

NEWSLETTER

Furness Vale Primary School

Friends Proudly Working Together to Achieve Our Best

One of my favourite passions is outdoor sports. I think children learn so much about themselves when they step out of the classroom and take on completely different challenges. So far, Class A has been working with White Hall on their STEM project for 3 days and Class B have had 3 days at White Hall. Next term, Class B will have another 3 days and in the Summer Term Class A will go to Lea Green for a 3-day residential. The activities that the children do push their personal boundaries. During the Class B days at White Hall, it was interesting to see how much more confident the year 4 children were because they went to White Hall for 6 days this time last year. Most of the outdoor activities that we do are funded by the Sports Premium money but the PTFA kindly gave £750 towards the Y5/6 Stem project. Our trip to Paris is in July – this is the first time we've looked at doing trips abroad and, hopefully, there will be many more to follow.

We have changed the system we use for sending reading books home in Reception and KS1. The main change is that children will only take books home that they can comfortably decode (break the words into sounds and read). The more they read these books, the more fluent they become – I can't begin to stress how vital this is!

Children must practice their reading books at least once a day – don't let them fob you off by saying they've already read it. Read it with them, using a storyteller's voice, until they can read it just as fluently as you can, and with expression, too! They can also read the book bag book that comes with it. Lastly, they can share a favourite Story Time book that you can read with/to them, repeatedly. Pick books that you are passionate about and love reading. We want children to have a storyteller's voice and love reading books, even before they can actual words.

On March 27th, we're having a whole school visit to Chester Zoo!!

This will fit in with the children's learning and be a great opportunity to spend quality time together at an excellent venue.

Dates for 2020

February

14th School closed Inset Day
24th School re-opens
25th Year 5 debate at St Luke's in Glossop
26th Parent's Evening
27th Parent's Evening
28th Y3/4 White Hall

March

3rd High Peak Kids Council meeting
4th Governors sub-committee meetings
5th World Book Day
5th Lea Green Meeting – 5pm
6th Y3/4 White Hall
6th Class D assembly
10th Y5 visit New Mills
10th New governor training
13th Y3/4 White Hall
13th Red Nose Day – Sports Relief
13th Paper Caper weekend
17th PTFA Craft Night
20th Class C assembly
25th Full Governing Board Meeting
26th Y3/4 Show – 2pm and 6pm (adults only)
27th Whole School visit Chester Zoo
31st PTFA Easter Egg Decorating Competition

April

3rd Finish for Easter
20th School reopens
27th Groups and Leavers Photos
28th High Peak Kids Council Meeting

May

11th SATs week
20th-22nd Y5/6 to Lea Green
22nd School Closes – reopens on 1st June

Governors

Thea Cameron-Faulkner is the third governor to join us and we're delighted to have her on board. Our next meetings will be on 4th (sub-committee meetings) and 25th March Full governing board meeting). The governors support the school when important decisions need to be made and they are proactive in checking standards are high across the school.



PTFA

The PTFA have been holding regular meetings and sharing what's been discussed through their newsletter. As many of you will know, we are trying to raise funds for a new stage, lighting and PA system. The hope is that we will have the funds in place (about £2000) towards the end of the summer term so that we can use it for the end-of-year shows and assemblies. The Valentines Disco this week will get the fund raising off to a flying start!



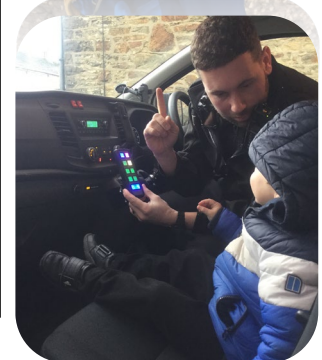
Maths

Mr Waring recently delivered a thought-provoking presentation to all parents from the PEGS cluster on the new approach to maths. The way we are expected to teach maths has changed considerably over the last 20 years and will probably be very different to how parents learnt at school. The parent's meeting was set up to talk parents through the new curriculum and explain what currently happens in school. You may have heard of the 'Shanghai' teaching method, 'part/part/whole' or 'maths mastery'. All these new practices were discussed at the meeting. The Power Points have been collated and shared on the website. Thank you, Mr Waring.

Police visit...

Earlier this week, the children in EYFS were visited by the police!! Simon came along with his van to show the children how everything worked. He also gave them a talk about road safety.

Simon is our local police officer and he'll be doing more work with the school, particularly on speed awareness and Online Safety. We very much look forward to working closely with him to see what we can achieve.



Dog Policy

Dogs have always been excluded from all school premises for many different reasons. However, when dogs have been taken regularly into schools, the results have been very positive. Through discussions with the governors, a new policy and risk assessment have been put in place. The main changes are that dogs who meet specific criteria will be allowed in school whilst all other dogs are still not allowed on the premises. The new policy and risk assessment are now on the website for perusal. Should anybody have any specific concerns about dogs, please call in to discuss them.



Breakfast and after-school clubs are run daily with extended school provision from 7:45am to 5:30pm. Breakfast Club starts at 7:45. The children have cereals, toast and drinks and a range of activities to do. After-school club also has snacks and drinks and has different creative activities to make part in – making ornaments, jewellery, pizzas, dens, etc. If you would like to book a place, simply call the school or let Mrs Daniels know.

Staffing – Tracey Regan and Tracy Jennings run the Breakfast Club together whilst Toni Kania and Kayleigh Gill run the After-School club on different evenings.

Price from September 3rd will be:

Breakfast Club:	7:45 onwards	£3:20
	8:00 onwards	£2:70
After-school club:	3:20 to 4:00	£3.20
	3:20 to 4:30	£4.20
	3:20 to 5:00	£5:20
	3:20 to 5:30	£6:90

Breakfast and After School Clubs