



This Week's News!

Friday 28th April 2023

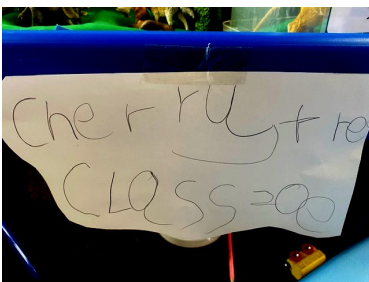
We have had a busy week in school this week! During the INSET day today, teachers have spent time building upon the existing school curriculum and resourcing to make sure we can offer excellent opportunities for our children. Following the letter sent earlier this week about how we will be organising reading within the school, staff have also spent time ensuring that the range of materials in each class are exciting, engaging and at the right level for each child. It has been fantastic to see how excited some of the children (Year 3 and 4 in particular!) have been about the new books in their classrooms; over 200 new books have been purchased since Easter.

Pupils in Early Years and Year 5&6 will also soon start to see some changes to the look of their rooms. A huge thanks to FOFS, who have agreed to fund the purchase of some new furniture and equipment in both rooms to improve the environment; over the coming weeks, we have new learning carpets, reading corners and other items arriving. Plans for the other classes are in the pipeline.

The work above all ties into a focus on us having the highest expectations for our children. Having high quality environments will help our children to see additional value in their time at school and, hopefully be even more excited about their learning. On this, over the coming weeks, I will be asking staff to ensure that pupils are in the correct uniform and are ready to learn at the start of each lesson. This includes them being on time at the start of the school day—please do your very best to arrive for 8:45am as anyone arriving late may miss the start of their learning.

Lots of exciting changes are taking place. Thank you to FOFS, the staff and parents who have helped this to begin to happen! We hope that you all have a great Bank Holiday weekend.

Early Years Update



This week the children have been finding the missing part using, cherry models, ten frames and five frames! In music the children listened to James Brown and told us what instruments they could hear. They played different notes on the glockenspiels along with their song Big Bear Funk. Next week: The children will be continuing to find the missing part in maths using "how many more".



As part of their 'Animals topic', Reception have also created a Giraffe fact file to tell people all about the main character from our story. The children used our small world tray to make a fantastic Zoo this week!

Can you help? We are always looking at how we can develop the resources in Early Years. As part of our animals topic, if you had any small cuddly toy animals that you no longer needed, we would appreciate them to help add to our environment. Any donations gratefully received!

Headteacher Recruitment Update

Dear Parents,

As an update on the Headteacher recruitment: we are pleased to say the advertisement window closed on Monday 24th April with a good amount of applications received. Since then, the Recruitment Panel (3 Governors and 2 Herts For Learning professionals) have met to shortlist those candidates down to a maximum of 3 for interview.

The interviews will take place on Friday 5th May in the form of an assessment day. As part of the day, the children will get a chance to meet the prospective new Headteacher in an assembly environment, and some will also have the opportunity to ask them questions as part of "voice of the pupil".

Thanks in advance for your support and we look forward to updating you after the assessment day.
Chris Carson, Chair of Governors

Start and End of Day Routines

Please note that, for those parents who have children in Early Years, you are able to come into school through the front gates in the morning and at the end of the day; there is no need to walk all the way around the school (unless you'd like to!).

I know for some, it may make pick up and drop off a little easier!

Cleaner Environment Information from Herts County Council

Keeping your engine running; the fact & fiction

Fiction

If it's cold outside, I need to keep the engine running to keep the heater on.

Fact

If you switch the engine off when you park and keep the ignition on, the heater should stay warm for up to 30 minutes.

Fiction

If I'm parked on a yellow line, keeping my engine running means I won't get a fine.

Fact

Traffic Wardens can fine you if you are parked somewhere you shouldn't be. They can also issue you with a £40 fine if your engine is idling (switched on whilst you are waiting).

Fiction

But surely it is better to idle because stopping and starting will wear out the engine?

Fact

Sitting in your car with your engine running could cost you more than you think. Between 5% and 8% of fuel use occurs while idling. Based on the average annual fuel bill of £1600, this means you could be wasting more than £100 a year.

Fiction

Sitting in my car protects me from other people's car fumes.

Fact

The air quality inside the car could be up to 12 times worse than outside.

Walking and cycling is healthier, cheaper and better for air quality than driving and parking outside your school.

Fundraising

Bag 2 School - collection day Thursday 18th May 2023

It's time to start clearing out your wardrobes again to support the school in this fundraising event. Children will be sent home with bags next week for you to fill with the items listed below.

If you fill your bag, black sacks will also be accepted. Bags are to be left under the eaves of the Methodist Church between 8am and 9am on collection day - **not before please!**

These bags are weighed and the school receives money per kilo - the more bags we fill, the more money we raise!

Items which can be collected are:

Good quality men's, ladies and children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags belts and accessories. No uniforms, work wear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please.

