



Forefield Community Infant and Nursery School

Forefield Lane, Crosby

Liverpool. L23 9SL

Tel: 0151 924 6235 Fax: 0151 932 1759

Website address: www.forefieldinfantschool.co.uk

email: admin@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Headteacher: Mrs B. Roberts

'We ASPIRE to Learn & Grow Together'



8th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Newsletter No. 1

Firstly, I would like to extend a personal welcome back to everyone. I hope all of our families enjoyed a lovely summer break. The children continue to amaze us with how well they are settling into their new classes, year groups and new routines, even with the very warm weather we have been lucky enough to have during the first week of September.

Although I have been Senior Assistant Headteacher here at Forefield for many years, it is a great honour and privilege to be starting the new academic year as Headteacher. I am looking forward to seeing all of our existing families and meeting some of our new families over the next few weeks. Please do come over and say hello.

I am looking forward to an exciting school year ahead and am absolutely confident that the children at Forefield will continue to flourish with the excellent partnerships between home and school and the care and commitment of our staff team. Should you have any worries or concerns, no matter how small, please do not hesitate to contact school to arrange to speak with your child's class teacher, Mrs Boardman, our Pastoral & Education Support Co-ordinator, Mrs Gregory or Ms Edwards based in the School Office, or myself - there will always be someone who can help.

Contact is best made via email (school office or class teacher), by telephone or at the end of the school day once class teachers have handed over all of the children to their respective grown-ups.

Nursery - Miss McGough - nurseryhomelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 1 - Mrs Buckley - class1homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 2 - Mrs Gilroy/Mrs Wolfarth - class2homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 3 - Mrs Evans - class3homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 4 - Mrs Niblock - class4homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 5 - Mrs Byrne/Mrs Whitmore - class5homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 6 - Mr Hall - class6homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 7 - Miss Oldham - class7homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 8 - Mr Robinson - class8homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Class 9 - Mr Houghton - class9homelearningselfie@forefieldinfant.sefton.school

Please note, these email addresses are for non-urgent communications. Class teachers will only monitor and reply outside of teaching time and we cannot guarantee a response the same day. Any urgent enquires or communications should be sent through the admin email or by telephoning the school office.

KS1 - Key Information Sharing Meetings

Y1 & Y2 teachers would like to invite parents and carers to a meeting on Tuesday 12th September at either 9.15-10am or 5.15-6pm. During this meeting, class teachers will share key information for you and your child about the year to come. This will include information about topics, curriculum, assessments, homework and expectations throughout the year. It will also give you a chance to meet your child's class teacher in person and ask any questions you have about the forthcoming year. Due to a lot of key information being shared, we request these meetings are only attended by adults as this will help staff get through all of the information in a short space of time.

Parent Workshops

During the Autumn Term, we will also be offering opportunities for parents to find out more about specific teaching methods and approaches. Our **Reception** Team will be offering **Phonics Workshops in the school hall** on Wednesday 20th September 9-9.45am and 5.15-6.00pm. This will be an opportunity to find out how children are taught 'phonics' in school with tips to reinforce learning at home.

To help parents to support their child's on-going learning in Phonics, and to demystify some of the terminology and associated concepts used eg split vowel digraphs, we will be offering workshops for Y1 & Y2 parents later in the term linked to Phase 3 and Phase 5 Phonics. More details will follow, including which is the most appropriate workshop for you to attend to effectively support your child with their reading and writing development.

Drop-off & Collection

After the first few days most families will be familiar with drop-off & collection routines and be getting into their own routine. To confirm drop-off and collection procedures for school;

Nursery - Morning - gates open at 8.45 and closes at 8.55am. Children being collected at lunchtime can collect from the Nursey gate which will open at 11.45am for children to be collected at 11.50am.

Afternoon - gates on will be opened at 12.25 for children to enter Nursery.
Gates will open at the end of the day at 3.25pm for collection from 3.30pm.

Reception - Morning - gates are open for drop-off between 8.40-8.50.

Afternoon - gates open at 3.25pm, for collection at 3.30pm.

KS1 - Morning - gates open for drop-off between 8.40-8.50am

Afternoon - gate open 3.25pm for collection at 3.30pm.

Please see Year Group newsletters on the school app for any specific information regarding pick and collection arrangements.

