



This Week's News!

Friday 21st April 2023

Thank you!

Welcome to our new look school newsletter, which will now be sent to you each Friday so that we can share the week's news. It has been fantastic being in school this week and meeting many of the children. Thank you all so much for such a warm welcome! I am beginning to learn some names, but bear with me...it will be a few weeks before I am fully up to speed!

Since Monday, I have been able to visit a number of lessons and have been really impressed with the fantastic behaviour and attitudes to learning that I've seen throughout the school. This is so important in helping the children to get the most from every lesson and, coupled with brilliant learning experiences, will help the children to get the most from their time at Flamstead. As shared with you before Easter, we have moved our remaining INSET day to next Friday (28th), where the teachers will spend time having a look at the curriculum to ensure that it is as effective as it can be and will begin to make some changes where needed. Thank you for your understanding with this change of date.



This morning, we shared with the children that our whole-school value this half term will be 'Self-Belief' and we shall spend time in classes and during assembly thinking about this. We will be challenging the children to push themselves and to show self-belief, even when this might take them a little out of their comfort zone. We shall also be thinking about people who have shown self-belief, including our new King, following his coronation in May.

Next week, we shall be making a few changes to how we teach and support our children to read. We have purchased some fantastic new home reading books for Years 3-6 which you may start seeing soon! We will write to you separately next week to share more information about this.

I hope that you all have a fantastic weekend and look forward to seeing you again on Monday.

School Clubs

Street Dance and Art club for the Summer Term start next week. Nathalie from My Art Club says:

"Our art project inspired by artist Frida Kaho has come to an end. Portrature stands apart from other genres of art. They are more than artworks. When people look at portraits, they think they are encountering that person. It is true with Frida's self-portraits and it is also very true with our little artists' portraits."

Please find the on-line Art Gallery of the children's artworks. [Flamstead Art Gallery](#)

Bright Stars!

Nursery	Joni	<i>For taking time and effort to create a carefully drawn and labelled Giraffe in literacy to show who the main character of our story is. Joni has also worked extremely hard in maths this week, subitising objects and finding the whole!</i>
Reception	George	<i>For settling back into school so well after the Easter break and participating in all his learning this week. George has written number sentences and created part, part whole models in maths and has worked in a group to make a mind map!</i>
Year 1	Louie	<i>For settling back into school after the break seamlessly and giving great focus to all his work.</i>
Year 2	George	<i>For showing extreme commitment to his work this week and being resilient even when he has found something tricky.</i>
Year 3	Sidni	<i>For pushing herself to be a more independent learner and persevering with her work.</i>
Year 4	Jacob	<i>For returning to school with a positive attitude to learning and great behaviour</i>
Year 5	Nicholas	<i>for enthusiastically embracing new learning experiences. Nicholas is making good progress in year 5.</i>
Year 6	Martha	<i>for her positive outlook towards learning. Martha has some some fantastic work this week, especially in maths!</i>

Keeping Safe at the start and end of the school day

You may have noticed a few changes at the start and end of the school day, which aim to help our children to be as safe as possible.

So that we know exactly who is coming onto the school site, the gates will be opened shortly before the children can go into class in the morning. In the afternoon, the same will happen, with the gates being opened just before the children come out of class at 3.15pm.

A member of staff, usually either myself, Miss Tourney or Ms Russell (the three safeguarding lead people in the school) will be present on the playground to monitor the children going in and we are more than happy to help if you have any quick questions!

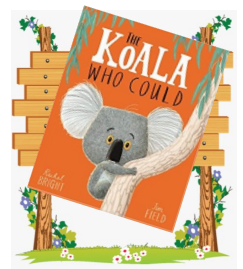
In the next few weeks, FOFs will also be installing a new fence along the side of our carpark which will help to keep our site secure during the school day and mean that the main gates will be able to remain open. We hope that this will make it easier for you to pop in if needed!

What have our staff been reading?

Each week, staff will be sharing the books that they have been reading.

The Koala who Could, by Rachel Bright and Jim Field

A particular favourite in the Maher house at the moment is 'The Koala who Could'. Which tells the story of Kevin, a koala who loved nothing more than spending his days sat up high in his tree where he feels safe. He never wants to get down from the tree or try anything new incase he doesn't like it. All is going well for Kevin until one day, when something disastrous happens...!



I really like this story because it is all about how, sometimes, it is good to try new things, even if they seem a little risky or scary!

Mr Maher

Emergency Alerts Service to be tested nationally on 23rd April

The UK government's new Emergency Alerts system is now live. The system enables people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger. It will be used to warn you in the event of emergencies, such as severe flooding.

On Sunday 23 April 2023 at 3pm, there will be a national test of the Emergency Alerts service.

The message will confirm it is a test. You will not need to take any action. Please do not call the emergency services. You can prevent this from happening, by changing the settings on your phone.

