

FOWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Summer Newsletter 5

21 June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

We've had a wonderfully musical few weeks here at Fowey with visits from the Polperro Fisherman's Choir for Coombe and Polridmouth and a group of drummers and performers from Ghana, Namibia and Gabon to work with everyone else! We have loved sharing their music with the different visitors and showing them our own performance skills.

Next week, Mr Trudgeon, Miss Elliott, Mrs Mitchell and I will be in London. All Year 5 and 6 children who are not coming with us should be dropped and collected from Polridmouth door. We hope to have a great time and we will share lots of photos via the school Facebook page with you all. We have a very busy week planned and hope for dry weather!

EYFS and KS1 have had a super week with a visit to the cinema on Friday morning to be the first children in Cornwall to see Toy Story 4.

Kate and the Team at Fowey

Diary dates 2019



24th June - No cricket club

24th-28th June - Year 5/Year 6 London Trip

28th June - Lunch 'n' Learn - Yr 4 (Polridmouth)

1st July - School Closed - Inset Day

2nd July - Sports Day (if dry)

3rd July - 9.00am Parent Forum

3rd July - No OCEANS After-School Club

4th July - Transition Day

5th July - Year Six leaver's party

6th July - Summer Fayre

10th July - Lunch 'n' Learn - Yr 3 (Coombe)

11th July - Sports Day (if wet on the 2nd)

15th and 17th July - Parents Evenings

23rd July - Summer show at Fowey River Academy

25th July - End of Summer Term

School Fete on 6th July

We will be holding our summer Fayre on 6th July from 12-3pm. Our lovely FUNdraisers do so much for the school... but there are currently only four of them! They urgently need other families to help out on the day or to join their group to plan/organise/run future events for all the children. They are a super friendly group and would welcome anyone along to join them.

Please do speak to Kate or Rebecca Davidson (Milo and Alfie's Mum) if you can help out... without them there will be no new play equipment this summer!

Lunch and Learn for Coombe

Just a reminder that we have moved Coombe lunch and learn to 10th July, when we hope Mrs Wright will be fit and well. She is hoping to be back with us by the end of next week. Mr Millington will be with Year 3 until she returns.

No Oceans on Weds 3rd July

A reminder that there will be no Oceans on Wednesday 3rd July as we are doing some training with all staff.

Class Contributions

In the last fortnight, your children have had:

Polperro Fisherman's Choir (which Mrs Bryant brilliantly arranged for free!)

African Drumming Workshops (all classes except Year 3 and 4) which cost £400 for the day

Trip to St Austell Cinema (Lantic, Cannis and Gribben) which cost £5.50 per child (so £385) and £350 for the coach transport.

We have also booked:

Retallack Aqua Park for Carne on 12th July, which will cost £450

We know, from the incredibly positive feedback that parents and carers love the new project based curriculum but we will be unable to continue with trips and special activities if class contributions are not significantly increased.

Currently...

67% of parents in Lantic

48% of parents in Cannis

50% of parents in Gribben

44% of parents in Coombe

35% of parents in Polridmouth

30% of parents in Readymoney

44% of parents in Carne

... have paid their class contribution this term (even though in some classes it is as little as £2).

PLEASE PAY YOUR CLASS CONTRIBUTION IF YOU CAN!

Attendance

Welcome to the weekly attendance awards. We have been set a target of more than 97% attendance.

Unfortunately the sickness bug struck this week and no class reached their target. We hope everyone feels better soon.

Polridmouth	94.50%
Coombe	93.60%
Carne	92.78%
Readymoney	91.48%
Cannis	90.69%
Gribben	87.92%
Lantic	76.44%

Attendance

We are very pleased to have seen a significant improvement in attendance this year. Thank-you to everyone who makes such an effort to ensure their children are at school on time every day.

Just a reminder, Cornwall Council does issue fixed penalty fines to anyone taking children out of school for an unauthorised holiday. Penalty notices are issued for each child and are £60 per child if paid within 21 days, increasing to £120 if paid after 21 days. A penalty notice which is unpaid after 28 days is automatically referred for court proceedings, which can result in a fine of up to £2500.

Absence for holidays cannot be authorised and we have to unauthorise absence if children tell us that they have been on holiday, when they have been reported to school as being unwell.

Once any child has accrued 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence we cannot authorise any absence for illness without medical evidence.

Please do come in and chat to us if you have any questions about attendance.

Sports Day

Early next week you will receive a personalised paper letter regarding sports day, which will be held at our school this year (not at FRA). It is the 2nd July (which is the first day back after the inset day) so please don't forget your child's PE kit! We will send all PE kits home on Friday ready for washing, so we look our very best!

Our fundraisers will be organising pasties, drinks and a raffle so bring along your pennies 😊

PE Trainers

A reminder that children need to have a change of trainers for PE and should not be doing PE in their school shoes.

Project Based Learning Feedback

Thank-you to the 21 families who have given us feedback on Project based learning. We are delighted to see that the overwhelming majority (all except one) feel their child is learning much more in this way with many of us (me included) taught a great deal by the children about their project areas. We are also really pleased to see that parental engagement has been really high with 76% of families having attended at least one project based event with their children this year.

81% of families felt that we should continue offering the same amount of trips and in-school special activities with the remaining families feeling we should offer even more!

Everyone who responded said that they were happy to continue with class contributions to fund this with the majority of parents 66% saying they prefer to pay this as a 'lump sum' as we currently do. However, a sizable number (a third) of parents who responded said they would prefer to pay for each thing individually and we have seen a significant fall in the number of parents who contribute since we have started putting it into one class contribution. To help with this, we will return to asking parents to contribute individually for each specific thing next year. This is more work for teachers and the office staff but we are concerned that if contributions do not increase significantly we will need to reduce trips which no-one wanted.

Some of the comments made by families were:

It's fun and enjoyable!

My child is really engaged in project based learning and talks about it all the time.

Immersion in the projects across subjects has really impacted my children in a positive way. In most cases they have engaged with their community in ways not previously seen (pop up restaurant at FRA, trip to Sunny Spice etc) and I definitely feel that they have learnt at a greater depth as a result.

She's enjoying school more, has a breadth of learning I did not expect at this age. On the topics covered, especially the energy one, the depth of knowledge is amazing.

A Sneak Peak



These are some of the £3000 of new books which will form our new home reading system for September! We are very excited to share more details with you all at the Parent Forum meeting on 3rd July (a letter will follow for any families who are unable to make it.) The children are incredibly excited already...