



Friars Weekly News

Friday 20th November 2020

This week the whole school have been thinking about the impact and effects that bullying can have on children as part of our Anti-Bullying Week. Starting with our 'odd socks day' on Monday to highlight that it's ok to be 'unique' the children have explored ways to tackle bullying and developed strategies to ensure it never becomes a problem in our school.



Dates for the Diary

DECEMBER
Friday 11th
Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 16th
Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th
INSET Day

Monday 21st – Friday 1st January
Christmas break

JANUARY
Monday 4th
First day back

FEBRUARY
Friday 12th
INSET Day
Monday 15th - Friday 19th
Half term

MARCH
Monday 29th - Friday 9th April
Easter break

MAY
Monday 3rd & 31st
Bank Holiday
Friday 28th
INSET Day

JUNE
Tuesday 1st - Friday 4th
Half term

JULY
Thursday 22nd - Tuesday 31st August
Summer break

Due to the current lockdown restrictions being in place, we have had to make the sad decision to say NO to Christmas cards and staff presents being sent into school this year. I hope you understand that this is an additional risk that we don't need to take. However, we have been busy this week finalising our plans for our 'alternative' Christmas arrangements this year, which will be different but just as magical. We hope to be able to share these with you next week

Have a good weekend. *Mr McClay* *Mr Roche*

School Safety

Please remember that only one adult should be on the school site during drop off and collection times. We would also respectfully ask that you supervise your children whilst waiting for siblings. Our staff go to great effort to keep each bubble separate during the day and it has been noticed that children from different bubbles have been mixing once collected after school.

There appears to have been a drop this week in the number of parents wearing face coverings in and around our school site. Thank you to those who have cooperated with this important request. Unless you are medically exempt we would really appreciate you wearing a face covering when dropping off or collecting your children. This alongside social distancing can greatly reduce the transmission of the virus as shown in the picture opposite. Please help us keep our school community as safe as possible.



Thank you.



Online Safety

In the last week we have had received notice of several incidents where our children have received highly inappropriate, often sexualised messages when using games or social media at home. The content of some of these messages is shocking and the language used would appear to be that of adults rather than children. This appears to be especially prevalent with games and apps that contain 'chat' facilities such as Roblox, WhatsApp, TikTok etc. These apps often have a much older age limit than primary aged children, as the content is often more adult themed. Please make sure you monitor children's access to these applications, check that the children know their 'friends' and set parental controls. We will be putting together a virtual online safety workshop to support parents further very shortly.

Review of The Week

Early Years

Nursery

This week in Nursery, children have really got involved in imaginary role play, both indoor and out. Some children have built fire engines using the large waffle bricks, adding tyres and the garden hose for more detail. Whilst indoors, some children have enjoyed using the home corner to make dinner for their friends. They have also changed this into a restaurant, created menus, taken orders, prepared and washed up after each meal. Lots of fun has been had by all.

Year Group Emails

Please contact your child's teacher using the following email addresses;

- nursery@friars.southend.sch.uk
- reception@friars.southend.sch.uk
- year1@friars.southend.sch.uk
- year2@friars.southend.sch.uk
- year3@friars.southend.sch.uk
- year4@friars.southend.sch.uk
- year5@friars.southend.sch.uk
- year6@friars.southend.sch.uk

Dinner Menu – Week two

Monday – Chicken and broccoli pasta
Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna
Cheese and potato pie
Peas and seasonal salad selection
Ham or cheese sandwich or sausage roll
Jam sponge and custard

Tuesday - Homemade mild beef chilli and rice
Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna
Vegetable savoury rice
Sweetcorn and seasonal salad selection
Ham or cheese sandwiches or sausage roll
Date and chocolate slice

Wednesday - Roast Turkey, Yorkshire pudding and crispy roast potatoes
Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna
Quorn sausage
Mixed vegetables and seasonal salad selection
Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll
Cheese, crackers and grapes

Thursday - Homemade pork sausage and bean casserole and creamy mash
Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna
Veggie roll
Carrots and season salad selection
Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll
Ice cream tub

Friday - Beef burger in a bun and chips
Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna
Cheese and tomato pizza
Baked beans and seasonal salad selection
Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll
Ring doughnut

Attendance cup winners

KS1 – 1GC with 100%
KS2 – 3JD with 99.3%

House points winners

KS1 – Stirling (blue)
KS2 – Stormont (green)

PE Days

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| Monday | Year 2 |
| Tuesday | Year 4 |
| Wednesday | Year 1 & Year 3 |
| Thursday | Year 5 |
| Friday | Year 6 |

PE Kit

We go outside for PE in all weathers, so please make sure the children have tracksuit bottoms and a jacket or hoodie to wear. Gloves and hats can also be worn in the colder weather.