Class	W/b 24/04
Nursery	96%
Reception	99%
Year 1	98.7%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	100%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	99%

Classes above Mr Maher's 96% target

Attendance

A fantastic effort from the whole school this week! Thank you parents for making sure that your children have been in school, on time each day. And especial congratulations to Year 3, who managed 100% attendance this week. Excellent work!

It is so important to be in school whenever possible; more time learning with friends means better outcomes. Did you know a child whose attendance drops to 95% will have missed 9 school days, equating to 54 hours of learning in a year. A child on 90% will have missed over 100 hours of learning!

If there are ever any issues which make it difficult in getting to school, please let us know as we may be able to help.

Sharing our News

Flamstead Village School now has a Twitter account, which will be used to share some of the learning and activities that are taking place.



This will take a little while to get up to speed, but please take a look at our page—@FlamsteadVS.

Final Thought

This week in class and assemblies, we have been thinking about our theme of 'self-belief' and how important this is in our learning.



We talked about the 'power of yet' and how, if we find something difficult, more time and effort will usually make all the difference.

I can't do this **YET**
 I'm not good at this **YET**
 I don't understand this **YET**
 It doesn't work **YET**
 This doesn't make sense **YET**

Maybe you could talk at home about how we are all learning all the time.

What can't you do yet that, with a little time and effort, you'd like to achieve?

Upcoming Dates

Date	Event
1/5	May Day Bank Holiday
3/5	Full Governing Body Meeting
8/5	Coronation Bank Holiday
9/5	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
15/5	Walk to School Week
23/5	Class Photos
29/5	Half Term Week
12/6	Year 1 Phonics Checks taking place
26/6	Y3&4 Residential Trip
6/7	Sports Day
13/7	Transition Day—New classes!
21/7	School Closes 1.30pm for the summer holidays

Parents - Please put these into your diaries!

Key Notices

Please remember that Monday 1st May is a Bank Holiday. We look forward to seeing the children back to school on Tuesday!

Industrial Action—None of our staff have decided to take part in the upcoming strike and so all classes will be open as usual.

Clubs— From now on, please collect your children from the main entrance after clubs, rather than from the hall doors.

Parent Feedback —This week, we sent out a very brief parent survey to gauge some opinion and ideas as to our school's development. If you haven't yet done so, please provide some feedback.

FoFS News!

We Need You!

FoFS is running the **Coronation Picnic** event on **Sunday May 7th** and we need a few volunteers to help make the day a success.

This could be by doing a bit of BBQing, supervising the bouncy castles for half an hour, or helping in our cafe. Any amount of time volunteering would be really useful.

If you can help, please contact Christy or email friendsofflamsteadschool@gmail.com. Thank you!



We're on Facebook!



FoFS now has a Facebook page! If you'd like to see what we're up to at the school follow us here:

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfFlamstead/>



FLAMSTEAD CRICKET CLUB

JUNIOR CRICKET

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 5 AND OVER

Our junior cricket program starts with the ECB All Stars Cricket initiative for 5-8 year olds, then moves onto Dynamos for 8-11 year olds; and hardball for U11s and older.

We welcome players of all ages and ability, specially newcomers to cricket. We offer professional coaching sessions appropriate to each age groups.



Beginning 20th May
9 AM - 10 AM

For 5 - 8 years old



Beginning 20th May
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

For 8 - 11 years old



Mondays
6 PM - 8 PM

For 11 - 15 years old

FOR MORE INFO
 Web: flamsteadcc.play-cricket.com
 Email: flamsteadccmembership@gmail.com




[WhatsApp](#)



REDBOURN FUN RUN

WWW.REDBOURNFUNRUN.CO.UK

SUNDAY 7 MAY **1, 3 & 5 KM**

9AM-2PM
REDBOURN LEISURE CENTRE

ALL FINISHERS RECEIVE A MEDAL

RUNNING ROUTES PLUS RELAY RACES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH









Dacorum Music School Youth

Orchestra are putting on a called Superhero Saturday concert where they will be performing many Superhero film scores. After the concert there is an opportunity to meet the musicians and try out instruments too. It's a fantastic family concert and tickets are just £5 per family (no limit on family numbers). I have attached a poster for you to take a look at and hope you feel it would be something your families would be interested in attending. It would be lovely if it could go out through your school mailing system.

We hope budding young musicians and their families will come along to hear the 45 minute concert and try all the instruments too afterwards. They can also dress up in their favourite superhero costume!




Superhero Saturday

Join us for an afternoon of musical marvel!

The Dacorum Youth Orchestra and Recorder Consort are proud to present a super-packed afternoon of wonder-filled performances from your favourite Superhero films.

After the concert, in a location (not so) far, far away, you can join our musicians for an open session where you can try out all the instruments and find out your instrumental super power.

Don't forget your cape!

This concert is part of the Music at St Johns Festival.

Book online using the QR code or visit ticketsource.co.uk/music-at-st-johns

Date: Saturday 13 May 2023
Time: 1.00pm with an open day afterwards
Cost: £5 per family
Venue: St John's Church, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead



For more up-to-date information and to find out about more events follow us on Twitter and Facebook - @hmsdacorum



