

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Brown

Happy New Year 2021

This term we welcome Winnie, Hector, Bella, Layla, Joshua and their families to nursery. We look forward to working with them and hope they enjoy their time with us.

Lockdown January 2021

As you are all aware we are once again in a national lockdown. There is still some uncertainty about whether maintained nursery schools (nursery schools staffed by teachers, run by a Governing Body and funded by the local authority like Flagg) are expected to close to all but the children of critical workers and vulnerable children like primary schools or to stay open for all children like private nurseries and childminders. I have been in many meetings since Monday evening and still haven't had an answer to this question. So for the time being we are open as usual. However, in order for me to ensure that we are adequately staffed, please could you let me know if you are intending to keep your child at home or send them in to nursery for the duration of the lockdown. Two of our members of staff are currently shielding and I need to ensure that we have safe adult:child ratios. Most of you have already let me know but if you haven't then please call the school or send an e-mail. If your child is in nursery today then I will assume that you are intending to send them for the duration of the lockdown. If anything changes I will let you know immediately. We are maintaining the same safety measures as before: sanitising all areas at lunchtime and at the end of the day, frequent hand washing and encouraging good respiratory hygiene. We are not however distancing from the children nor are the children distancing from each other. All children and staff currently in nursery school are in one bubble which today consists of 17 children and 5 members of staff. Our risk assessment is on our website under the COVID section.

If anyone in your family is showing symptoms of COVID 19 then please do not send your child to nursery, let us know and book a test. The Track and Trace team will then tell you what you should do next. Similarly, if your child develops symptoms whilst at nursery we will isolate them in a separate room with one member of staff wearing PPE and ask you to collect them immediately and organise a test. We must all work together to protect our school community. Thank you.

Applying for a Primary School place

If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, you will need to apply for their infant/primary school place by

15th January 2021. They will be eligible to start school in September 2021. You can apply online via the Derbyshire County Council website, or by ringing Call Derbyshire on 01629 537499. For more information or assistance, please speak to Mrs Simpson or Mrs Brown.



Snow

On occasions it is necessary to close the school because of severe weather conditions. If this happens I will e-mail you as soon as possible, we will also send a text via Parent hub so please check your phones before you set off. We will endeavour to have someone in the school office answering the phone, but this may not always be possible. The advice is, **if in doubt, please don't set out.**

Christmas Activities



We raised £62 on Christmas jumper day for Save the Children. Thank you to everyone who took part. Thank you also for all the amazing donations of toys for the Toy Bank, I delivered a boot full! I appreciate that you all thought about those less fortunate, even in such difficult times.

Our staff team were also overwhelmed by all the Christmas gifts you brought in for us, we were all very touched, thank you and I hope you all had a relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

Parent Hub App

If you haven't already done so, please download parenthub and check that you are receiving notifications. It is a great way to receive messages and letters from us. If you use the app it is free to nursery and to you. Otherwise the service sends you a text which we are both charged for. Thank you.

30 Hour code

If you are entitled to 30 hours of nursery education and want to take this up in full or in part for the summer term, please apply for your code before the 31st March otherwise you will have to wait until September to claim the extra funding.

Friends of Flagg

The Friends of Flagg is our parent, teacher and friends association. During the past year the Friends have raised money to pay for the upkeep of the guinea pigs, a school trip to Gulliver's Kingdom, Christmas presents for the children, Living eggs, sports coaching and animal workshops. This year we want to raise money to pay for more school trips, forest schools activities and for activities and visitors to nursery school such as theatre companies and dance coaches.

The Christmas raffle run by the Friends of Flagg together with the Flagg Christmas chutney made by Robin's mum and the new or nearly new toy sale raised £890! Thank you everyone for donating prizes and buying tickets.

Possible upcoming events:

- Easter egg hunt and Bunny Drive: April
- Strawberry Fayre: June
- Sports Day: July



The next Friends of Flagg Meeting will be in March when hopefully we will be out of lockdown and may be able to organise events. If not we will consider some COVID friendly activities for Easter. Similarly, Tiddlypeeps, our stay and play group run by the Friends of Flagg will open again later in the year.

Drop off/pick up

Please continue to drop off at the gate by the village hall wearing a mask and pick up at the front doors (big glass doors) wearing a mask. Please continue to park on Mycock Lane (by the pencil fence) as it is much safer for the children. In order to minimise contact between adults please drop off anytime between 9 and 9.15 am and pick up at either 12pm or between 2.45 and 3.15 pm. Only one adult should pick the children up and maintain a safe distance from other adults of 2 metres.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will be held on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th February via Zoom. This is a good opportunity to discuss your child's progress with us and let us know about any concerns you may have. Please send me an e-mail if you would like a consultation with a day and time suitable for you and I will send you a Zoom invitation.

INSET days

Because we are a DCC school we have five INSET (in-service training) days every year. We have two left this academic year: Tuesday 4th May and Thursday 22nd July. On these days the school is closed for children. This year our training will have covered: Paediatric first aid, food safety, safeguarding, Tales Toolkit (communication, language and literacy development), promoting well-being and trauma informed practice.

Governor's Section

The next full Governing Body meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 27th January. The Governors will discuss the school's SIP (School Improvement Plan) and look at the school budget to ensure that the school is providing value for money. If you are interested in joining our friendly and highly effective team, please speak to Mrs Brown.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 27th January
Wednesday 3rd February
Thursday 4th February
Friday 12th February
Monday 22nd February

Governing Body Meeting 7.30pm
Parent consultations
Parent consultations
Break up for half term
Back to school