



Friars Weekly News

Friday 12th March 2021

Wow...what a fantastic week it has been welcoming the children back into school. Each and every one of them has been amazing and they have settled back into their learning and routines brilliantly.

Thank you to all of the children for their very grown up attitudes and for their smiling faces around school!

Next week we launch our Easter Egg raffle. There are almost 50 prizes up for grabs including some huge eggs worth up to £10 each. Tickets are available from Monday 15th and cost £1 per strip and are available from the children's class teachers. All proceeds from the raffle will be going to our chosen local charity this year – Havens Hospices, who do amazing work for families in this area. Please help to support this very worthwhile cause and maybe earn yourself an amazing prize at the same time!

Have a great weekend

Mr McClay Mr Roche



Dates for the diary

MARCH

Monday 15th

Easter Egg Raffle tickets go on sale

Friday 19th

Comic Relief – Children can wear something red or an item of Comic Relief clothing with their uniform

Friday 26th

Non-Uniform Day and Easter Egg Raffle Draw

Monday 29th - Friday 9th April
Easter break

MAY

Monday 3rd
Bank Holiday

Friday 28th
INSET Day

May/JUNE

Monday 31st - Friday 4th
Half term

Monday 7th
First day back

JULY

Thursday 22nd - Tuesday 31st August
Summer break

Health & Safety

Important

The office is currently closed to non-essential visitors, **so punctuality in the mornings is even more important**. Please arrive on time.

Rapid COVID-19 Testing Update

Over the past few weeks we have shared information regarding rapid home testing at home. The Public Health guidance is now that primary school children should **not** be tested regularly. This is because the risk of transmission is lower in this age group and the benefit of regular testing would be outweighed by the possible difficulty in carrying the tests out.

We would still urge other family members to participate in regular testing. Testing is a vital way to suppress the virus and reduce transmission.

It is possible to take rapid tests at home. Please see the link below for more information about ordering test kits. Thank you.

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

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

Please remember that Friars school site is a **no-smoking area**. We would also ask parents to refrain from smoking when queuing outside the school. This is especially important when children are also waiting with their parents.



Review of The Week

Early Years

Nursery

Welcome back to what has been a strange start to the spring term. All of our children have happily returned to Nursery and our current children have been brilliant at welcoming our new children. With the very mixed weather this week, Nursery children have had the chance to explore the new toys and learning opportunities both indoors and out. I think their favourite has been the large outdoor sandpit, look out for sand in their shoes, it tends to get everywhere!

Reception

It was absolutely wonderful to welcome the children back to Reception this week. We have been amazed at their resilience and how they have remembered things that even we had forgotten, like which shape on the carpet was theirs to sit on!

We have been talking about how we feel about being back at school and familiarising ourselves about the rules and routines that happen during the day. The children have loved seeing their friends and have been excited and happy to tell us all their news.

We have all enjoyed playing and rediscovering our classrooms and garden - and even had some beautiful sunny weather.

It has been a great week and we are very proud of all the children. Thank you parents for your support in helping us to make your child's return to school smooth and happy.

Dinner Menu

Week commencing 15/3/21

Day	Main Meals	Vegetables	Dessert
Monday	Tomato & Vegetable Pasta Bake Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Sweetcorn	Fresh Fruit Salad or Yoghurt with Fruit Topping
Tuesday	Cumberland Sausage & Mash with Gravy Vegetarian Sausage & Mash with Gravy Pasta in a Tomato Sauce with Cheese	Carrots	Chocolate Shortbread Biscuit
Wednesday	Pepperoni Pizza Margherita Pizza Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Potato Wedges & Sweetcorn	Fresh Fruit Salad or Yoghurt with Fruit Topping
Thursday	Chicken & Sweetcorn Meatballs with Tomato Sauce & Penne Pasta Veggie Bolognese with Penne Pasta Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Broccoli	Vanilla Sponge
Friday	Fish Fingers & Oven Baked Chips Vegetable Frittata with Oven Baked Chips Pasta in a Tomato Sauce with Cheese	Peas & Baked Beans	Maryland Cookie

Attendance cup winners

Our attendance this week was a whopping 97.5% across the whole school – a brilliant effort all round!

