



Friars Weekly News

Friday 11th December 2020

Dates for the diary

DECEMBER

Friday 18th
INSET Day

Monday 21st – Friday 1st January
Christmas break

Monday 4th January
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

During the last year our school has been working hard to retain the 'enhanced healthy schools' award as well as earning the 'enhanced emotional health and wellbeing' status.

As part of this, we have introduced a very simple scheme used in many schools across the world, 'The Daily Mile'. This sees the children run, jog or walk at their own pace for 15 minutes a day. The all-round benefits include improved physical and mental health, improved focus in the classroom and it's also a great social event as the children can chat to their friends and teachers as they go. It is estimated that almost 12 thousand schools and up to 2.3million children in the UK now take part and over the last few weeks our Year 3 and 4 children have been trialling this healthy initiative. Should it continue to prove a success, we may look to introduce it to other year groups in the spring term. Well done to all of our 'Daily Milers'!

Continuing our health and fitness drive, we had an exciting meeting this week with some playground developers as we look to create an outdoor gym area for our school next year. Exciting times ahead!

This week, the children have all taken part in their Winter Wonderland decoration making and on Friday, they got to meet a very special visitor when Santa Claus himself came to town to say hello and to deliver a sack of gifts to each class! We hope the children liked their presents. A big thank you to our PTA for arranging the visit and of course to Santa himself for taking time out of his very busy schedule to visit our school.

Building up the excitement even further....next week is Christmas week at Friars with lots of seasonal fun taking place across the week. Thursday also sees the very first draw of our Christmas Sweet Raffle. Thank you for your support with this so far, it has truly been amazing. You can still buy tickets right up until Thursday morning...so please don't miss out on your chance to win a fantastic Christmas prize!

Have a good weekend.

Mr McClay

Mr Roche

Health and Safety

There was obviously some great news this week with the roll-out of the first COVID vaccines, however, the picture in Southend and Essex is less optimistic with a significant rise in the number of schools having to close to pupils over the last week. Some local schools have even seen as many as two thirds of their pupils having to work from home. There is talk of Southend moving into Tier 3 due the With this in mind, it is very important for us to not drop our guard and for everybody involved with our school community to continue with the safety measures that are in place.

When you are in or around our school please continue to

- Wear face coverings at all times (unless you are medically exempt).
- Maintain good social distancing
- Keep to your allocated times and collection/drop off points
- Only have 1 person to enter the site to collect
- Do not congregate or mix with parent/children from other bubbles
- Contact us via phone or email rather than discuss at the classroom door or gate

Review of The Week

Early Years

Nursery

We have continued with our Winter Wonderland theme this week and the children have been busy participating in some festive activities. These have helped develop their fine motor skills such as using scissors, holding mark making tools and folding paper. Nursery has sparkled with red, gold and green glitter, pompoms and twirling ribbon. We hope you like the finished products that the children will bring home next week.

Reception

Wow what a week! The children were absolutely marvellous during our decoration morning. Of course we missed having all of you here to help - but hopefully we can do something later in the year...fingers crossed. Look out for some lovely things coming your way soon. In maths, we have continued to develop our counting skills - and the children are making wonderful progress with this! On Monday we had an online visit from Jonathan at the Cats Protection League - we learned

