



## Welcome Back Everyone...

We hope that everyone had a restful summer holiday. The children have returned well to school really successfully, settling back into routines and getting to know their new teachers. We only have one new teacher this year – Miss Fritche, our new Assistant Headteacher, replaces Mr Taylor who was promoted to a Deputy Headship last term. Yesterday senior leaders visited every class on what we call a ‘learning walk’ to look at children’s attitudes to learning; we were very pleased with what we saw – children listening well, talking to each other about their learning, working hard, wanting to do their best and showing good teamwork.

## ‘Waterside Primary’

On Wednesday afternoon, the Leicester City Planning Committee approved the planning application for a new primary school building to be built on Fosse Road North, opposite the entrance to Rally Park. This will be an exciting project providing a brilliant new building with excellent state of the art facilities inside and outside, including a large all weather football pitch. As soon as I have more information about exactly how we will be involved then I will share it with you. This should be particularly relevant for parents of children in Years 4 and below... 😊

## ‘No Outsiders in Our School’

On our training days, staff discussed our expectations for the year; following our ‘Good’ judgement from Ofsted last year, we need to continue to improve what we do in all areas. One major project we will be undertaking will be the ‘No Outsiders in Our School’ project which will help us to improve how we meet our duties under the Equalities Act. Fosse is one of the most diverse schools in the City with children from different backgrounds and all types of families – we will be using story books to help children understand that it’s ok to be different and that everyone should be valued. We were chosen to be a pilot school for the project because of the good work we already do in reducing bullying and celebrating our differences. One minor change later in the year will be renaming our International Week to Community Week – our families all have stories to tell and we want to reflect this in the work children do at school.

## Autumn Fair !!!!

We will be holding an Autumn Fair on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September – a separate letter will be sent out about this on Monday. There will be all sorts of activities and games for everyone; we will be raising money for iPads or tablets. We will be looking for parents to support so please look out for the letter on Monday and see Mrs Smith in F1 or Miss Mussa in Year 4.

As ever, if you have any concerns or issues please come and talk to us sooner rather than later but bear in mind teachers are rarely available to talk at length without an appointment. Sometimes we may need some time to look into an issue before we get back to you but we will always try to do this as quickly as possible. We look forward to working closely with you over the course of the coming year.

Best Wishes,  
Richard Stone  
Headteacher

## **Walking Bus**

Our 'Walking Bus' is a great option for those families who want their child to walk to school in the morning but are unable to escort them themselves. Please ask a member of the office staff for more details.

## **Health & Safety notice**

This is an important reminder that children may only wear studs in their ears and these must be removed or covered for PE. Hoops or 'dangly' ear rings are not allowed under any circumstances. Likewise, children should bring a change of clothes, including plimsoles, for every PE lesson.

## **Uniform**

If your child is not dressed appropriately for school we reserve the right to provide them with a school jumper or sweatshirt for the day. We will be sending copies of all home / school agreements next week so that families have copies to refer to regarding what we expect as a school as well as what you can expect from us. Uniform expectations are part of this. On the same subject, I do need to point out that large bows are not part of our school uniform. Please save these for the evenings and weekends.

## **Groupcall Parent App**

If you have a smart phone please consider downloading the 'groupcallxpressions' app. This is a great app that links with our school management system, keeping parents updated on a wide range of information such as attendance and term dates etc. It works on android and iPhone so please go to your app store and download it!

## **Late Collection of children**

Last year we had increasing numbers of children who were picked up late from school. This can be extremely upsetting for children and difficult for staff who sometimes find it difficult to contact parents. We also do not readily have staff who are able to supervise children left at school.

We understand that this is sometimes totally unavoidable but feel that we need to take steps to reduce the number of times children are picked up late. From next week, children who have not been picked up by 3.20 will be taken to an after school club where they can be supervised although they will not be able to take part in the club. The first time this happens there will be no charge but on any subsequent occasion in a school year the parents will be charged; this type of policy is operated by many schools. We are happy to look at providing after school care on a daily basis but whenever we have asked parents there has been little support for this – please let the school office know if you would be interested in paying for REGULAR after school care for your child. Please note: we would not be able to offer care at the same cost as that offered by The Rally Adventure Playground.

## **Homework**

We will be changing the way homework works this year. As well as the usual reading, spellings and times tables / number bonds year groups will provide a menu of different activities from which to choose. We hope you will find this system easy to use.

I'm sure I don't need to remind parents that the most important thing for primary children is that they read (and are read to) as often as possible so do please keep reading with your child – if you need any more information about reading talk to their teacher or Miss Fritche who is our English Leader.

If English is not your first language please keep communicating in your home language so your children become fully fluent in their home language first.

## **Assemblies**

Parents will be invited to assemblies on Thursday mornings (for Years 4-6) or Thursday afternoons (Yrs 1-3) this year – the hall was becoming unpleasantly full when the whole school and families were present. Children will perform to parents and five other classes on the Thursday and to the rest of the school on Friday morning. Hopefully this will make assemblies more pleasant for everyone.