

October 2020

Flagg News

Flagg Nursery School

Flagg, Derbyshire

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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Brown

Students

Sarah Barber, our afternoon teaching assistant who works at Monyash Primary school in the mornings is in the second year of her BA in Teaching and Learning with qualified teacher status at Sheffield Hallam University. She will still be working here and will complete her course next Summer. Mrs Buttle has one more placement to complete on the same course and then she will be a qualified teacher.

One of our past pupils, Miss Katie Garlick, is on placement here every other week. She is currently studying for an NVQ level 3 in Health and Social care at Buxton College. Katie attended Flagg Nursery School 12 years ago! It's always nice to catch up with former pupils.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will be held either on the phone or via Zoom, whichever you prefer. They will be held on Wednesday 14th October, Thursday 15th October or Friday 16th October. I will e-mail you to ask you which date and time you prefer. This is an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with their teachers or to talk about how they are settling in



Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 21st October at 10.30 am: all welcome. If your child doesn't usually attend on a Wednesday morning you can join us virtually. During this week please bring home grown produce or pre-packaged goods to add to a harvest basket which we will deliver to vulnerable or elderly people in our community.

Friends of Flagg

Our PTFA, The Friends of Flagg, has organised various events over the past few years such as discos for the children and family events like chocolate bingo and an Easter egg hunt. Money raised so far has been spent on: school trips, visitors to school like sports coaches and the entertainer for the Christmas party, presents for the children and also goes towards the cost of our nursery guinea pigs. This term the friends have planned some Covid safe activities:

- **Halloween party, carve a pumpkin competition and pumpkin treasure hunt in nursery (sorry no parents this year): Tuesday 20th and Friday 23rd October. On these days you are welcome to send your child in fancy dress and send in a donation for the party (suggested donation £2.50). There will be a prize for the best fancy dress and a prize for the best pumpkin made by children with their parents. Please bring your pumpkins in to nursery anytime from Monday 19th October. Donations of prizes for the pumpkin competition and snacks such as crisps, biscuits, cakes and healthy snacks will be very welcome, thank you. These do need to be packaged and not home made this year due to our Covid risk assessment.**
- **Christmas Raffle and Silent Auction: We will be holding a Christmas raffle and silent auction this year. We hope to have the raffle tickets ready by the end of October. If you are able to donate anything as a raffle or auction prize, please let us know.**

Please support the Friends of Flagg as all money raised will directly benefit the children. We are currently raising money to pay for Christmas presents for the children and a school trip next year.

Christmas Activities

I realise it is a little early to start thinking about Christmas but it's best to be prepared!

I am working on the assumption that parents still won't be allowed in school so with that in mind we will do a Christmas concert via Zoom on Friday 11th December at 10 am (please note change of time), feel free to join in.

The Christmas party will be on Wednesday 16th December to which all children are invited. There will be a magician and a special visitor arriving by sleigh!

Don't forget the Christmas raffle and auction too!

Parent Hub and Class Dojo

If you haven't already done so, please download the parent hub app and verify your child's details. You will then receive notifications from us on our channel. If you don't download the app and also verify your child's details then you will receive the message in the form of a text which we as a school have to pay for, whereas the channel is a free service.

You should all have received an invitation to Class Dojo. This week we will start to upload stories, songs and plans on here so that if we need to close due to Corona Virus, we are ready to upload early years home learning ideas and plans immediately.

Other bits and pieces

- Please remember that you can't pay for school dinners with childcare vouchers or tax free childcare. They are provided by Derbyshire County Council's school dinner service and have to be paid for separately.
- School sweatshirts can be purchased for £8, in order to pay for these you need to put them in the basket on parent pay and then check them out or you can send a cheque or cash in to the Mrs Simpson in the office.
- Please remember to park courteously and respect our neighbours. Please do not park on the corner or in the bus stop (in front of the bus shelter). The safest place to park is on Mycock Lane (by the pencil fence).
- Our new guinea pig is called Pumpkin because of his red hair. The name was chosen by Jasper, thank you Jasper! A prize is on its way for him



Governors Section

- We are delighted to announce that we have two new prospective governors: Mrs Gill Graham (Jasper's mum) has volunteered to stand as a parent governor and Mr Jonathan Figg (Raffy's dad) who will be a co-opted Governor.
- You will receive parent election forms shortly and if anyone else wishes to stand alongside Mrs Graham then please complete a nomination form.
- We still have a vacancy on the Governing Body so if you are interested in joining us then please let me know.
- Governors are pleased to note how quickly and calmly new and existing children have settled in to nursery life this term and would like to welcome all of our new parents to our school community.
- The Governors would like to thank staff for their commitment and continued professionalism during lockdown: we provided support and childcare to three local primary schools as well as to the children on roll at Flagg. We would like to share some quotes with you from our parent questionnaires which were sent out in July:

"The service we have received has been outstanding & we are looking forward to our second daughter attending the nursery school. Both myself & daughter will miss nursery greatly & I only wish she could continue her education in this setting."