In KS1 – 1BF won the cup with 98.7%

The winning class in KS2 were 5VW with a perfect 100%

House points winners

The children have all been amazing this week - Our House Cup points will start again next week!



Outdoor Learning

Next week's outdoor learning class will be –

6D

PE Days

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

Key Stage 1

Year 1

It has been wonderful having the children back in school this week. They have been happy, settled and engaged in their learning. We have continued learning about 'The Great Fire of London' by talking about Samuel Pepys and his diary. We have created a 'Pop Art' style montage with pictures of Samuel Pepys using bright colours and dots. In maths, we have revisited the names and properties of common shapes.

Year 2

What a great first week back!

Year 2 have settled back into school really well and have adapted instantly to the routine of the school day. We have revisited partitioning and addition in maths and looked at a new 'Anthony Browne' book called 'Into the Forest'. We spent some time in our environmental garden where we used our senses. In science, we investigated different fruits and vegetables, discussing which parts we eat - leaves, roots, stems or seeds.

Just a reminder that PE is on a Monday so the children need to come in wearing their PE kits.

Key Stage 2

Year 3

This week the classrooms in Year 3 have been busy with lots of learning about our new English text "Escape from Pompeii". We have listened to the story and used our senses to describe the market place and harbour. In 3ML we even wrote some poems based on a song from within the story. We had great fun playing around with synonyms for 'shake'. We have produced some fantastic pieces of volcano artwork based on the artist Margaret Godfrey using a range of different materials and techniques.

Year 4

What a fantastic first week back at school it's been for Year 4! In English we have been using our imaginations to think about what it would feel like snowboarding down a huge mountain, thinking about what we could see and hear as well as describing the mountain itself. In Maths we have been recapping column addition and subtraction as well as place value. We had lots of fun in geography this week, learning all about contours by drawing them onto potatoes! Mrs Bailey and Mr Smith are both very proud of how the children have returned to school and how hard they have been working after such a long time away.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a very successful and settled first week back. They have embraced our topic and became environmental activists for the week; writing persuasive letters about stopping deforestation due to palm oil production. In Maths, they have been focusing on adding and subtracting fractions and converting mixed number and improper fractions. Our geography and science work has been looking at rainforests and thinking about plant adaptation. Well done Year 5 for a great first week back!

Year 6

A great week back for Year 6! We have enjoyed writing letters of complaint on various topics in English and revised 'area' in maths – moving onto areas of triangles and parallelograms. 6G were lucky enough to have their Outdoor Learning block this week. Despite some 'dodgy' weather, they enjoyed studying the trees in the garden, looking for other organisms growing around them and learning how best to look after them. Using clues and identification sheets, they used buds and leaves to identify the different types of trees on our site. They also created tree passports where they estimated the height, girth and age of a tree using tools to measure them. At the end of the block, they enjoyed learning to use gardening tools such as secateurs, loppers and even saws to see how to maintain a garden. They were lucky enough to finish the week with an indoor bonfire in the Hobbit Hut with marshmallows. 6D are very much looking forward to their slot next week!

Weekly Celebrations

Early Years - Esme & Mya (Robins) - Peter & Dennis (Owls)

Key Stage 1 - Sienna-Rose & Zain (1BF) – Olivia & Alex (1GC) – Kyran & Faye (2B) – Alabama & Tyrese (2S)

Key Stage 2 - Taylor & Alfie (3JD) - Ava C & Alana (3ML) - Ollie & George (4B) - Claudia & Liam (4S) - Grace, Hamish & Safiyyah (5VW) - Harry & Gabrielle (5W) – The Whole class & Colbi (6G) – Leah & Lily-Mae (6D)



Friars is part of the Portico Academy Trust