School Bags

Could we please politely request children do not bring in large back packs to school. As shared in the induction/welcome meetings, children store bags on their pegs which do not have a lot of room. For some classes this is also in the corridor. Large back packs often over hang other children's pegs making it very tricky to get their bags and other belongings on and off pegs, which often results in bags being knocked onto the floor and becoming a trip hazard for children. The school satchel book bags, sit flat against the wall and prevent this from happening. Children will bring home a reading book and diary and homework book

on a Friday therefore there is no need for large back packs in the Infants. Children store packed lunches separately in school to their bags, therefore large back packs are not required to store packed lunch boxes either. We really appreciate your co-operation in this matter. Thank you.

Parking

At the start of the new academic year, could I respectfully ask parents when dropping off/collecting children to park safely and with courtesy for our neighbours and other road users. Local residents along with a number of parents, regularly express their concern over double parking, a hazard to other road users and also to pedestrians (especially little ones!); parking on both double yellow lines and zig-zags; obstruction of driveways and parking on pavements. A reminder too that the carpark for residents of Brownmoor Close is a private carpark and is not for the use of parents and carers when dropping off or collecting children. Many thanks for your co-operation and support.

Extra-curricular Activities

Extra-curricular activities will commence next week (Monday 11th September 23).

Clubs can be booked via our school app. You should have received notification for this half terms clubs which include dodgeball, dance club and tennis club amongst others.

Collection arrangements for after-school clubs are as follows:

KS1 clubs - Trevor Drive playground Y2 gate

Active Soccer (Tuesdays) - school field gate.

Just a reminder that as a school we are part of The Children's University programme which credits children's attendance at extra-curricular activities. Children are able to accumulate credits from Reception through to Y2. At the end of the summer term in Y2, children who have accrued sufficient credits then graduate from The Children's University at a special ceremony.

Other than Active Soccer Football on a Tuesday, we will initially offer our clubs to KS1 children only. This gives Reception children a chance to settle into school for the first few weeks, when they are often very tired after a full school day of learning and playing. We will offer clubs to Reception children after half term.

Wrap Around Care

Breakfast and Afterschool clubs are available for children in both the Infants and the Juniors on the Infant School site. Should you require a place for your child, please contact Janine Perry, All Saints Children's Ventures Manager for further information. Contact details - 0151 924 5137 or 07895926299 or via email

manager.ventures@gmail.com

Sending Money in to School

Please could we request that any money is sent into school in a named envelope via your child's book bag to save lengthy queues at the School Office first thing in the morning. We know that some local schools have on-line payment facilities which we recognise would be convenient for parents and for school, however, there are charges to the school, per transaction which as we don't take as many payments as many schools (as we don't have dinner money payments for example), it is just not currently cost-effective for us to do this. We do continue to keep this under review in case the situation regarding transaction charges changes.

Term-time Holidays

I would to remind parents that Government legislation for term-time holidays which came into effect on 1st September 13 - states that **schools are not expected to authorise any term-time holidays**. The legislation makes it very clear that leave of absence during term-time can only be granted in very exceptional circumstances for example, Service families with a parent being deployed overseas and then within limits. The school's Attendance Policy reflects this Government legislation and Sefton Local Authority's Attendance Strategy. The Governing Body hopes that parents will be supportive of this policy which is readily available on the school's website along with terms and holiday dates. Should you need to request leave of absence for your child, request forms should be obtained from the school's office.

Free School Meals

Just a reminder that although all children in the Infants are entitled to a free school meal, parents can still apply for 'free school meals' which children will then be entitled to receive until they leave the Junior School at the end of Y6. This is different to and should not be confused with, the daily free meal that all infant children are entitled to. Applying is really straightforward and Miss Edwards in the school office is more than happy to provide more information or a form to complete if you think that you might be eligible. A successful application means that school secures additional funding which is used to fund extra-curricular activities for your child, trips and visits, snack and Toast Club and additional support and resources.

You can check eligibility by following the following link or please do contact Miss Edwards on 0151 924 6235.

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/schools-learning/grants-and-funding/free-school-meals.aspx>

On-line Safety

Accompanying this newsletter is our September On-line Safety Newsletter. We purchase these monthly newsletters to distribute to parents to keep you up-to-date with various aspects of technology, latest apps and an assessment of their use and any issues that parents should consider before allowing their children to use them. We hope you find the information useful. This month's addition gives really useful advice on back to school photographs, Threads and age ratings, including a new Roblox checklist.

