

October 2023

# Flagg News

Flagg Nursery School

Flagg, Derbyshire

SK17 9QT

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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Brown

## Welcome

Mrs Woodruff is currently off on long term sick leave; we wish her a speedy recovery. We would like to welcome Mrs Jennifer Wilde to our team. Mrs Wilde is currently teaching two days a week and has settled in well. I am now covering the SENDCo (special educational needs and disabilities) role so if you have any queries don't hesitate to ask.

## Parent: teacher meetings

We are holding parent: teacher meetings on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October. If you can't make these days, we will accommodate you anytime. The more you get involved in your child's school journey the more likely they are to achieve in the future. We aim to work in partnership with you for the benefit of the children and we recognise that parents are the child's first teachers. These meetings are a good opportunity for you to find out how your child is settling in or if they have been here for a while, to find out how they are progressing and what you can do to support them at home. It's also a good time to discuss any worries you may have. You can call or e-mail the school office to make an appointment or sign up on the sheet in school.



## Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm: all welcome. If your child doesn't usually attend on a Wednesday afternoon, please feel free to join us at 1.50 pm. Please let us know in advance if you will be coming so that we know how many people to plan for. This will be an informal singalong and an opportunity to bring items to donate to the foodbank in Buxton. We will be accepting items for the foodbank all week, beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

Jennie Le Port dance will be providing dance sessions on Wednesday mornings for children in Bears class after half term so please send your child in suitable clothing: leggings or tracksuit bottoms and trainers. We use the village hall for these sessions and a member of school staff is always present to support the children.

Buxton FC will be providing sports sessions after Christmas on a different day. All children in Bears class (those going to primary school in September 2024) will also have the opportunity to go to forest schools this year. These sessions will begin in the Spring term and take place in an area in the village owned by a local farm.

## Nursery Sessions

If your child regularly attends breakfast club you can use part of your 30-hour entitlement for this (that is if your child is not already attending for the full 30 hours), please speak to Mrs Simpson for more details.

If, once your child has settled in, you would like to increase the number of sessions they attend later this year please let us know as soon as possible because sessions are filling up rapidly. We are not admitting any more children for the academic year 2023-24 and already have a long waiting list. From April 2024 there will be an expansion of two-year-old funding. If you meet certain criteria, you will be eligible for 15 funded hours from the term after your child's second birthday. If you think this applies to you and you think you would like to increase your sessions in April, please let us know now.

For more information, please go to

[Expansion to early years funding from April 2024 - Derbyshire County Council](#)

### Friends of Flagg

Our PTFA, The Friends of Flagg, has organised various events over the past few years. Last year we raised

£3,250 with Christmas Chocolate Bingo, an Easter Bunny Drive and the Strawberry fayre.

Money raised was spent on a trip to Crich Tramway Museum, sports coaches, living eggs, wildlife workshops, the entertainer at the Christmas party, Christmas and leaver's presents for the children and the nursery guinea pig. A summary of the school fund accounts can be found on our website:

<http://www.flagg.derbyshire.sch.uk/friends-of-flagg-ptfa.html>



We are organising a Halloween Party and Pumpkin Treasure Hunt this year. If you have offered to help on Class Dojo, I will add your number to the Friends of Flagg what's app group to make the organisation easier. If you haven't already offered to help and you are happy to do so, please let me know. Tickets will be on sale soon once we have agreed on a date.

### Christmas Activities



I realise it is a little early to start thinking about Christmas, but you may need to book time off work:

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** 2pm Christmas concert for Bears class (children going to primary school September 2024)

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** 9-11am Cubs class Christmas singalong and Christmas crafts, parents and carers welcome (children not going to primary school September 2024)

You will receive tickets for either the craft session or the concert so there should be no confusion about which group your child is in!

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas party day, children only: show by Barmy Bella, party games and food and a visit from Santa, all welcome even if Wednesday is not your usual day. Again, you will receive tickets for this: cubs for the morning session (unless usually booked in all day) and Bears for the full day.

### A Few Reminders

- Please send your child into nursery in shoes rather than wellies, children change into their wellies to go outside if it is very muddy.
- Please ensure that all footwear is the right size to avoid trips and slips and is easy to run and climb in so no crocs or high heeled shoes!
- Please send your child in trousers they can pull down by themselves: no skinny jeans or dungarees, this is especially important if they are toilet training.
- Please label all clothing which is likely to be removed like trousers after an accident, coats, jumpers, shoes, and wellies. We have 60 children on roll and can't always remember what belongs to whom, children don't always know either!
- Children are really enjoying their packed lunches, lunchtimes are lovely, calm and sociable. To make it a little easier please label lunch boxes. Please also ensure that your child doesn't have too much food in their lunch box. Some children are overwhelmed by the amount of food provided and don't know what to eat. Remember that we are a nut free nursery so please no peanut butter, Nutella or cereal bars in lunchboxes.

## Governors Section

The Governing Body met on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October and would like to report the following information:

The Governors have decided to focus on four key areas for improvement this year:

- **Communication, language and literacy acknowledging the difference a large vocabulary can make to children:** “Young children whose parents read them five books a day enter kindergarten (reception class) having heard about 1.4 million more words than kids who were never read to, a new study found. Even children who are read only one book a day will hear about 290,000 more words by age 5 than those who don't regularly read books with a parent or caregiver.” Jessica Logan, Ohio State university.
- **PSED (personal, social and emotional development) looking at physical and mental health:** “Emotional literacy is actually a better predictor of lifelong achievement than is conventional IQ. A person's IQ predicts only a small part of lifelong success – ranging from 4-20%. Emotional intelligence on the other hand, predicts about 80% of a person's success in life.’ Jean Gross 2000”
- **Outdoor provision:** updating and refreshing our outdoor planning and continuing with our forest school programme
- **The challenge of inclusion for children with SEND in the current climate of diminishing funding:** making sure that we access support services and funding streams promptly to give children the best possible nursery experience.

**The first two targets are rolled over from last year so that we can continue the work we began last year, consolidate the training we undertook and continue to mitigate against the impact of Covid.**

- Our Governors visit school regularly to monitor various aspects of school life and school improvement. They will carry out visits this term in school to monitor our SIP (School Improvement Plan), Health and Safety, provision for children with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities), safeguarding and headteacher performance management.
- Governors are also responsible for ensuring that children's progress and standards of achievement are high and hold the Headteacher to account for standards in school. Progress and achievement were both excellent last year and the Governors would like to thank the staff team for their hard work and dedication.
- The Annual Governance statement can be seen on our website. We have a page about our Governors on the website too if you'd like to know more about us.

<http://www.flagg.derbyshire.sch.uk/our-governors.html>

**We are currently recruiting new Governors, if you or anyone you know would be interested in joining our friendly and highly effective team, please let me know.**

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

Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2pm	Harvest festival
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 9.15am and subsequent 2 Thursdays	Family Support Parent group in the village hall
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Break up for half-term.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET day, nursery school closed to children.
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Back to school
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas tree decoration workshop with local artist
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Christmas tree decoration workshop with local artist
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas concert: Bears class 2pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas crafts and singalong Cubs class 9am
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas party
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Break up for Christmas holidays

*Sarah Brown October 2023*