



Happy New Year to you all!

Firstly I'd like to thank those of you who joined us for our Christmas Performances. It was lovely to see so many of you there. This term the topic is Amazing Animals. The children will be looking at story writing, number and healthy lifestyles. More information will be shared in the key stage newsletter.



### **Reminder— What do I need to send into school for my child.**

In your child's bag please ensure you send in the following items:

- ◆ A complete change of clothes
- ◆ Enough pads for the day (alternatively you can send in a packet of pads to keep at school) or spare socks and pants
- ◆ Wipes and barrier cream which is suitable for your child
- ◆ A healthy snack (fruit will be provided)
- ◆ A comforter - this will only be used to help your child settle in or if absolutely necessary.
- ◆ Appropriate resources to administer medication or health procedure e.g. syringes, giving sets and extension tubes

**We request that all clothes and items are labelled with your child's name.**

Please do not send your child to school with jewellery or other valuable items. If your child comes to school with an electronic device this will be put in their bag on their arrival at school and will be returned to them when they are on school transport at the end of the day.

Fairfields is unable to accept responsibility or liability for their safe keeping.

### **Annual Reviews**

We just wanted to remind you that teachers are currently not attending Annual Review meetings. If there are any questions you have regarding your child's progress towards their EHCP we ask that you please fill in our parent comment form (which will come with the Annual Review paperwork) and return to school before the meeting or communicate through home schoolbooks / email before the meeting. If the teachers presence is required, the chair of the meeting may be able to swap places with the teacher for the last 10-15 minutes

**EHCP Annual Reviews**

### **Chinese New Year**

As part of our enrichment curriculum, the children will be having a Chinese New Year Sensory day on Friday 24th January. It would be great if the children could come to school dressed in red, yellow and gold or if they really like dressing up, they can come to school dressed as a dragon! We know that dressing up can be quite difficult for some children so if they would like to come to school in their uniform this is fine. We have also arranged Chinese Dragon dancing on the afternoon of the 23rd and 24th January for the children to experience. We're hoping this will be a great experience for the children.



### **Lending Library**

We hope that your child is enjoying sharing a book with you at home. Please remember to return the book to school so we can swap it for another one. If books are not returned, we may not be able to continue with the Lending Library. Please also remember to write in the reading diary.



## Healthy Lunchboxes

As this term we are looking at Healthy Lifestyles in PSHE, we wanted to continue to promote healthy snacks and lunchboxes. We know that some of our children will only eat certain foods or have a restricted diet but where possible we'd like the children to have a healthy balanced diet. With this in mind, please avoid sending your child to school with take away meals from fast food chains. If you'd like to make changes to your child's lunchbox but are not sure of the best way to do this please get in touch with your child's class teacher, Janice (family support worker) or our school nurse Ann-Marie. More information can also be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>



We would like to remind you that we do not heat or re-heat food items that are sent in at lunchtime. This is so we can be compliant with food safety guidelines and reduce the possibility of food poisoning to as low a level as possible. If you wish your child to continue to have hot food at lunchtime, please send the heated, cooked food to school in the most appropriate container ie. a food thermos flask or a thermal lunch box. Food insulation containers are readily available from the majority of high street shops or from internet suppliers. Some of the children in school have an ARFID diagnosis and/or have support from the children's eating disorder team. If your child receives support from this service, please let us know so we can work together in this area.

## Blended Diets

For children who have a blended diet, detailed parent guidelines from the dietician are being finalised and will be shared in due course.

In the meantime, please follow the guidelines below:

- *Consistency of blended feeds:* the food mixture must be totally smooth with no lumps or bits, similar to pouring cream consistency and no thicker than double cream.
- *Container:* food must be transported to school in a clean airtight container with a lid.
- *Labelled:* the container must be labelled with the name of the child and date of use (today's date).
- Syringes and extension sets should also be sent to school in a clean and labelled lidded box.

Please note: Back up milk should also be provided in case of problems with blended food.

## Lateness to school

We are aware that there are certain circumstances that mean that your child will be late into school. We would like to remind you that the school register is taken between 8.45am and 9.30am each day. If a pupil arrives between 9.30am – 10.00am, they will be marked as late.



Any pupil arriving after 10.00am will be marked absent as code U (meaning the pupil is in school but has missed the registration period). This is an unauthorised absence.

There are specific attendance codes if a child is late or absent because of school transport or due to a medical appointment. Please contact the school office to make them aware if these situations arise.

If your child arrives to school after 10am and has a school dinner, please be prepared to bring them a lunch. The pupil absence list is given to the kitchen each morning and they only make dinners for the children who are in school, not those who have booked a meal. This is to prevent wastage. If you know your child is going to be late to school please contact the school office and ensure they arrive before 11.30am or after 1pm, avoiding lunchtime if possible, as we are covering staff lunch breaks during this time.

We know that some children don't sleep well, which means that they are then either distressed and irritable during the day or in some cases they are falling asleep in class and not accessing their learning. If this occurs, please consider whether school is the best place for them if they can't participate and be aware that in some cases we may ask you to come and collect them from school.

### **Squid Game**

A new series of Squid Game is coming to Netflix so we wanted to make sure parents were fully aware of the concerns around this TV series. Squid Game is a Netflix series from South Korea. It's about a group of people brought to a secret location to play children's games for a jackpot worth billions. When someone loses, the guards kill them. Netflix gives the show a maturity rating of 15. It has graphic violence and injury along with depictions of suicide and sexual themes.



Young people who use popular social media platforms, like Roblox, may come across videos of others imitating Squid Game violence. Gory and explicit clips from the series or cartoon creations of scenes are added to these platforms. Some children may stumble across them accidentally.

Since the release of the Netflix series, multiple apps have started popping up in the iTunes and Google Play stores. Some of these apps have an age rating as low as 3, which means children of all ages can access them. The apps generally all have a similar type of gameplay. Users are inserted into children's games from the series and must compete with the same results for losing players.

The main concern is young children's exposure to violence and other themes too old for them to understand. Additionally, some of the most popular apps are interrupted by ads and pop-ups. This promotes accidental clicks, which may lead to inappropriate site visits or in-app purchases.

If you are concerned about any of the information I have shared, please get in touch with us.

### **Dates for the Year.**

We have been asked to share dates with you all with as much notice as possible. Below are the scheduled dates for the year. They are all to be confirmed nearer the time. Please keep an eye on the Parent App for updates.

#### **Coffee Mornings**

- Thursday 30th January — 9.30am - 11.30am
- Thursday 20th March— 9.30am - 11.30am
- Thursday 15th May — 9.30am - 11.30am
- Thursday 26th June — 9.30am - 11.30am

#### **School Celebrations—Parents Invited**

- Stay and Play— Friday 7th February
- Easter — Thursday 24th & Friday 25th April
- Sports Week—19th—23rd May
- End of Year Celebration Assemblies — Riverbank: 17th July, Meadow: 18th July, Woodland: 21st July, Treetops: 22nd July

#### **Parents Evenings**

- Celebration Evening—Wednesday 5th March

#### **School Events**

- Chinese New Year—24th January (please note change of date)
- World Book Day — Thursday 6th March
- Eid day—Thursday 3rd April
- Water/Maths day—Thursday 3rd July

#### **Getting in touch**

If you do have any questions or concerns, staff in school are always happy to talk with you. If you would like to get in touch you can do this through contacting the school office.