



Aspire, Believe, Succeed

# Weekly Newsletter – 7th September 2018



National Outstanding Award 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a new school year - I hope you all had a peaceful and restful holiday! We were pleased to see that the children have returned to school safe and well and have obviously enjoyed their long break! All our children look superb in their school uniform and in particular, some wearing their smart ties. Thank you for your support in helping to set high expectations with presentation. A special warm welcome to all our new parents and children. We hope you enjoy a long and happy association with Featherstone and that your children will succeed to the very best of their ability during their time at our school.

It's always important to have a reminder on expectations and in school on behaviour and attendance. Together with this newsletter I have attached the **Behaviour Policy** so that you may familiarise with the behaviour expectations and also the **Attendance Policy** so that you are aware of our protocols in monitoring and tracking absences in school. Please read the Spotlight letter, also attached.

## Healthy Mind, Healthy Body - Values Based Curriculum

As part of our ongoing curriculum evaluation and improvement, this academic year we are continuing Featherstone's 'Healthy Mind, Healthy Body' curriculum. During this learning, children will study and learn about a set of core values that we as a school believe will make a positive, thoughtful, well-rounded person who will succeed in all areas of life. The eleven values that we have chosen (one for each month of the school year) will be studied across the curriculum and everyday school life, but especially through the work that we complete in Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education.

Our 11 Values are:

September	Respect
October	Friendliness
November	Diversity
December	Honesty
January	Self-discipline
February	Trust
March	Co-operation
April	Patience
May	Self-belief
June	Courtesy
July	Aspiration

As part of the development and research of this curriculum staff, children, parent focus groups and governors were consulted when choosing our eleven core values so that we chose values that would be highly beneficial to the children at Featherstone. We look forward to launching our Healthy Mind, Healthy Body curriculum this week!

If you have any questions about this or you would like to share your ideas on how to promote these values in and across school, then please do not hesitate to speak to Mr Douglas (Assistant Headteacher).

### September Value — Respect

The value of the month for September is 'Respect.' This value is all about having a deep admiration for someone or something because you like their abilities, qualities or achievements.

Respect is an important value to start with and work with the children on so that they can learn to succeed in all areas of life because respect is needed on a daily basis.



### **Behaviour in School.**

As you know behaviour in our school is monitored by all staff and we have regular training for staff in this area. It's always important for parents to know how we monitor this and log information. Children's behaviour in class is closely monitored. Where children's behaviour is good this is acknowledged and rewarded. The children are given house points, Marvellous Me texts sent home and enrichment time on Friday. However they need to earn this, as it's not a given right! When there are concerns regarding a child's behaviour, parents are informed. In the first instance this is raised by the class teacher directly with you. Class teachers log all information regarding behaviour using internal systems, so that there is continuous monitoring to identify any patterns of behaviour or ongoing concerns. Behaviour at Featherstone is excellent and with parental support we can maintain this.

### **Bullying Concerns and online monitoring.**

All staff closely monitor signs of bullying in school and any rare incidents of bullying are stamped out immediately. In the event of any incidents of bullying, teachers rapidly address this through class discussions and educating the children by encouraging positive relationships and the use of strategies to resolve or defuse issues.

All staff (teachers, teaching assistants and dinner staff) are trained to spot signs of bullying (including e-safety). At Featherstone Primary we have an e-safety monitoring system which allows for all internet usage in school to be monitored. Any pages visited by the user which are inappropriate are immediately flagged and this is then followed through by designated people. In most cases we have found that this is usually low level and just requires to give the children a gentle reminder about internet rules. All of our children are aware of this monitoring, know the rules and also how to report any concerns that they may have. Throughout school posters are visible in corridors and in classrooms so that children know who to go to if they have a worry. We have found that our children are exceptionally confident in knowing who to go and talk to if they have a concern, or would just like a chat!

Mums and Dads please monitor older children's conversations on WhatsApp — We are finding that no good seems to be coming out of using this social media! Staff are having to deal with issues created outside of school.

### **Marvellous Me**

Marvellous Me tells you about the wonderful things that your child is learning, and pings you when they've been praised for good work or a great character skill. It makes you smile, feel proud, and inspires better home learning support and encouragement. Marvellous Me tell parents what their children are learning across the curriculum. All parents have a log in to receive updates from class teachers in how well their children are doing in class. If you have any difficulties please ask to speak to Mrs Wilson.



### **Medication.**

From time to time your child may need to take prescribed medication which falls during the school day. If this is the case please complete the medication consent form in the main office. We have designated staff that are certified to administer medication. All medication is kept in a supervised area.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION - WHEN A CHILD IS NOT COLLECTED AT AN EXPECTED TIME**

Can we remind all parents of the need to ensure that children are collected on time from school. All schools have been issued with procedures to follow when a child is not collected. If we are not able to make any contact with parents it leaves us with no choice but to follow the guidelines issued by Birmingham City Council and the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub. I think that it is important to educate everyone what the guidelines and procedures are in the event where a parent does not collect a child.

