

FULMER INFANT SCHOOL SPRING TERM NEWS 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays to an action packed Spring term and a huge thank you for all my Christmas cards and presents which were very much appreciated.

Welcome

Welcome to Mrs Mackinder who is teaching Reception every Friday as Mrs McBride has reduced her hours to four days a week. Mrs Mackinder has a wealth of experience, is judged as an outstanding teacher by Ofsted and I know that she will be a very valuable member of our team.

Footsteps Training

As we've only just returned to school there is very little to report but I do have a request from Isobel Dorling, the school's Footsteps Coordinator, for more volunteers for Footsteps Training. These volunteers train the children how to use our roads safely which, I am sure you agree, is a very important skill. The commitment is two afternoons in the Spring term when the volunteers teach the children in years 1 and 2 about road safety and there is an additional half hour during playtime in the Summer term when the children learn about car signals. County provides a morning's training for all volunteers either in Amersham or High Wycombe. All volunteers are subject to DBS checks. Please think seriously about volunteering your time to this very valuable project and contact Mrs Coley in the office if you think you can help.

Volunteers for reading

If you have an hour or two spare on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday afternoon then we would really appreciate your help to hear the children read. Research has proved that the more children read the more fluent they become which develops a real joy for reading and, of course, enables them to access other areas of the curriculum. If you are interested then please contact Mrs Coley who will organise your DBS checks.

Sponsored Walk

If you haven't already done so then, please, put the date of the sponsored walk in your diaries: **MARCH 12TH** from **2pm – 4pm** at **Black Park**. This is a great whole school family fund raising afternoon so please start asking for sponsors for your children for doing four laps of the park. This is a PA event organized by Christabel (Telemachus' mother in year 2) so thank you very much Christabel for all your hard work. Money raised will go towards new playground line markings once the playground has been re tarmacked in the Easter holidays.

Welcome

Welcome to Mrs Hamilton who joins us as the school's secretary, she will be working on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Mrs Coley is reducing her hours to two days a week (Wednesday and Thursday) and changing her role to Finance Officer. May I take this opportunity to thank Mrs Coley for running the office so efficiently.

Playground

As you are aware the playground was unavoidably damaged during the building of the school hall, but I am very happy to report that the playground should be resurfaced during half term and the new line markings should be completed during the Easter holidays.

Outstanding

A senior member of the education team from County spent the whole of the morning here last Friday observing lessons, looking at the children's work and interviewing Mrs Sue Kirby (Chair of Governors) and myself and at the end of the morning he validated Ofsted's judgement that the school is still 'outstanding'. May I take this opportunity to thank every member of staff for their continued hard work and dedication ensuring that all your children receive the best possible start in their education.

Mothers' Day

If you are a mother, or indeed a grandmother, then please do put **FRIDAY 4TH MARCH 09:10** in your diary as there will be a wonderful concert in the hall to celebrate Mothering Sunday. The children are already practising the songs and they sound absolutely gorgeous (tissues will be provided!).

Lunar Loans Scheme

We are very fortunate that we have had on loan this week (free of charge) some NASA lunar samples and meteorites from the Natural History Museum. The children have been amazed to see and handle these precious, irreplaceable samples and have treated them with awe and respect. Thank you to Christabel (Raj's mother in Year 1) who put me in contact with the scheme.

Watches

In line with our policy of no jewellery please can I ask you not to send your children into school wearing watches. Although I do not want to stop children practising telling the time unfortunately some of these watches are rather large and do tempt the children to fiddle and lose focus in class! I do hope you understand my reasons for the ban and thank you for your cooperation.

Bhuddist Assembly

Thank you to Anuradha Rajapakse (Anuli's father in Year 1) for leading a whole school assembly on Buddhism. The children listened attentively and asked interesting and intelligent questions. Thank you.

Have a safe, happy and healthy Half Term.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

