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# Weekly School Newsletter – Year 6 Leavers Special Edition — 16th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, what a year it has been. Since my time here in 2010, I have not known a year like it. I am sure many of you feel the same. I would like to start this newsletter with a few 'thank yous.' Firstly, I'd like to say a heartfelt thanks to my staff, who have worked incredibly hard around the clock to make school a safe and nice place for the children who we have had on-site. I am blessed to have such a good team. I would also like to thank the children themselves, who have shown maturity and sensibleness throughout the whole time, particular the children of Key Workers, who have had the longest hours on-site. Parents, thank you also. I know that I always have the support from Featherstone parents, who have shown so much understanding during the past few months and finally as always my thanks goes to all the Governors of Featherstone Primary for their valuable support, dedication and the range of experiences that they all bring to help make the right decisions so that all our children flourish and prosper.

### Free School Meals (FSM) Vouchers

A big thank you to the Government initiative that has meant that families who are entitled to benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM) have always received their eCode vouchers. They have supported Featherstone families with over £30,000 of food vouchers. Families who are entitled to benefits-related FSM will receive a £90 food voucher for each child that they have who is eligible for FSM on or around the 20th July 2020.

### School Dinners

In September, for Autumn Term 1, the price of school dinners will be £84.00 for children who have dinners each day. If you want your child to have school dinners on a Thursday (pizza day) the cost will be £16.80.

### 'Wear and Share' Project

'Wear & Share' is a project helping Birmingham individuals and families, who are struggling to obtain essential items for free, such as clothing, during this difficult time. The clothes are being collected by - The Active Wellbeing Society, working in partnership with the Aston Villa Foundation. They are distributed by #BrumTogether and the Foundation, along with a team of amazing charities and volunteers. Their website is: [www.theaws.co.uk/wearandshare](http://www.theaws.co.uk/wearandshare) You can also phone the Project Lead, Stacey on: 07595 914685 or email [wearandshare@theaws.org](mailto:wearandshare@theaws.org)

### September

Yesterday, I wrote to all families with very important information about September. We will re-open for all pupils on **Monday 7th September** but the start and end times of the day are different. This is to manage the amount of people in one place at any one time. Here is a reminder of times, drop-off and collection points:

- ⇒ **Reception:** 8.50am—3.15pm. Drop off and collect at the Reception gates.
- ⇒ **Year 1:** 8.50am—3.15pm. Drop off at the back entrance to the school and collect from the Year 1 steps.
- ⇒ **Year 2:** 8.50am—3.15pm. Drop off and collect from the Year 2 classrooms at the back of the school.
- ⇒ **Year 3 and Year 4:** 8.55am—3.25pm. Drop off and collect at the back entrance to the school.
- ⇒ **Year 5:** 9.00am—3.30pm. Drop off at the side entrance near the bike shed and collect from the school hall.
- ⇒ **Year 6:** 9.00am—3.30pm. Drop off and collect from the side entrance near the bike shed.

It is really important that parents are punctual and stick to these arrangements for the safety of everyone and the smooth running of the school. Thank you.

### Fridays

Yesterday, I wrote to all families with very important information about Fridays from September. School will close to all pupils at 1pm on a Friday so that teachers can have their PPA time. This will start from Friday 11th September (the first Friday back). High Achievers before and after school club are available on-site from 1pm on a Friday should you need them.

### Year 6

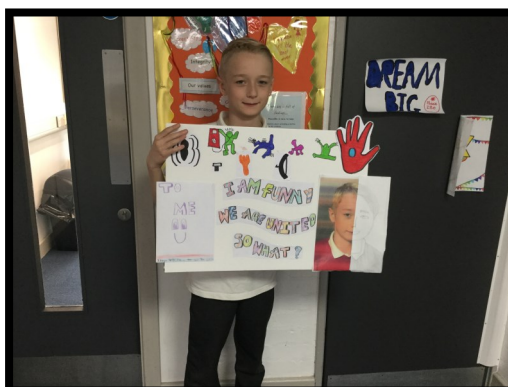
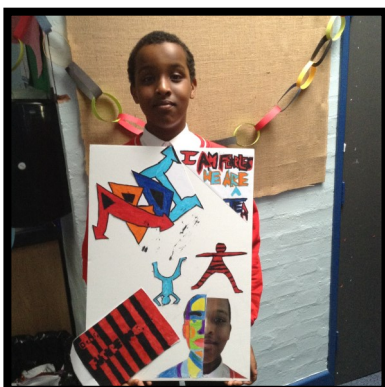
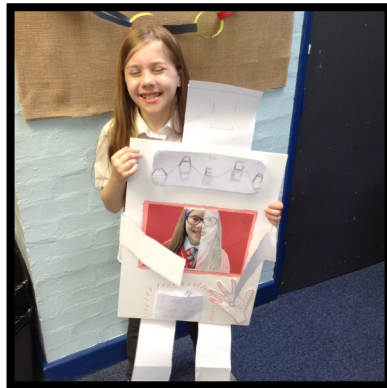
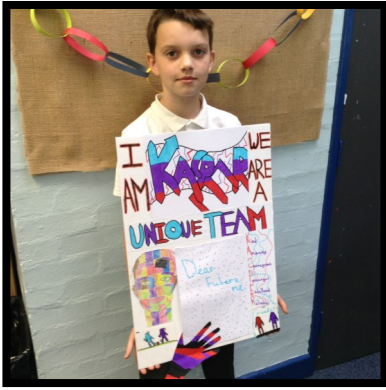
Today is the final day for our fantastic Year 6 cohort. We in school are very sad that the Year 6 children could not have the send off that they deserved. Coronavirus, as we are all too well aware, has disrupted the lives of everybody and that is the same for our wonderful Year 6 leavers. Since June 12th, when Year 6 were invited back into school, the Year 6 team have worked really hard, within very strict Government guidance, to make the children's final few weeks as fun and memorable as possible. Well done to the staff of Year 6 for working under such conditions. We will all genuinely miss the Year 6s. I personally want to wish them lots of luck for the coming months and years. Year 6: you have been an absolute pleasure to have in school these past seven years and I have enjoyed watching you grow up into the clever, carrying young people that you have become. Know that the doors of Featherstone Primary School are always open for our you, now more than ever. Do come back and say 'Hi' and let us know how you are getting on. Goodbye and good luck, Year 6.

