



Therfield First School Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 3rd July 2017 – Newsletter 32

Weekly Value: Freedom

Extra! Extra! Read All About It

Thank you to those of you who have already completed the Parentview survey for our school. As of yesterday we now have 14 responses which mean that the results can now be viewed. I am delighted with the positive feedback - thank you. This provides strong evidence for parental opinion of the school and is taken very seriously during Ofsted inspections. Last year we had 21 responses and I am aiming to increase that number for this year. If you have not already done so, I would really appreciate it if you could spare 5 minutes to complete the simple survey. Don't forget that both parents can complete an individual survey. You can access the survey by visiting parentview.ofsted.gov.uk. Click on the menu 'Give your views' and register an email and password. Ta-da!

It seems like a lifetime ago already, but on Monday we held our annual sports day which was a big success. With a mix of inventive and traditional activities, it was a pleasure to see our children supportively working together in their teams. It was great to see so many supporters from home too. A big thank you to Mrs O'Brien for masterminding the event. This morning we hosted the pre-school sports day on the school field. For the second year running this event was completely planned, organised and led by Rooks Nest Class. They were brilliant!

On Wednesday afternoon I had the pleasure of taking the Year 4 pupils to watch Greneway's performance of The Lion King. What a show! We were very excited, although not surprised to see Ben Eather on stage. As always, our pupils conduct was impeccable. It was nice to share this moment with our soon-to-be leavers ☺

One of the most exciting events of the whole week has been observing the developments in the birds nest that is firmly rooted in our outdoor classroom on the playground! The week started with a nesting 'mummy' who did not move from her position for days. We were able to see first-hand the 'daddy' flying in and out delivering food supplies. On Wednesday however, news spread quickly around the playground that three yellow beaks could be seen stretching out over the rim of the nest. The children were enthralled by this moment of awe and wonder.



Linking with awe and wonder; Duckpuddle children spent their outdoor school session this afternoon 'cooking' on the school field! A controlled fire was built and the children toasted marshmallows. I may have eaten one or two myself!

We are now entering the very busy final two weeks of school. I have enclosed information of all events on the next page so that you can attempt to keep up with our hectic schedule.

Thank you again in advance.

Mrs McGovern

Notices and Reminders:

Litter after football!

I have had to repeatedly talk to the children about the mess that is left on the school field after football club on Wednesdays. Empty packaging, containers and water bottles are regular features. Please ensure that children do not leave any litter or items behind. If this continues the children will not be able to eat a snack before this club.

Duckpuddle Car seats:

If your child is being taken to Greys Farm for Monday's award ceremony by an adult arranged by the school, please ensure that their booster seat is brought into school on Monday morning.

Friends BBQ Children's Tombola Donations:

The Friends committee have asked me to put a plea out for any unwanted items that could be used for a children's tombola for the Summer BBQ on Sunday the 16th July on the green outside The Fox and Duck? Tombola's are an excellent way of generating money, with usually many lucky winners. Please bring any items into the school office by Thursday 13th July. Thank you.

Message for the Governors – written by Philippa Mackenzie, Vice Chair

Across the school, individual pupil progress is looking 'outstanding'. Early Years data is above national averages and progress from individual starting points is very strong. Every child in Year 1 passed their phonics screening. The pass mark was 32, and the scores ranged from 34-40. The school has a five year trend of being significantly above national and county averages in phonics screening. For attendance levels, our current figure continues to be above the national average with 78.9% of pupils achieving attendance greater than 96% (Government floor target). All pupils presently have attendance higher than 90%.

The governors would like to pass on their gratitude to Mrs McGovern, the teachers, and all other members of staff for their continued hard work and commitment in achieving these high standards, and creating an enthusiastic and happy learning environment.



Celebration Awards

Achievement Awards:

Honeypot	William
Duckpuddle	Lucas
Rooks Nest	Isabelle

Headteacher's Awards:

Honeypot	Esme
Duckpuddle	Sakina
Rooks Nest	Megan

Growth Mindset Awards:

Honeypot	Charlie F
Duckpuddle	Ben
Rooks Nest	Donnie

Handwriting Awards:

Honeypot	Elcie
Duckpuddle	Joshua
Rooks Nest	Tomas

Birthdays:

A very happy birthday to Charlie and Jonathan for their birthdays next week.

Merits:

25: Finley

The Next Two Weeks in Detail:

Mon 10 th July	2:15pm-3:15pm - Countryside Citizen Award at Greys Farm Parents to arrive between 2:10-2:15pm (no later than 2:15pm) unless helping with lifts. Parents helping with lifts to come to school for 1:45pm.
Tues 11 th July	9:00am-3:15pm Performing Arts Day for Year 3 and 4 pupils Parents to drop children at the front entrance of Meridian School at 9:00am where Mrs Burgess will be waiting. All parents are invited to watch the Showcase at 2:20pm. Children can be taken home directly after this.
Wed 12 th July	2:45pm - Reading challenge assembly for the whole school
Thurs 13 th July	Transition Day for all pupils Year 4 pupils will spend the whole day at their new Middle School 9:00am-12:00pm - In school transition for the rest of the school
Fri 14 th July	No Celebration Assembly due to whole school play rehearsal PE kits being sent home
Sun 16 th July	5:00pm onwards - Friends Family BBQ
Mon 17 th July	1:30pm - Dress rehearsal for end of year play
Tues 18 th July	9:45am - End of year play performance to parents (at the Chapel)
Wed 19 th July	Whole school trip to Knebworth House Don't forget a packed lunch and weather appropriate items
Thurs 20 th July	9:30am - Moving On service at the Church Parents welcome PM - Beach Day at school (more information to follow)
Fri 21 st July	1:15pm - School finishes Please send your child into school with a strong carrier bag

School starts Friday 1st September for teachers and Monday 4th September for pupils