Water Bottles

Children in Reception, Y1 & Y2 are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school each day. Please ensure that your child's name is written on the bottle to avoid confusion. Also, please ensure that the water bottle contains water - not flavoured water, cordial or fruit juice. Research has shown that dehydration leads to inattention, drowsiness and poor learning performance. Dehydration and some high sugar drinks adversely affect the fluid balance in the body, and it is recommended that the equivalent of 8-12 glasses of water should be consumed daily. This all supports your child's general well-being as well as their learning. Many thanks.

Reception & Nursery Intake September 2024

During the Autumn Term we will be holding tours of school for any parent or carer interested in finding out more about Forefield (either Nursery and/or Reception) for their child. If you do know of anyone considering Forefield for their child, please do encourage them to take a look at our website, the curriculum and year group pages to get a feel for what school has to offer and to contact the school office to book a place on a school tour.

All applications for Reception places in September 2024 must be submitted on line to www.sefton.gov.uk/admissions by **15th January 2024** which is the final closing date.

Nursery intake - For admission to the Nursery in September 2024, applications must be submitted by noon on **Friday 2nd February 2024** and parents will be notified of places by **Friday 15th March 2024**. If you require any additional information regarding admission to school, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Edwards or Mrs Gregory in the School Office.

Current School Supply Vacancies

We currently have a number of supply vacancies available. Please see below for more details.

Supply Teaching Assistant who may be available at short notice for occasional work providing support in school to children during the day.

Our teaching support assistants work as part of the EYFS or KS1 team offering support to children in class, working with small groups of children or supporting some children on a 1-1 basis.

Main duties include: supporting children to access learning and provide general classroom support to the teacher. This may include some clerical/administration support, classroom & resource preparation, supporting pupils to interact with others and engage in learning and to be as independent as appropriate to the child.

Hours will vary between 8.40am-3.30pm and may be for all or part of the school day. The current rate of pay is £11.087 per hour.

Supply Lunchtime Supervisor who may be available at short notice for occasional work providing welfare support during the lunchtime period

Our Lunchtime Supervisors work as a team, securing the safety, welfare and good conduct of children during the mid-day break.

Main duties include: supervision of pupils in the dining room; supervision of pupils in playground areas; administering basic First Aid, comforting and cleaning children as necessary; ancillary associated duties eg. cleaning up spillages, ensuring clean tables; promotion of good pupil behaviour dealing with conflicts and incidents promptly in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

Lunchtimes are staggered between 11.10am and 1.35pm. There may be variations in the times required between 1 and 1 1/2 hours over the lunchtime period. The current rate of pay is £10.889 per hour.

Supply Cleaner who may be available at short notice for occasional work cleaning on site at Forefield Infants.

Our cleaners work as a team ensuring the school building is cleaned daily to a high standard, ready for our children to learn.

Cleaning hours have some flexibility. Hours vary between 5:30am-8am each morning and between 3.30-6.30pm each evening. The current rate of pay is £10.889 per hour.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our team in any of the above roles, please call in to the School Office where Mrs Gregory or Miss Edwards will be able to provide more information, job descriptions and application forms.

Due to the nature of work the above post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and relevant care/safeguarding legislation and appointment will only be confirmed if a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure is obtained from the Disclosure & Barring Service.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Closing date for all applications: Friday 29th September 2023

Dates for your diary

Sept

Mon 11 th Sept	Reception children in school for the full day AM/PM and Group 1- 30 hr children to start Nursery
Tues 12 th Sept	Group 2 - 30 hr children to start Nursery Key Information Meetings - Yr1 & Yr2 - 9.15-10am & 5.15-6pm
Wed 13 th Sept	Group 3 - 30 hr children to start Nursery
Thur 14 th Sept	All Nursery children in.
Tues 26 th Sept	Prospective Parent tour - 4pm Flu Vaccinations - School Health Service

Oct

Tues 3 rd Oct	Prospective Parent tour - 9.15am.
Fri 6 th Oct	Harvest Festival Celebrations in school
Mon 9 th Oct	Prospective Parent tour - 4pm
Wed 18 th Oct	Prospective Parent tour - 9.15am

Mon 23rd Oct to Fri 27th Oct Half-term holiday

Our next newsletter will be circulated on Friday 22nd September 2023.

Yours sincerely
B Roberts
Headteacher