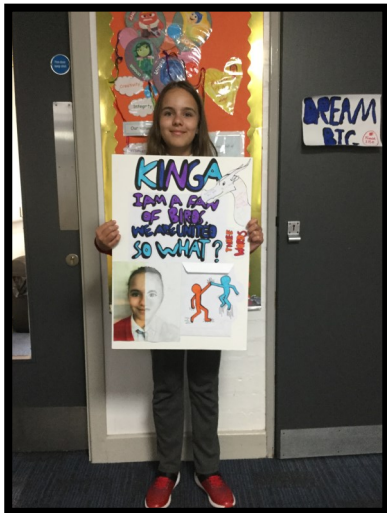
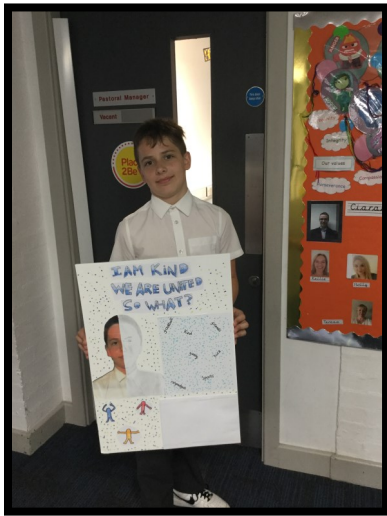
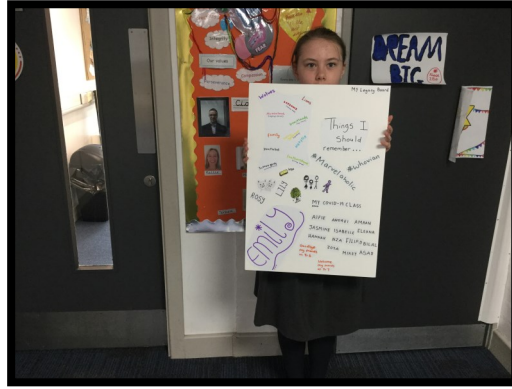
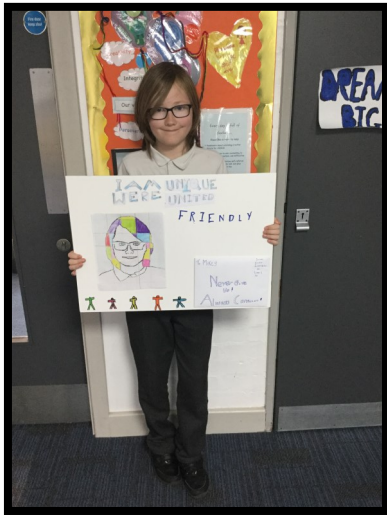
### Finally

From myself and all of my staff: have a wonderful summer holiday. Stay safe whilst enjoying yourselves. We all look forward to welcoming you back to Featherstone Primary School on Monday 7th September.

Mr. E. Gaibee  
**Headteacher.**

Year Six, you have been amazing. Take care & good luck!





## Support for children during the six week and also for Year 6



We know however that there will be children and young people who will still need support over the summer. KOOOTH, an online support platform for young people aged 11 – 25 where they can seek advice from a moderated support team in a completely anonymised forum. They are also able to access age appropriate articles and creative pieces and contribute themselves to share their work with others.

Kooth.com is available in your area, commissioned by your local NHS clinical commissioning group or Local Authority. They are available to children and young people in 77% of CCGs in England and look after 500k children and young people every year.

Kooth is hugely aware of the impact of COVID 19 on year 6 children. They have launched a specific transition campaign for Year 6 children which you can find [here](#). Kooth.com is available 365 days per year with live counselling available 12 until 10pm every day.

### What is Kooth?

Kooth.com is a free online mental health platform for children and young people. It is free for young people to access the service, no referral is needed and by creating an online profile young people remain anonymous whilst accessing direct counselling, and/or browsing the site for self-help information and guidance. The whole site is fully safeguarded and pre-moderated.

Kooth's multi-professional team includes BACP accredited counsellors, media workers (who moderate site content) and senior emotional well-being practitioners who are supported by a management team working to a clear clinical and quality governance framework.

XenZone has robust safeguarding practice which is robustly overseen by our senior clinical and safeguarding team. This ensures kooth.com is a safe, supportive and accessible service for young people in a non-stigmatising environment.

### Who is Kooth for?

Any of your Year 6 students or secondary students that may need support with their mental health. They don't need a referral or parental permission. The service is anonymous and fully safeguarded.

No one can create a username, post a comment or create content without our team approving it. We work with young people who may be interested in exploring mental wellbeing - right through to those with ongoing mental health needs that may use us alongside or instead of traditional services face to face and CAMHS services.