St Albans Music School - "Be Your Own Band"

This group is for young people aged between 8 and 11 years old who would like to experience being in a band but have little to no experience in playing an instrument. The young people will be able to have a go at playing various instruments like drums, guitar, bass, keyboard and vocals with other young people and create their own band. The group has been designed to allow young people to experience different genres and learn at their own pace - guided by professional musicians.

The sessions will be on Wednesday afternoons from 4.15pm-5pm and the cost is £44.50 for the summer term. Please see their poster which has been uploaded to our website at <https://www.flamsteadjmi.herts.sch.uk/other-items>

Class	W/b 17/04
Nursery	95%
Reception	96.5%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	88%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	96.7%

Classes above Mr Maher's 96% target

Attendance

Congratulations to Year 2 who have kicked off this terms attendance to a great start! Can anyone else match them?

Just a reminder that for any absence, including medical appointments during the school day, please let the office know directly via the absence section on Parent Mail, on our phone system, or by emailing admin@flamsteadjmi.herts.sch.uk.

We should be notified each day of a child's absence preferably by 8.30am. Please be assured that all notifications will be shared promptly with the class teacher.

Some parents continue to try calling, which slows down Mr Smith's ability to process absences each morning. Thank you for your help!

Early Years Update

This week we have begun our new story "Giraffes Can't Dance". We have created a story map and have started to make actions to go along with this. The children have been busy mind mapping characters, drawing and labelling pictures of Gerald the Giraffe and making their own Story 'S'. In maths lessons the children have amazed the teachers with their understanding and use of the part, part whole model to find a total/ whole. We have used dominoes, shapes and Numicon to find two parts and add them together to make a whole. Reception have even been writing number sentences!

Next Week: We will be focusing on find the missing part instead of making a whole and will continue to learn about different African animals through our literacy lessons.



Final Thought

At time this week, it has definitely felt like spring has started to arrive - how brilliant it has been to finally have some proper sunshine! You may already have seen this, but the National Trust have a list of '50 Things to do before you are 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ' (<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/50-things>). Given that the weather is improving, and we can get out a little more, it would be brilliant to hear if you manage to do any of the activities on the list this weekend! Please ask an adult to send a picture to admin@flamsteadjmi.herts.sch.uk; it might even make next week's newsletter!

Upcoming Dates

Date	Event
28/4	INSET Day
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

INSET DAY—Apologies again for the last minute change, but next Friday, 28th April, will be an INSET day and therefore school will be closed to all pupils.

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

Summer Weather —please ensure you have sun hats and sun cream at the ready in the hope of more sunshine soon!

FoFS News!

Fish and Chips Quiz Night

On the 30th of March, FoFS held its annual Quiz Night with parents, Governors, past-students and villagers packing into the school's hall to take part in the event.

It was a brilliant night, expertly run by Quiz Master Andy Baradel, and saw the unveiling of the FoFS 'Be A Star' board, which listed items the school needs that Quizzers could donate towards.

Overall that night, FoFS raised **£1427.68** including donations.

We are absolutely delighted with this result, especially since we're now able to purchase the following items for the school: a four-hoop basketball skill trainer, two new rugs for Chestnut and Bonsai classes, Non-fiction books for Maple class and rainy-day board games for Bonsai class.

A lot of effort goes into planning these events but FoFS would particularly like to thank Emilie Griffin, Carlos Guinand and Sarah Percy for their help, as well as Miss Smith, the Parish Council and Andy Baradel.

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/>

FAMILY FUN RUN

SUNDAY

14

MAY



NEW LOCATION FOR 2023
Drift Limits Racetrack
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD



The **FUN** run through
coloured bubbles!

Book Tickets &
Support Your Local Hospice

stfrancis.org.uk/bubblerrush



The Hospice
of st francis

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Helping You Make Healthy Habits As A Family

Come along to our fun, FREE healthy lifestyle courses!



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beezebodies.com/families



or scan me with
 your smartphone
 camera!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WALTHAM CROSS Hurst Drive Primary EN8 8 DU 17:45 - 19:30	ST ALBANS Camp Primary School AL1 5PE 17:30 - 19:30	HODDESDON St. Cuthbert's Church EN11 0PU 17:30 - 19:30	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 17:30 - 19:30
WELWYN GARDEN CITY Ridgeway Academy AL7 2AF 17:00 - 19:00	WATFORD St Meryl Primary WD19 5BT 17:30 - 19:30	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 17:30 - 19:30	BOREHAMWOOD Meryfield Primary School WD6 4PA 17:30 - 19:30

12-week BeeZee Families courses starting in
 Hertfordshire from 15th May 2023

*to be eligible for this awesome free service, your family must live/go to school/be registered with a GP in Hertfordshire and include one child aged 5-15 who is above their ideal healthy weight.

Bf BeeZee Families

www.beezebodies.com/families

01707 248648