"Perfect, Flagg nursery provides the perfect nursery environment Happy children safe clean environment Staff 100 percent attentive Things don't go unseen Activities are of a high standard Lots of outside fresh air love the door open for free access I could go on and on! I cannot think of anything that needs to be improved Flagg for me is the complete package."

"For our family and our child this nursery school has been an incredibly positive experience. Each and every teacher treats the children with respect and kindness. We feel strongly that our child has been supported and allowed to develop as a real individual. Mrs Brown, and the other teachers, have seen the best in him and nurtured him in order to bring out the best in him. He is genuinely excited by the world and we really do think that Flagg has played a huge part in this. The whole ethos of the nursery is totally in line with what we personally aspire to as parents and we have not been disappointed. We will be very sad to leave."

"You are simply the best! I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to send my daughter to Flagg Nursery School...we are just so sad her time with you is over! She has the most outstanding start to her education with you and she is fully prepared for school. You all care so much, I can see why she wants to come to Nursery at the weekend! Thank you for EVERYTHING."

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to fill in the questionnaires, we really do appreciate it. It also gave us the chance to ask how parents felt about the home learning plans we shared with families during lockdown as well as the level of communication you received from us. The response was wholly positive and this will help us to plan for any future periods of self-isolation or lockdown.
- The Governing Body met on Wednesday 23rd September and agreed on the areas for school improvement this year. They are: **1.** Improving the Outdoor Environment and Outdoor Curriculum **2.** Concentrate on PSED (personal, social and emotional development) with a focus on health, well-being and staying safe **3.** Support children, staff and families with ICT and ensure good communication during periods of isolation or a potential lockdown

- Our Governors are very involved in monitoring various aspects of school life and school improvement. They will carry out virtual visits this term in school to monitor Health and Safety, provision for children with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities), safeguarding, the school improvement plan and to carry out headteacher performance management.

Corona Virus Procedures

If your child shows any symptoms of Coronavirus, please do not bring them to nursery school. However, it is very important that you ring school to inform us of the situation. This information will of course be handled confidentially. If they are generally unwell, such as a runny nose, please use your instincts as a parent. If in doubt give us a call and we can advise you. The usual 48 hour exclusion rule applies to children with sickness and/or diarrhoea.

If your child or anyone in your household develops any symptoms of Coronavirus:

- your household should isolate immediately and you should book a test for anyone with symptoms at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus Alternatively we have a small number of testing kits in nursery.
- your child should not attend nursery school
- if your child has a positive result you should notify the school and your child should isolate for 10 days
- members of your household should isolate for 14 days
- if your child is not a known contact of a confirmed case they can return to school if the result is negative, provided they feel well and they have not had a fever for 48 hours
- if your child is a contact of a confirmed case they must stay off school for the 14-day isolation period, even if they test negative. This is because they can develop the infection at any point up to day 14

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What happens if a child develops covid-19 symptoms in nursery school?

- they will be immediately be taken out of class and made comfortable in a separate room
- once isolated they will be looked after by a member of staff wearing PPE
- parents will be contacted and they will be sent home as soon as possible
- the child should be tested as soon as possible
- the other parents of children in the same bubble will be notified that a child has shown symptoms. (Names will not be disclosed.)

It is really important that parents engage with contact tracing if it is required.

What happens if there is a positive case of Coronavirus in school?

- the school will inform Public Health England (PHE) and our Public Health Team in Derbyshire
- PHE will then provide advice to the school
- parents will be contacted
- close contacts may be asked to isolate for 14 days

Dates for your diary: Dates for the whole academic year can be found on the website

Wed 14th / Thu 15th /Friday 16th October	Parent consultations via zoom or by telephone
Wednesday 21st October 10.30 am	Harvest festival via zoom
Tuesday 20th/Friday 23rd October	Halloween parties and pumpkin hunts
Friday 23rd October	Break up for half-term holiday
Monday 2nd November	INSET day, nursery closed for staff training (food safety)
Tuesday 3rd November	Back to School
Friday 11th December 10am	Christmas concert (via Zoom)
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas party day with Kimmo and Santa
Thursday 17th December	Break up for Christmas holiday
Friday 18th December	INSET day, staff training