121-675-4040

www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk

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Next Week—Menu 2

7th October 2022

Dear Parents and Governors

Open Day

Next Monday is our school Open Day where any new families to school can come along and have a tour of school, and then speak to Miss Appleby and myself. This is an annual event and helps us as a school to welcome a full cohort of 60 new pupils into school every September.

Any families wishing to look around school can come along to the Infant Department entrance between the times of 9.30am and 2.30pm, and we will look forward once more to showing off our wonderful school.



Attendance - Leave in Term Time Requests

I would like to make all parents aware that the Local Authority are really tightening up in relation to poor attendance at school. Over the last year our overall school attendance rate has fallen from a figure around 98% to a figure around 95%, and this has been noticed by the Local Authority.

We are legally required to report our attendance figures on a daily basis, and this is one of the first things that Ofsted will look at. The main reason for this fall in attendance is families deciding to take 'Leave in Term-Time', and the vast majority of these instances are with a small minority of families taking unauthorized holidays. I will never be allowed to authorize such requests, and from next week any requests for such leave which end up being not authorised will result in letters from the Local Authority being sent to parents' home addresses, explaining how they are jeopardizing their child's education, and possibly getting into a situation where the Local Authority may decide to issue penalty notices.

I'm sure you would all agree that the most effective way to ensure your children progress to their full potential is to ensure they make use of their legal right to be in school every single day.

Parents' Workshops

A big thanks to all the parents who came along to our many Parents' Workshops during the first three weeks of school. I hope they proved useful and gave you the opportunity to ask lots of questions about what is in store for your children in this exciting new school year. Remember, any parent can ask questions of staff at any point during the year, either by making an appointment for a chat at the end of the school day, or by contacting staff via email using their class email addresses.

Amazon Wish Lists

WOW! WOW! WOW! I truly cannot believe how generous you have all been in making contributions to our bank of resources in school through our year group Amazon wish lists so far. I know that my staff explained this system during the Parents' Workshops and it is an idea that many parents have wanted us to set up for a while. It seems that every day at the moment I come around a corner and even more brown boxes of goodies have been delivered. Rest assured that every donation from these wish lists improves the life chances of the children in our school. We are very lucky to have such generous parents so THANK YOU!



Packed Lunches for Trips

A reminder that if you have not completed the form for school trip lunches please send this into school no later than Friday 14th October. If you have misplaced your form please call into either office and they will be able to provide a duplicate. Thank you.



Harvest Festival

Next Tuesday we will be having a traditional Harvest Festival celebration with the children. It will be the first opportunity to have a whole school assembly with all 421 pupils involved. We would like to ask for donations of dried food goods, in either packets or tins to pass onto our local food bank called 'Hope Food'. This organisation is committed to helping families in hardship, facing food poverty and examples of items they would love to receive are:

UHT milk
cereal
pasta
rice
tinned food



If children could bring in any donations on the Tuesday morning then we will be able to display everything in the hall for all the children to see. Thank you in advance to any families who will be able to make any contributions to this worthy venture.

School Absence

A reminder that if your child will be absent from school due to illness that you must call in **every day** to advise our school office, unless directed otherwise by a member of the office team. We also have a designated telephone line for school absences (option 3) where a message may be left regarding this outside office hours. Thank you for your assistance.

Flu Vaccination

The nurses will be attending on the 18th October to provide the nasal flu vaccination to all children. Whilst the majority of forms have now been collected by the nurses we still require any outstanding forms. If you have not yet sent your consent form back to school indicating whether or not you wish your child to be vaccinated could you please send this into school as soon as possible and by no later than Wednesday 12th October.



Year 4 at The Black Country Museum

On Tuesday of this week our Year 4 children ventured off back into the 19th Century for an adventure at The Black Country Museum in Dudley. They had a fantastic time there and brought their classroom learning about the Victorians to life. Many thanks to all of the parents who came along to help make the trip a success!

Cross Country & Tag Rugby

A huge well done to all of the pupils who have represented our school over the last two weeks at both Cross Country and Tag Rugby. Our runners put on a sterling performance in what is an extremely demanding physical event, and on Wednesday our new Tag Rugby team put in a huge effort to come away with bronze medals. A big thank you to Mrs Rowberry and others members of my staff for organising these events and accompanying the children to compete for the school.



Milk—Infants



A reminder that if your child no longer wishes to have milk next half term then you should contact Mrs Underwood in the Infant office **before** the end of this half term. We are unable to cancel payments midway through term as the milk is already ordered. Thank you.

Individual and Siblings Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 8th November to take individual and sibling group photographs. Please return the forms that came out this week to your class teacher.





Super Stars and Acorns



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

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Bumblebees | Aaliyah |
| Ladybirds | Felicity |
| Owls | Maya |
| Hedgehogs | Amber Chaya |
| Turtles | Amanda |
| Sharks | Thea |
| 3E | Thomas |
| 3R | Ronnie |
| 4B | Faith |
| 4W | Charlie W. |
| 5AC | Sahaya |
| 5MC | William T. |
| 6B | Harry H. |
| 6S | Georgina |



Super Stars and Acorns



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

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| Bumblebees | Beatrix |
| Ladybirds | Arjun M. |
| Owls | Saya |
| Hedgehogs | Avni |
| Turtles | Aaminah |
| Sharks | Oliver B. |
| 3E | Finlay |
| 3R | Callum |
| 4B | Jessica P. |
| 4W | Amelia |
| 5AC | Elise |
| 5MC | Taran |
| 6B | Ollie / Oliver |
| 6S | Sapphire |

Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Reception | Dhaya S. / Avaani |
| Year 1 | Thea Mc. / Adam |
| Year 2 | Dylan / Shan |
| Year 3 | Elena / Isla |
| Year 4 | Jessica / Olivia |
| Year 5 | Lily / Keira |
| Year 6 | Scarlett / Zoha |



Well done to all the winners!

