



Fishergate Primary School Newsletter

27.9.24

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

I hope that this half term is treating you all well! This issue is so important to us as a school, that it is top and tailing our newsletter today and the link to opt out of the pledge, that we ask all parents/carers to make, is here and at the bottom on the letter. As an adult, I know how addictive a smartphone can be and we have had an increasing number of incidents in school that have been caused by children with access to apps that they do not yet have the maturity to navigate successfully. This has led to friendship fallouts and in the most disturbing cases children being befriended by adults that have been unknown to them – leading to police involvement. Please remember that you aren't giving your child access to the internet, you are giving the internet access to your child! Here is the link <https://forms.gle/7VkxxfMafGRt7SAo6>

FRIENDS OF FISHERGATE

Upcoming Year 3/4 Cake Sale

Please note! This will be on Friday 11th October NOT 6th as previously mentioned, our apologies.

To run this cake stall, we do need your help! We are looking for one parent from year 3 and from year 4 to act as named contacts to remind your class families about upcoming sale dates and donations. Also to organise parent helpers to set up and serve on the stall. For smooth running each cake sale needs a minimum of 3-4 helpers from 3pm. This is a commitment once a term, to go all in for fundraising for your child's class. If you can help please let your child's teacher know, contact Friends or drop a message to the school office.

Halloween Disco Friday 18th October

Posters will be going up this week. £1 entry, pocket money friendly snacks and Face Painting. Dressing up is always welcome but not essential - create your own style! We are afraid we cannot allow entry of children from other schools, but siblings are welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Pumpkin Parade Friday 18th October

Enter a decorated or carved pumpkin! £1 to enter. Friends will be waiting to collect your entries near the bike shed from 8.30am. These will be illuminated in the playground during the evening, to view between the KS1 & KS2 discos. Please mark your pumpkin with your child's name and year group. We can't wait to see the spooky and fun creations! Certificates will be awarded to each winner in EY, KS1 & KS2.

Friends AGM

Minutes for both the AGM and planning meeting, held last week can be found on the school website.

Friends have agreed funding for coach travel for the Choir to attend the Young Voices Competition and for the Year 6 Residential. Christmas event planning will take place at the next meeting, held after half term (date TBC) Everyone is welcome to come along and get involved with planning our seasonal events, do come join us!

PHASE UPDATES

EYU – This week in Early Years we have been reading and working on 'The Colour Monster' book, we have been finding out about all the different colours and how they represent different emotions. We have drawn our own colour monster in drawing club and created our very own magical powers. We had our first forest school session this week and had so much fun looking for fairies and creating our own magical feather wands.

Year 1/2 – KS1 have been using Talk4Writing to learn the Michael Rosen poem 'Chocolate' and have been learning about 'Where chocolate comes from' in Topic.

Year 3/4 – In Yr 3/4 we have just been introduced to our class story, The Iron Man, and can't wait to read more of it. The children have also been sharing how their healthy diaries have been coming along and we would like to thank all parents for supporting us with promoting healthy eating. Just a heads up that it is Yr 3/4 cake stall on Friday 4th October. If you can help set up and sell the cakes we would really appreciate it.

Y5/6 - Another busy week of trips in 5/6. This time, we went to the Food Festival in town, where we made our chocolate lollies and bread rolls.

DATES

There only seems to be one date to put in this box this week, but it is a very important one. Thursday 3rd October is Census Day.

The number of children who have a school diner on that day has a huge impact on the funding we get as a school. This is even more so if your child is entitled to free school meals.

The more children who have a school dinner on Thursday the better! Thank you in advance for your support with this!



SMARTPHONE- FREE CHILDHOOD

Smartphone Policy

Fishergate is a smartphone free school.

Smartphones and smart watches are not allowed onto school premises; this includes the storage of a smartphone in school bags. Smartphones are not required for any lessons or for use with any homework or Learning Apps throughout your child's time at our school.

We appreciate your support for our smartphone free school environment and we also encourage all parents in our community to join us in pledging not to provide a smartphone for their child during their time at Fishergate, especially as they are not required for any school purposes in Key Stage 1 or 2.

We understand that this pledge won't be suitable for every family so we kindly request you let us know if you decide to opt out, at any point, of our school pledge to be smartphone free. Should you decide to get your child a smartphone, or your child already has one, please complete our anonymous opt out survey, to help us understand any long-term impact of going smartphone free on our community: <https://forms.gle/7VkxxfMafGRt7SAo6>

We understand some of you may consider a phone as an option for an older child in year 6, but you do not need to complete the survey if you purchase a basic communication device, such as a Nokia 105.



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