

NEWSLETTER

Furness Vale Primary School

Friends Proudly Working Together to Achieve Our Best

The Autumn Term has been exceptionally busy and I'd like to thank all the staff for their hard work and support as we're making changes and trying new initiatives.

Parents evening was extremely well attended –

thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire, you're comments were very insightful! The analysis will be completed next term.

Additional diary dates will be added directly onto the website.

Volunteers Urgently Needed

Have you got an hour to spare in the afternoons? We need volunteers to listen to children read. There are children in each year group who need extra practice and someone to talk to about the book. It's not difficult; it just takes time and patience. Call in and speak to Mrs Daniels in the office if you have any time to spare.

Christmas Shows... Please note the following changes: the afternoon 'matinees' will be open to families and children. The evening shows will be for adults only. We will confirm the date for the KS2 show as soon as possible.

DO YOU KNOW WE HAVE A NURSERY IN SCHOOL?

We are in the process of preparing a banner for outside the school advertising the fact that we have a nursery in school. We take children from aged 3, we can offer 30 hours provision and the children are welcome in Breakfast and After School Clubs.

Please share this information with family, friends and neighbours. It will help when the website is fully up

and running as there is a section all about the Nursery. Two parents have recently been to see the school and neither of them knew we offered Nursery provision. Some children only come for 1 afternoon to get used to it, others come all week, it is very much Parents' choice for what suits their family.

Please share this information

Dates

October

- 30th Return to school
Little Learners Sports Club £3
- 31st High Peak Kids Council
Boxing fitness Y1 to Y6 (in school)

November

- 1st Big Learners Sports Club £3
- 2nd Governors Curriculum and Policies
Governors Safeguarding
- 6th Little Learners Sports Club £3
- 7th Boxing fitness Y1 to Y6 (in school)
- 8th Reception – height, weight, hearing and vision
Big Learners Sports Club £3
- 13th Anti-Bullying/Friendship Week
- 14th Full Governing Body Meeting 6pm
- 15th EYFS Phonics Meeting 6pm
- 16th Class A Assembly – 9:15 am
- 17th Children in Need – Make it Spotty
- 21st Individual Photographs
Flu immunization – YR to Y4
- 27th Itsy Bitsy Boutique Shopping Night
- 28th Boxing Fitness Y1 to Y6 (in school)
New Governor Training 6pm-9pm
OPEN EVENING for Reception 6:30

December

- 6th PTFA Christmas Disco
- 7th 1:30 Christingle Service – St John's
- 14th 2pm and 5pm EYFS and KS1 Show
- 18th PTFA – Santa stories and Carols
- 20th EYFS and KS1 – visit to Stockley Farm
KS2 Show – date to be confirmed
- 22nd Break up for Christmas

Monday 8th January 2018 – return to school

Website Update

There have been many meetings and discussions about the website and it is finally up and running.

However, it does not have all the information on that you need. If there is any information that you need and you can't find it, please just ask. Mrs Daniels knows the answer to most questions and she'll find out if she doesn't know!

Over half term, more information will be added and it will be put under more accessible

headings – but if you can't find something let us know so we can change it.

This should be the last Newsletter that is printed and sent home – from now on, they will go on the website and we'll send a text to let you know they're there. Paper copies will be available in the entrance for anyone who is experiencing a technical glitch! Each letter we send home will be put on the website so if it goes missing you'll have access to it.



The New iPads have been ordered and should be in school soon.

The PTFA do amazing work behind the scenes and always need people to help out – please come to the next meeting.

Online Safety

We are still working with Traci Good to make the children clear about how to be safe Online. Thank you for completing and returning the flags. Traci will be making a banner with them and using the ideas to support the children.

Grumbles and moans

It is inevitable that there will be grumblings from time to time about things that happen at school. Whilst we always try to act on information we receive, sometimes we don't know what's going wrong. At the end of the day, we all want the children to be safe, happy and thriving in their learning. If you have a grumble, a moan or a complaint that you think we need to know about, then please come and talk to us.

**We all want what's best for the children.
Incidentally, tell us what you like, too, so we don't change it!!**

Staffing

Miss Nicholls is our new teacher in Class D. She has previously worked in Moss Side and Cheadle. The children have been absolutely brilliant whilst the changes have been made; they are a real credit to you.

Mrs Portman has had a gorgeous baby boy – Congratulations to the whole family!

