



# NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carers,

Time is flying by and we seem to be rapidly approaching the end of the year, with yet another busy week in school this week. The children, as always, are engaged in their learning and all remains calm and purposeful around the school. It was lovely to welcome back Year 6 after their fantastic, adventure filled week away in Cobnor; they did look very tired when they arrived back last Friday!

Badgers Class are now busy rehearsing and learning their lines for the Key Stage 2 production; please make sure that you book your tickets if you haven't already done so. A big thank you to Jennie Orange, who is giving up her time to help direct the play and make sure the cast give their best performance, it is already taking shape and we can't wait to see the show.

On Monday morning we hosted pupils from other schools in the local area in a film narrative enrichment session. Thank you to Mr Hussey for running the session, the children who attended from Foxes Class thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were full of enthusiasm.

Some of Foxes class visited Woolmer Hill School for a taster Morning on Wednesday; again all children had an exciting time. They were picked up in the minibus at the start of the morning and as well as looking around Woolmer Hill they got to experience an Art and a Geography session and most importantly – the dining hall! In the evening the Headteacher, Deputy Head and Assistant Headteachers came to Fernhurst to talk to parents as to what Woolmer Hill had to offer for secondary education. The year 4 and 5 parents, who attended, found this really useful. In addition to this the Science department from Woolmer Hill is visiting Foxes this morning to do a science workshop – it sounds like great fun!

On Thursday morning and evening we held the 2<sup>nd</sup> of our parents' forums for the year. Hannah Corps talked about what the children do at Forest School and how that links to our curriculum topics in school. It is clear that the children have an amazing experience and benefit from the enthusiasm and passion Hannah has for Forest School. We also had some very interesting discussions around homework – quite a contentious subject with a diverse range of opinions. We appreciate your openness and honesty with regard to homework and will bear in mind all of your comments when we come to review our homework policy for next year.

Our Chair of Governors, Chris Lloyd, paid a visit to Squirrels class on Wednesday morning. He had an interesting time and was really impressed with the children's engagement and attitude to learning.

I hope you have a lovely weekend in the sunshine.

Mrs Richardson on behalf of the SLT

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Amelia Spear for completing her Personal Survival 2 award in swimming!

Well done to Elsa Kelsey for completing Level 3 in swimming!

*Article 31; leisure, play and culture*

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



**SQUIRRELS**

**Sebastian Vass**

**DEER**

**Nieve Denny**

**OWLS**

**Nyla Bentley**

**RED KITES**

**Harriet Hewer**

**ROBINS**

**Verdley Skinner**

**FOXES**

**Cecily Wright**

**BADGERS**

**Evie Hill & Mia Polson**

**LUNCHTIME AWARD**

**Harriet Hewer**

**HEADBOY & HEADGIRL AWARD**

**Lily Shotter**

**HEADTEACHER'S AWARD**

**Calan Morrin**

**FOREST SCHOOL OWLS**

**Alfie Cobb**

**FOREST SCHOOL BADGERS**

**Lowri Cole**

Proud to be part of the **UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER** ACADEMY TRUST

## DIARY DATES

### JUN

Fri 22 3.15pm Messy Church  
Mon 25 Squirrels Summer Cake Sale  
Wed 27 Glee Club performing at Village Hall  
Thurs 28 Sports Day

### JUL

Tues 3 9am Cobnor Assembly  
Tues 3 Owls Class Brilliant Bricks morning  
Wed 4 Woolmer Hill & MRC Y6 Transition Days  
Wed 4 Foxes Taster Day at Bohunt  
Fri 6 Bohunt Y6 Transition Days  
Fri 6 In house Transition morning for all classes  
Wed 11 Reserve Sports Day  
Fri 13 1.30pm KS2 Dress Rehearsal  
Fri 13 FOFS Summer BBQ  
Mon 16 Badgers Bikeability Week  
Tues 17 6pm KS2 Evening Production  
Wed 18 6pm KS2 Evening Production  
Fri 20 9am Leavers' Assembly  
Mon 23 1.30pm Fernhurst has got Talent  
Tues 24 9am Celebration Assembly  
Tues 24 Last day of term

### AUTUMN TERM

Mon 3 Sept—INSET DAY—School closed  
Tues 4 Sept—INSET DAY—School closed  
Wed 5 Sept—first day of term

## Breakfast Club & Oscars Charges

After several years of prices for Breakfast Club and Oscars remaining the same and in the interests of ensuring that we cover our on going costs, we wanted to announce that from September charges for both of these services will be increased. We are still in the process of confirming what the new charging structure will be but we will let you know as soon as this has been finalised.

## FOFS

Please come and support the Squirrels Class "Summer" cake sale on Monday after school. As the weather is set to be glorious next week we will also be selling ice lollies. Please bring your pennies and pounds and support the school with a cooling treat or a baked goodie!



## Are you job hunting?

If you are, we have been advised of several vacancies at local schools that may be of interest:

- Primary Teacher at Camelsdale Primary School
- Tesla Teaching Support Manager at Bohunt
- Learning Support Assistant at Hollycombe School
- Midday Meals Supervisor at Hollycombe School.

Please visit the relevant school's website for further information.

## ATTENDANCE & ABSENCES

We appreciate that on occasions there is an exceptional circumstance that requires you to take your child out of school during term time. As a school we have set criteria by which we are able to authorise these absences. The government concept behind this is that should the absence be unauthorised that the time out is not taken and the child remains in school. However, we are currently seeing an enormous number of unauthorised holidays and absences being taken during the school term. This is having a significant impact on our reportable attendance data that we have an obligation to provide to the county and the Trust and it is also an element of the school that Ofsted look at when making inspections. We would strongly urge you to consider this when and if you are booking holidays for next year.

We also understand that on occasion there is a need to take your child out of school for a medical appointment. We would expect these to be emergency appointments or hospital appointments where availability is limited. We would ask that all routine or non-emergency doctor or dentist appointments are made outside of school hours.

When you receive your child's end of term report, you will see their percentage attendance for the year to date, to give this figure a point of reference the following information may be of value:

The DfE deem 95% and above to be acceptable attendance, 90-95% being graded as 'requires improvement' and below 90% deemed as 'unsatisfactory'. It may appear that their standards are set very high but the following statistics may shed some light on why regular attendance is so vital to a child's education.

### What does 90% attendance look like?

- One full day off school every fortnight
- Nearly 20 days absence a year, ie: a whole month off school
- When compared with attendance of 95%, children with 90% attendance will, on average, achieve one grade less in all their GCSEs
- If sustained over 5 years 90% is more than ½ a year of school missed - your child will be ½ a year behind their peers

### What does just 5 minutes late look like?

- Equivalent to missing a whole lesson every fortnight
- This adds up to 3 days absence a year

If you are concerned about your child's attendance, we are happy to offer help and guidance, please book an appointment to see Mrs Richardson or Mrs Isaac via the school office.

*Article 28; right to education*

Enjoying the Rother Valley Art Enrichment Day at Midhurst Rother College.



## FROM THE OFFICE.....

- ◇ Foxes—please return your reply slips for the **Bohunt Taster Morning**.
- ◇ **Red Kites**—please return your local area visits permission slips.
- ◇ **Owls**— please return your Brilliant Bricks permission slips and payments.
- ◇ **"Dream On" ticket** reply slips for KS2—please return these by Monday 25 June.
- ◇ Please continue to return those **library books**—we are still missing lots!!

Proud to be part of the **UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER** ACADEMY TRUST