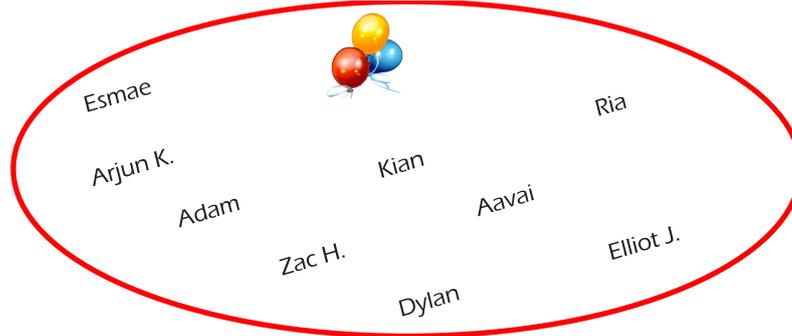
Courtesy Cup Winners ~ this week

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Reception | Kobe / Mila |
| Year 1 | Ranvir / Arjun |
| Year 2 | Ralph / Enzo |
| Year 3 | Freddie / Surbani |
| Year 4 | Ezra / Elsie |
| Year 5 | Etta / Max |
| Year 6 | Aron / Maya |



Well done to all the winners!

Infant Birthdays



Kindness Tree Award



Last Week Infants: Poppy Mc (Hedgehogs)
 Last Week Juniors: Aarya B. (4W)
 This Week Infants: Zoia (Bumblebees)
 This Week Juniors: Theo (5MC)



Year 1—Orthoptic Screening—Monday 31st October

Year 1 missed out on their vision screening in Reception due to Covid so the Nurse will be visiting school to complete vision tests on all year one children unless a parent advises us they do not wish this to be carried out. Please look out for the forms coming home. These need only be returned if you DO NOT want the vision screening to take place.



Parking

Once again I must bring up the issue of dangerous driving and parking around school. Every day when Miss Appleby, Mrs Barton or I stand at the school gates we are upset to see some driving and parking behaviour which definitely puts many of our pupils in danger.

I must ask once again that no parent:

- Parks on the zig-zags.
- Stops in the middle of the road to let their children out of cars, sometimes whilst still moving.
- Parks on the far side of Edge Hill Road opposite all other parked traffic, therefore blocking the entire road.
- Drive down the road with two wheels on the road and two wheels on the pavement.

We have recently had traffic enforcement officers attend school in the morning and they have voiced their intention to give out penalty notices if needs be.

I am sure that every single parent would agree with me in saying that all of the things in the list above can put our children in danger.

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

AGM

We are holding our PTA AGM on Monday 10th October- Streetly Tennis Club 8pm. All are welcome.

Thank You

Rags2 Riches - Our first ever collection earned us £295. A superb result! We WILL do this again.

Discos—The discos last Friday were a roaring success. We raised a staggering £839 and the children had a fabulous time! Thank you to all who helped out on the night or donated cakes for sale.

Debbie's Dinners - recipes are being cooked in homes across Four Oaks thanks to those who have purchased her book.

The PTA received 60 letters of heart-felt thanks from the children in year 6 this week, detailing how grateful they are for the events themselves, as well as the resources and experiences they enjoy as a result of the money raised.

Coming soon...

October Half Term 'Smartie Challenge'! Just before we break up, all children will receive a box of Smarties to take home. Once the box is empty, children help out at home to earn a few coins for their school, and they fill the box with them. Then, they return the coin-filled box to class when they come back to school and all children in the classes who have earned the most will be awarded a GIANT tube of Smarties as a prize! There will be one winning class in infants and one in juniors. No cash in the house? No problem! Use our pta-events website to do it online! (Select your child's class online so the donation counts to their class total). <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=52992#.Yz16tOzML-Y>



Halloween Discos- Monday 31st October £2 /child

Wear what you like or dress up in your spookiest costumes!

Infants 4:30pm-5:30pm (disco, tuck shop, drinks, tea, coffee, cakes for grown-ups)

Juniors (pizza party) 5:45pm-6:45pm (as above + pizza!)



Please buy your tickets online with the link below. Please note ticket sales close the night before the event.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary/#.Yz2CcOzML-Z>

Helpers needed please.

You are all amazing and are making a difference to every child in school, thank you.



All Saints Church - Messy Church

On Saturday 8th October All Saints Church on Belwell Lane are again running their fun 'Messy Church' session. Please see the attached image for further details of how to get involved in this fun event for all!



ICT Tip of the Week

With the cost of living on the rise, criminals are using it as a tool to trick people with scams.

- *Part Time jobs with quick cash returns may not be real and could be a scam- Always be cautious.*
- *Get in touch with someone you know for advice if you are unsure or if something looks like it might be too good to be true.*
- *Never read out or share one time passcodes sent to you by your bank or credit card company.*
- *Never read out or share PIN codes generated by card readers to approve transactions. Only input them online if you know the transaction has been initiated by you. No one should ask you for these codes!*
- *If you receive a call from your bank or credit card company, you can always say no, hang up and call them back on a number you know to be genuine.*

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

Mr M Benton
Head Teacher