We'd also like to welcome Mrs Gresty and Mrs Avgerinou McLean to our Lunchtime Organiser team – they will both be working part time – starting on the first week back.

What's New?

Boxing for Fitness

We are always trying to offer the children new experiences. Each term we invite UK Sports coaches in to do activities with the children. Mrs Guy was absolutely determined to try something completely different and she's succeeded. The children from Y1 to Y6 will be having 3 taster sessions of boxing for Fitness. These will happen during school time and we'd love your feedback when it's over.

Brain Builder Home Learning

The Brain Builder books have been very popular with families. It gives everyone the opportunity to be totally creative whilst learning at home. The teachers will continue to give children ideas and activities that link directly to what they've been studying in class and children can choose which ones they want to focus on.

RULES: Children should attempt to complete 2 pages – but they can only use 2 pages. They can present their learning in a variety of different ways. Some examples include: Power Points, models, writing, drawing, pictures, booklets, information leaflets, etc. I was totally blown away by the lighthouses (they actually worked) made by children in Class C: they also wrote instructions in their books and drew pictures with labels to show what they'd done. Amazing! Each week, in assembly, we'll be showing what we've been learning at home.

Talk for Writing

Talk for Writing is not a new initiative, it's been going for years. We've reintroduced it to give the children model texts to follow. There are 3 stages involved: firstly, (imitation) the children learn a text using story maps and pictures; next, (innovation) they use the what they've learnt and write their own version based very much on the model they learnt; finally, (invention) they still base their writing on the model but by now they totally understand how to write their own version of the text using their won content but keeping the structure. All the teachers will be receiving training this term. Next term, we'll hold a parents' meeting and show you exactly what we're doing. The proposed date is Tuesday 16th January 2018 at 5pm.

Attachment Awareness

Mrs Taylor and Mrs Parry have been attending Attachment Awareness Training run by the Virtual School. We are expected to complete a project that will help the children's learning and their emotional well-being. At lunchtimes, some children enjoy doing activities that are adult led whilst some prefer to simply have time to spend time with their friends. Hopefully, the children have been telling you that they can choose to go to different clubs, on different days. To add to this, we're going to change the PE store into an additional learning space; our aim is to help children build and maintain strong friendships. It's an exciting project! We'll keep you informed. If you know any builders who will give us a price for making some of the changes, let us know!

More after school clubs

The staff will be running additional clubs next half term. They will choose what to do, when to do it and with whom. Mr Waring will be doing Football with 12 children from Class A on Monday dinner time with Miss Mills. As other teachers decide what to do, we'll send letters home and let you know.



Breakfast and After School Clubs

There will be a small price increase in prices with each session going up 25p:

Breakfast Club:

From 7:45 to 8:45 = £2.75

From 8am to 8:45 = £2.25

After School Club:

Up to 4pm = £2.75

Up to 4:30pm = £3.75

Up to 5pm = £4.75

Up to 5:30pm = £6.25

Both clubs are very well organised.

They offer a range of activities including: games, construction, colouring, drawing and toys. Outdoor play is sometimes available – weather permitting. All staff have DBS checks and are also part of the school team.

Breakfast Club: Cereal, juice and milk are always on offer and crumpets or toast (with jam) are offered twice a week. There are many quiet activities to join in along with games, construction and toys.

After School Club: Snacks and drinks always offered with a wide range of activities to do. The children also go outdoors – weather permitting.

We ask for a minimum of 24 hours notice to ensure we have adequate staff for our ratios. Please let Tracey or Mrs Daniels know ASAP if your child no longer requires a space.

Little Learners-Big Learners

Little Learners After School Club will start on Monday 6th November 2017. It is for children in Classes C and D. Letters have been sent out and they will soon be available on the website. Big Learners after school club will start on Wednesday 1st November. Look out for the letter on Monday 30th November. The price for both clubs will be £3 per child, per week. Look out for the letters after half term.



Golden Mile – Wet Shoes

We are all seeing the benefits of the daily run – children go at their own pace and do as much as they can. Wet weather is always going to be worse in winter and we need to be prepared. It doesn't have to be raining for trainers to get wet. As soon as the ground is wet, water flicks up and quickly goes through the membrane. We have ordered shoe racks for the cloakroom so children have different / dry footwear. We are expecting footwear to get wet so please be mindful to check if it needs to go home for a thorough drying out. Extra socks/tights will help your child to keep dry. Hopefully, the wet weather won't stop everyone from getting fit and enjoying themselves.