### **Procedures when a child is not collected from school.**

Whenever a parent fails to collect a child from school or an activity at the expected time, or a parent/carer is not at home to receive the child:-

1. The Head Teacher/DSL will maintain a record of incidents where parents do not collect child from school or activities or are absent when the child is transported home.
2. This will be brought to the attention of the Head Teacher or Designated Safeguarding Leader. The Head Teacher or DSL will then make every effort to contact the parent/carer.
3. If the child has not been collected/received, and it has not been possible to contact a parent or named carer, 60 minutes after the agreed finish time (**by 4:15pm**) a phone call will be made to the MULTI AGENCY SAFEGUARDING HUB (Social Services) via the Children's Information and Advice Service.
4. Social workers will give school advice and may carry out appropriate checks and make further attempts to contact the parent/carer. If there are any concerns about the welfare of the parent/carer. Social Services will ask the local police to visit the home address.
5. If an appropriate relative or carer is located, he/she will be asked to ensure that the child is collected. If there is a genuine reason for the relative/carer being unable to do this MASH will liaise with school about arrangements for the child to be taken to the address.
6. Any child welfare concerns arising out of such incidents will be dealt with in accordance with the child protection procedures of the school.
7. In making decisions, Social Care Services and the school will prioritise interim care arrangements that best meet the child's personal emotional needs
8. If their attempts to contact a parent/carer remain unsuccessful THREE HOURS after the normal time (**6.15pm**) of the school day, Social Services will normally make a decision to assume care of the child and arrange for him/her to be taken to a place of safety such as a foster carer or residential home.

**Concerns about a child's welfare.** Where more than one incident occurs, or where there are reasons for a concern regarding the ability of parent(s)/carer(s) to collect or receive their child, a discussion between the school and the parent will identify a strategy for addressing these concerns. Where agreement cannot be reached with the parent/carer or in cases where there are child protection concerns, Social Care Services will be invited to address the concerns regarding safeguarding the child.

### **Expectations and Reminders to all Parents**

**Homework.** Please make sure your child completes their homework and hands it in on time. Support your child but please do not do it for them.

**Spelling and Mental maths.** Please remember to make time at home for children to practise their weekly spellings and mental maths. Children will be tested on Fridays.

### **School Uniform**

Children should be wearing shoes to schools and not trainers (without flashing lights!)

Boys: School socks should be grey or black

Girls: Socks (White / Black) or Tights (Red/Grey)

No trainers!

**Hair styles.** A reminder that fashion haircuts are for holiday time and not for in school! No Mohican's or patterns.

**Earrings:** Plain, small studs only– no stones (diamonds), or hoops please.

**Morning snack (Juniors).** Please ensure that playtime snacks are healthy - no crisps or chocolate. **(Infants)** Reception, Year 1 and 2 do not need to bring snacks to school– they receive free fruit. Children in Juniors (Years 3,4,5, and 6) can bring a healthy snack.

**Water.** Please do not send children to school with diluted sugar drinks. Water is essential for all the obvious reasons. Should you have a concern over this request, please do not hesitate to email/write to school directly.

**Supervision of children before and after school** Please be mindful that the gardens and driveways on Glenville Drive are private property. Please support us by ensuring that your child does not run onto them on the way to or from school. We have recently had an incident of damage to one of our neighbour's cars, which has caused unnecessary expense to repair. Please do not park in front of our neighbours driveways, they need access at all times. We appreciate your support with this.

At Featherstone Primary School our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

**Parent Code of Conduct. We expect parents, carers and visitors to:**

Respect the caring ethos of our school

- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that **all** members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.

We have a Zero Tolerance Policy on school grounds. Any parent not complying with this will be asked to leave the school grounds. If we need to take further action through the local authority or police we will not hesitate to do so.

### **Social Media Sites**

- The use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites. Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in this school is found to be posting offensive or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site and also to the Local Authority.
- In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites.

### **Emails / Mobile Number**

Please remember to update school with contact details as we send most information by email.

### **House Teams**

Every child is in a House team and will be reminded of their House and or allocated to one if they are new to school. The House that has the highest score is rewarded with a treat at the end of each term.

**Dinner Money Autumn Term 1****Dinners : £87.40****Fri Only Dinners: £18.40**

All payments must be made on Parent Pay, the school office no longer accepts cash.

Reminder that dinner money must be paid on the first day of term.

**Forthcoming Events – Key Dates**

Nadchodzące wydarzenia - daty kluczowe

أحداث قادمة - التواريخ الرئيسية

Date	English	Polskie	عربي
13th Sept	Homework on Topics	Praca domowa na tematy	الواجبات المنزلية على موضوعات
26th Sept	Parent meeting : Enrichment and curriculum and No Outsiders 4:00pm	Spotkanie rodziców: wzbogacenie i program nauczania oraz brak outsiderów 16:00	اجتماع الوالدين: التخصيب والمناهج الدراسية و لا الغرباء 4:00 مساء
28th Sept	RECEPTION MACMILLAN COFFEE Morning 09:00-10:00am	ODBIÓR KAWA MACMILLAN Rano 09: 00-10: 00am	استقبال ماكميلان قهوة الصباح 09: 00-10: 00 صباحا
2nd Oct	Phonics screening meeting Year 1 parents 2.45pm (hall)	Spotkanie z monitorowaniem foników Rodzice pierwszego roku 2.45 (hall)	الصوتيات الفرز اجتماع السنة 1 الآباء 2.45 مساء
8th—12th Oct	Book fair in school	Targi książek w szkole	معرض الكتاب في المدرسة
15th Oct	School Photography Individual and Sibling pictures.	Fotografia szkolna Zdjęcia indywidualne i rodzeństwo.	التصوير الفردي والصور الأخوة
19th Oct	Harvest Assembly	Zbiór zbiorów	جمعية الحصاد
25th Oct	Parents Evening 3—7pm (Details to follow)	Wieczór Rodzinny 3-7pm (szczegóły do naśladowania)	الآباء مساء 3 - 7 مساء (تفاصيل للمتابعة)
26th Oct	End of term—School closes at 2pm	Koniec semestru - szkoła kończy się o godzinie 14:00	نهاية المدة - يتم إغلاق المدرسة في الساعة 2:00 ظهراً

**Have a lovely weekend**

Mr Gaibee and Staff



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