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 One

Monday – Homemade Spaghetti bolognese and a bread roll

Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna

Cauliflower and broccoli pasta bake

Peas and seasonal salad selection

Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll

Fruit crumble and custard

Tuesday - Sweet and sour chicken and rice

Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna

Cheese and tomato omelette

Green beans and seasonal salad selection

Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll

Fruit trifle

Wednesday - Roast pork, apple sauce and crispy roast potatoes

Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna

Vegetable ravioli

Mixed vegetables and seasonal salad selection

Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll

Ice cream tub

Thursday - Homemade ham, cheese and tomato quiche and new potatoes

Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna

Cheese pasta

Sweetcorn and seasonal salad selection

Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll

Marble sponge and custard

Friday - Cod fish fingers and chips

Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna

Veggie fingers

Baked beans and seasonal salad selection

Ham and cheese sandwich or sausage roll

Yoghurt and biscuit

Attendance cup winners

KS1 – To be announced next week

KS2 – To be announced next week

House points winners

KS2 – To be announced next week

KS1 – To be announced next week

PE Days

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

so many facts about cats. We didn't know that cats smiled with their eyes by doing a slow blink. Please ask your child about what they can remember. In other news - can we ask that you keep on working on the zips at home with coats. Also we seem to be having quite a few wet accidents at the moment. Please talk to your child about remembering to go to the toilet whenever they need to - and can we also ask that all children have spare clothes in school - as we now do not have any here unfortunately. Our party will be on Wednesday afternoon after our Christmas dinner - normal school uniform and no party food this year please. We will be making party hats here.

Key Stage 1

Year 1

The children had a fantastic afternoon making their Winter Wonderland goodies earlier this week. They enjoyed finger painting, creating snowflakes, threading beads to make wreaths, collaging stained glass windows and many more activities. In maths, we have been consolidating the children's understanding of numbers and how to form them. We have now finished our story of 'The Jolly Postman' where the children have discussed their favourite characters and their most enjoyable parts of the story.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a really good week, making their very own elf in the Winter Wonderland afternoon, wearing a range great Christmas jumpers and then getting to see Father Christmas and receiving some class gifts! We have also completed some maths assessments and the children were very mature and worked very hard throughout. In English, we looked at the features of an informal letter before writing our own letter as Theseus, to his father explaining what happened when he went to Crete and met the Minotaur. In RE we found out about advent and the Christmas story.

Key Stage 2

Year 3

It's been 'bread week' in Year 3 and the children have had great fun making, tasting and baking their own bread rolls. We think they would have given Paul Hollywood a run for his money with their super dough skills. The week started with making butter for putting on their baked rolls at the end of the week, we then had the chance to sample a range of different breads and explore the different shapes and sizes bread can come in. This helped give us ideas for the shape we wanted to make our own bread rolls in. It's been a fun week and we would like to give each child a "handshake" to congratulate them on their fantastic work. In Maths this week we have been working on telling the time using analogue and digital clocks. We have also looked at Roman numerals and how these often appear on clocks. Please practise at home telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes.

Year 4

Year 4 have been very busy this week in English, learning and creating our own chronological reports about lots of different animals! We enjoyed researching some of our favourite animals and learning about them to put into our own reports. In Maths this week we have been learning about rounding numbers and estimating – we found out that sometimes it's actually harder to think of a good estimate than work out what the final answer will be! The afternoons have been very busy this week, we have been learning about lots of unusual traditions that we have in our country like cheese rolling (we even had a go at this ourselves!) as well as learning about the graffiti artist Banksy.

Year 5

This week in English, the children have been working on festive diary entries. We have used a variety of TV adverts to inspire our writing. They have worked very hard to include a range of grammar and punctuation features such as relative clauses and parenthesis. In maths, we have been looking at measuring angles. The children have persevered with this really well and are now more confident with using a protractor. 5VB have thoroughly enjoyed their outdoor learning with Mr Brady. Crafting with natural materials has been really fun!

Year 6

In Year 6 this week, the children have been continuing their work on percentages, specifically percentages of prices, learning how to calculate a percentage and then by reading the question, deciding if it is an increase or a decrease in price. The afternoons have been spent continuing to study this term's theme of 'Extreme Earth' and making their Christmas decorations.

Please be aware that when Year 6 come back to school after the Christmas holidays, both classes will be participating in outdoor learning with Mr. Brady. 6D will be the first week beginning the 4th January and 6G will be the second week beginning the 11th January 2021. The children will be expected to wear school uniform on the top. On the bottom they need to wear trousers where it doesn't matter if they get mucky. This also goes for their footwear. You may want to send in wellingtons!! Seeing that it is January, the children may want to think about layering up in order to keep warm.