Reception

Another busy week! We have been enjoying the sun whilst we can! Please keep working on putting on and zipping up coats at home. In phonics, we have been learning some new sounds and we are enjoying our reading books. Please remember these will be collected in every Thursday and sent home every Monday. In maths, we have been practising our counting and learning about numbers 2 and 3. We loved seeing the odd socks this week and have been really thinking about being kind to each other and celebrating how everyone is different and special!

Key Stage 1

Year 1

1BF have had an awesome time with their outdoor learning week. We have been finding evergreen and deciduous trees, discussing how trees grow and how to look after plants. 1GC will be able to enjoy their outdoor learning next week. In class we have been teaching the children about autumn, looking at autumnal colours, changes to trees and leaves as well as discussing changes to the weather. In our English work, we have started to read the story of the Jolly Postman. In maths, we have been looking at the days of the week and the months of the year.

Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed kicking off the week by wearing odd socks for Anti-Bullying Week. We discussed what we could do as a class in the fight against bullying. This week we have also been writing descriptive sentences about Hercules and using the Vocabulary Ninja wall to develop our adjectives. In maths, we have been investigating, identifying, explaining properties and finding 3D objects in our environment. During Science, we researched different materials and investigated to find out if we could squash, bend, twist and stretch to change their shape.

Please continue to read with your child and remember to sign the rainbow reader list so your child can earn their rainbow reader stickers.

Key Stage 2

Year 3

Year 3 have been working hard in Science learning about nutrition and healthy eating. We talked about the different food groups and what makes a balanced diet. Our English work this week has focused on aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar. The children have deepened their knowledge of conjunctions and how to use these to extend their sentences. We also enjoyed a creative afternoon designing and painting animals for a jungle themed display in our cloakroom. The children's tigers and leopards were fantastic and will really brighten up our corridor. As part of Anti-Bullying Week, Year 3 designed a puzzle piece to reflect their views on being kind to others.

Year 4

Another busy but fun week in Year 4! In English, we planned and wrote diary entries about a favourite memory, making sure to include key features of diary writing like using verbs in the past tense and writing in the first person. In maths, we have been learning about lines of symmetry in 2D shapes. In the afternoons we took part in lots of fun activities, ranging from learning about historical toys and outdoor games like marbles and hopscotch, creating pieces of art based on jungle creatures and learning all about Anti-Bullying Week and thinking about how we can all make choices to prevent bullying.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been thinking about Anti-Bullying Week in English. The children have written acrostic poetry and diamante poems. We have continued looking at multiplicative reasoning in maths and perfecting our short division skills. In geography, the children learnt about the role of tectonic plates in forming fold mountains. In science, we looked at air resistance and gravity.

Year 6

This week the focus has been on anti-bullying, with the theme of 'United Against Bullying.' We began the week by wearing odd socks to show that we are all unique but that we are also all equal. During the week, the children had the opportunity to discuss what it means to be bullied, the feelings that come from this and the different strategies that can be used both within and outside of school to deal with any issues arising from being bullied or knowing someone who is.



After Christmas, Mrs Stephens and her kitchen team will be working with a company called Pabulum to improve lunches even further here at Friars. Pabulum already work across our other partner schools in the Portico Academy Trust and they pride themselves on supplying high quality, freshly produced and healthy meal options. From January there will no longer be a cold lunch option. Instead there will be two hot meal options each day (including at least one vegetarian choice) as well as either pasta or jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings. We will be introducing other new things too to make it more of a dining experience for the children. This will include the children having plates rather than trays and when things can return to being more normal again, there will be a lovely salad bar.

This week, school councillors took a sample menu back to share with their classes. Please find a copy of this attached. We hope you agree, it looks great! More information will follow...

