



Forefield Community Infant and Nursery School

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'Learning & Growing Together'



6th October 2023

Dear Parents,

Newsletter No. 3

Some great news to share in our newsletter this week....

Sefton Summer Reading Challenge

Many congratulations to all those children who received certificates presented by Sefton Schools' Library Service for completing their Reading Challenge over the summer holidays. As a result, we were thrilled that librarians Stephen and Erin not only presented the certificates but also presented our school with the Crosby & Waterloo Area Reading Challenge Cup. This is the fourth year in succession that we have received the cup which is also a great achievement. They also revealed that not only did we top the table in the Crosby & Waterloo area, we were actually the winners across the whole of Sefton for the second year running. It is lovely to see so many children obviously enjoying reading and thank you grownups for your support in taking the children along to the library to enable them to complete the challenge over the holiday - well done everyone!

Mental Health Day

Next Tuesday is World Mental Health Day (10th October). The theme for this year is 'mental health is a universal human right'. It is therefore really important that we start with the basics of talking about our emotions and how we feel with our children in order to normalise talking about mental health. Why not check out the BBC Bitesize website using the following link as a starting point for talking about emotions, you can help build a future where children and adults feel safe to talk about their own mental health.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znhmwty/articles/z4q4bdm>

In school we will be reminding children about our 5 ways to wellbeing champions and how they can help us with our mental health and wellbeing.

Photographs

Tempest photographers will be coming into school to take individual photographs of the children on **Monday 16th October**. This year, we will also be offering our popular family photograph session between 5 and 6.30pm in the school hall. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to have a professional photograph taken of all your family members: mum, dad, children etc. These beautiful portraits would make a fantastic Christmas gift! No need to book, just bring the family along on the night.

Harvest Festival

Thank you all so much for your very generous harvest donations which have now been taken to the Waterloo and Crosby Area Foodbank where they were gratefully received. Like ourselves, organisers were overwhelmed by the generosity of our families. A number of local families experiencing difficulties will receive emergency food supplies which I am sure will be very much appreciated at what is such a tricky time for all.

To celebrate harvest in school the children each prepared a performance this week linked to Harvest Festival. Each class delivered a super performance of their song to the other classes, well done everybody.

FOFIS

Friends of Forefield Infant School is an organisation made up of parents, staff and volunteers who organise events to support Forefield Infant School and provide lots of extra opportunities for our children. They will be holding their autumn meeting on **Wednesday 11th October at 6pm** at school to discuss fund raising, projects, future events and plans for Christmas 2023.

FOFIS are recruiting new members and would like to invite any parents or family members interested in becoming a member, in any capacity, to join them at this meeting on Wednesday 11th Oct. You don't need any experience, just a vested interest in the children at Forefield and our local community. If you are interested in coming along please get in touch so we know how many biscuits to buy. You can call in and let the office staff know or email Miss Edwards on admin@forefieldinfant.sefton.school. If you would like any more information about FOFIS or are interested in being a part of FOFIS but cannot attend this meeting, please do let the office know and Miss Sim, who is the chair of FOFIS, will be in touch.

Landscape Gardeners - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking to develop our quad area in the centre of school and are looking for any landscape gardeners who could come and have a look at the space, give us advice and a quote for the work. If you have any landscape gardeners in your family or friends list who would be willing to come along and have a look at this project, please get in touch with the school office and we can arrange for them to come in and have a look at the area. Many thanks.

On-line Safety

Accompanying this newsletter is our October 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 it features parental controls on devices which may be useful if you are considering Christmas presents. It also has details about livestreaming and online gaming.

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' funding 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>

Attendance & Punctuality

It goes without saying that those children who are in school regularly and on time are best placed to take full advantage of all school has to offer and generally make the most progress. There will be times when your child is just too poorly to attend school, however, if they are just a bit out of sorts, please do send them in to school and let us know so that we can keep an eye on them. Sometimes it can just be towards the end of a busy week or half-term and they are feeling a bit tired but once they are in school with their friends, they soon perk up.

If your child has been poorly and prescribed a course of antibiotics for example, once you feel your child is on the road to recovery, we are happy to administer the antibiotics in school and just ask parents to complete and sign a form detailing the required dose/time.

Just as attendance is important, it is equally as important for children to be in school on time. It can really impact on a child's self-esteem and confidence arriving late and having to walk into their class, who are already settled and have started their learning. Please ensure children arrive in school on time. Gates open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am. If children arrive late and enter school via the school office, children/staff will no longer be able to put bikes and scooters in the bike racks on the playground and parents will need to take these home with them.

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 Miss Edwards or Mrs Gregory in the School Office.

Dates for your diary

Oct

Mon 16 th Oct	School photographs and family photographs 5-6.30pm
Wed 18 th Oct	9.15am Prospective Parent tour

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

Nov

Wed 1 st Nov	4pm Prospective parent tour
Thurs 9 th Nov	9.15am Prospective parent tour
Mon 13 th Nov	4-7pm Parents' Meetings
	Odd Socks Day
Tues 14 th Nov	4pm Prospective parent tour

Wed 15 th Nov	4-7pm Parents' Meetings
Fri 17 th Nov	Children in Need - Spotacular (wear something spotty)
Fri 24 th Nov	9.15am Prospective parent tour
Mon 27 th Nov	Mutfi Day -Chocolate Donation
Tue 28 th Nov	4pm Prospective parent tour

Dec

Fri 1 st Dec	FOFIS Christmas Bingo
Mon 4 th Dec	9.15am Prospective Parent tour
Thurs 7 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Fri 8 th Dec	Santa Day
Tues 12 th Dec	2.30pm Reception Christmas Performance
Wed 13 th Dec	2.30pm Reception Christmas Performance
Thurs 14 th Dec	11am/2.45pm Nursery Christmas Concert
Mon 18 th Dec	Christmas Party day
Tues 19 th Dec	End of term for Nursery children
Wed 20 th Dec	1.45pm finish end of term

Our next newsletter will be circulated on Friday 20th October 2023.

Yours sincerely

B. Roberts
Headteacher