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| U:\School photos\2017-2018\Autumn\IMG_0560.JPG |  | |  | | --- | | FEJS  NEWSLETTER | | 11.09.17 | |
|  |  |  |
| our Very happy children returning to school! |  |  |

**WELCOME BACK!**

**We’re back and ready to rock!**

**A warm welcome is especially extended to all of our new families whose children have joined us across the school!**

It was marvelous to see the children return to school in their new uniforms. Everyone looks very smart!

**Wanting the best for your child!**

We want the best for your children so that they can continue to grow as learners throughout their school lives. In a massively changing world, your children have to compete for the best **opportunities** in life in order to secure their **future happiness** and **economic prosperity** and this is why we continue in our drive to improve our school and the life chances of your children.

**The proof is in the pudding!**

Our policies for **improvement** have been very **successful** so far, children are becoming better readers, spellers and mathematicians.

Our Year 6 SAT results are **broadly in line** with national expectations and actually **exceed** last year’s national average and Buxton’s average. The quality of **teaching has improved dramatically** and there has been a **massive investment in resources**.

We boast a **fantastic range of extra clubs**, in term time and during the holidays and have even pushed the boundaries by providing **free wrap around care** from 8am until 530pm daily to support working parents, saving you hundreds every month.

**Continuing to raise expectations**

You can help your child to succeed by

* **Listening to them read regularly**, at least 4 times a week.
* Helping them to **learn their spellings every week.** Children are required to get at least 18 out of 20 in their Friday test.
* Helping them to **learn their timetables.** This helps them to make better progress in their maths lessons. The national expectation is that children should know all their timetables by Year 4!
* Ensuring they are **school ready** by having the **correct uniform** and **PE kit** [& swimming if in Class 4T this term].
* Ensuring children are **emotionally equipped** to learn, are fed **breakfast** and have good **attendance** and **punctuality**.

Please remember, if you require any support; we are always here to help. **Contact Miss. Emma Mellor.**

**Good news**

We’ve employed an additional teacher. Her name is **Mrs. Wood** and she is working as part of the Year 4 Staff Team.

Our **school budget is healthier than most** at the moment which means which can continue to provide current services without feeling the pinch such as subsidizing some clubs & trips, maintaining staffing levels, providing the children with quality resources and improving the learning environment.

Our **Year 6 SAT levels are on the up**! We’ve smashed last year’s outcomes and look forward to ‘raising the bar’ again, next summer.



**Attendance Matters**

Good attendance matters. When children miss school, their learning really does suffer.

Poor attendance also comes under the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 and parents can be issued with penalty notices of £100 per person.

**We ask that parents do not take their children on holiday during term time.**

I understand that holidays tend to be cheaper during term time and I know how important it is to have family holidays but I can only give permission in exceptional circumstances. Holidays will be closely monitored by myself and the Education Welfare Officer and that includes holidays not authorized whether you have made a request to the school or not.

I have taken a number of steps to ease the financial strain put on families by providing free wrap around care for working families and have added training days onto the October, Christmas and February half term holidays to give that little bit of flexibility when booking holidays.

Our attendance percentage has fallen below the national target of 96% and, already, there have been a record number of families who have not yet joined us at school this term because they are on holiday.

Please pop in and see me if you have any queries, I will always listen to your concerns.

**Use of social media**

Please do not undermine the good work of your child’s school on social media. It demoralises staff, parents and pupils. The local authority supports this strict stance and can take legal action if necessary, especially if staff or pupils are named.

Instead, contact me and I will be happy to listen, with understanding, to the concerns you may have.

Please follow the school’s **Complaints Procedure Policy**, a copy of which is on our website, if you have a grievance you wish to air, so that your voice can be heard using the correct protocol.

We also welcome compliments and suggestions.

Thank you for your support in this matter.







**Safeguarding**

Keeping children safe is our priority. We have a number of safeguarding procedures in school, leaflets and information for parents. You can also obtain information from our website. If you have concerns about a child at our school, or need some support and you’re not sure which way to turn then please feel free to contact Miss. Mellor, our School Liaison Officer who will be happy to help.

**Playtime snacks**

It’s a great idea to send your child to school with a healthy playtime snack. It is also recommended that your child brings a water bottle to school with them to hydrate throughout the day.

[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwikofOA3_rOAhWCPhQKHTSnAGQQjRwIBw&url=https://www.hairybikersdietclub.com/recipes-tips/weight-loss-tips/healthy-packed-lunch/&psig=AFQjCNEEkai8xPEmItBNZlXlExLM1Uo78w&ust=1473251313653442) with Buxton Att [safety and swimming].

24th – Year 2’s to visit FEJS for the day.

**Packed Lunches**

Families are required to pack a healthy lunch for their child. Please avoid chocolate and big bags of crisps. Fizzy drinks are not allowed.

A healthy packed lunch could include any of the following: sandwiches, crisps, fruit and dried fruit, a biscuit, yoghurt, salad, vegetables and water.

**School Dinners – still terrific value!**

We have a new school cook, Joanna, who has made the most fabulous lunch today! School dinners are still great value at just £2.00 a day, ensuring your child gets a balanced diet with a lot less fuss. Please collect a menu for the office.

**Dairy Dates so far [please check website for more]**

20.09.17 – YR 6 residential

25.09.17 – School Photo Day

29.09.17 – Harvest Festival 2pm

05.10.17 – Book Fair arrives

11.10.17 – Parent’s Evening 3pm onwards

– The Queen’s Party.

14th – Assembly at 10.45 with PDSA.

16th – New uniform Fashion Show after school parents welcome.

20th – Assembly with Buxton Baths [safety and swimming].

24th – Year 2’s to visit FEJS for the day.

28th – 2pm and 6pm meeting for infant parents.

29th – St. Peter’s Day.

30th – Buxton Public Speaking Competition parents of children participating welcome.