

September 2020

Flagg News

Flagg Nursery School

Flagg, Derbyshire

SK17 9QT

Tel: 01298 85208

info@flagg.derbyshire.sch.uk

www.flagg.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Brown

Welcome

Welcome back to nursery, we hope you all had a lovely Summer. A big welcome to our new children and their families this term: Blake, Iris, Thea, George, Warren, Kyle, Toby, Chaaya, Dulcie, Maddison, Henry, Jesse, Stanley, Joseph and Reuben. We look forward to working with you and hope you enjoy your time with us.

Friends of Flagg

We have a PTFA group in nursery called 'Friends of Flagg'.

All parents, relatives and members of our community are welcome to attend and discuss inventive ways of raising funds and providing extra-curricular activities. These meetings will be held online for now and we will have to be particularly creative at the moment!

Session times and school dinners

Breakfast club is available from 8-9 am, please let us know in advance if possible but if you need it in a hurry you can just drop in, please drop off at the main entrance (big glass doors). Our session times run from 9am-12pm in the morning with a flexible drop-off between 9.00-9.15am. Doors are locked at 9.15am to enable teaching staff to begin focus activities with the children. School dinners are ordered at 9.30 am so if you arrive after this time and you haven't called ahead then a dinner will not be ordered for your child. Full day sessions, including lunchtime (tractor club) run from **9am-3pm**. We currently have flexi pick-up from 2.45-3.15pm because we recognise that a lot of families are picking up from two schools. During the coronavirus pandemic we are asking you to drop off and pick up at the garden gate at 9am and 3pm to ensure that we can all keep a social distance. At lunchtime please drop off and pick up at the main entrance. Thank you.

Valentineine Café in aid of the Winnie Mabaso foundation

Back in February we held a "Valentine Café" where the children baked heart shaped cakes and biscuits to serve to their families. We raised £180 pounds for the Winnie Mabaso foundation based in Glossop which supports an orphanage with a school and nursery attached to it in South Africa. The children from the orphanage have sent us a photograph to say thank you for the toys they bought with the money we sent them. A big thank you to everyone who attended and donated.



Topic: Bears and Autumn

This term our topics are Bears and Autumn. I will e-mail a copy of the plans and songs for this term to everyone. They will also be posted on the website. We would be very grateful if anyone has any conkers, acorns, colourful leaves or anything else of Autumnal interest to send into nursery.

Clothing

Flagg Nursery School sweatshirts are available to buy from the school office in sizes 22" 24" 26" and 28" at a cost of £8.

Please make sure that all removable clothing is named: sweatshirts, coats, wellies etc Please also make sure that appropriate warm clothing is worn, especially footwear (no crocs) as we do spend a lot of time outside.

Peg Bags

All children have a peg with their name and a picture next to it to hang their coats on. They are also given a Flagg Nursery School Peg bag. Please put a change of clothes in this bag (more if they are potty training) and/or nappies and baby wipes if they are in nappies. We will only send this bag home if there are clothes to be washed or if nappies/wipes need to be replenished. Wellies can go on the welly rack and can be left here if you prefer. On very wet days we have all in one waterproof suits for the children. We will of course make sure that they are sanitised after use. Thank you.

Tiddlypeeps

Our parent and toddler group "Tiddlypeeps" usually runs on Tuesday mornings from 9am-11.30pm in Flagg village hall. We will let you know as soon as we are able to run this group again



New Tractor

We have just taken delivery of a brand new tractor which was very exciting. The children watched the tractor being installed by Kitty's dad and his friends, from a safe distance of course! A big thank you to James and his friends for their help. This year we will also update our mud kitchen, sand and water play and turn the willow dome into a tunnel to make our outdoor learning as comprehensive as possible.

Harvest Festival

We usually hold a Harvest Festival in school where we encourage parents to come and celebrate with us. Due to the pandemic we cannot invite parents into school so we will hold this event via Zoom instead, this will be recorded so you can watch it at any time. If you do not want your child to be on the recording then please let me know: it will only be available to Flagg parents. We would be grateful if you could send home-made produce or other items to nursery to add to harvest baskets during the week beginning 12th October. The children will then hopefully take the harvest baskets to the elderly in our community.



Governors Section

Last year our Governors were very involved in helping to drive forward our School Improvement Plan. They visited the nursery and helped to monitor and improve provision in Outdoor learning, the characteristics of effective learning and community relationships, our 3 key areas for improvement. Governors visit regularly to monitor provision for children with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities), safeguarding procedures and health and safety arrangements. They also help to set the budget and monitor spending plans for the year. At the next Governing Body meeting, which is due to be held online on Wednesday 23rd September, we will be thinking about our School Improvement Plan for the year 2020-21 and deciding which key areas we want to develop this year.

We need new Governors to join us so if you are interested in joining our friendly and highly effective Governing Body please speak to me.

Communication between school and parents

There are various ways in which we as a school communicate with you at home.

-We have an app called ParentHub which can be downloaded onto your phone, details of how to do this will be given to new families shortly. We can post general messages to everyone or send you personal texts via this app. **If you haven't been receiving parent hub notifications please logout and then log back in to the app.**

-We also have a facebook page where we post events and photographs, however we don't post recognisable photographs of the children on facebook without seeking your permission first. We aim to be cashless and paperless and so all newsletters will be posted on ParentHub and published on the website. Plans and songsheets are posted on the website and there is a calendar which is regularly updated. Paper copies are always available in school to take home if you have trouble printing or viewing letters on your device.

-We take photographs of the children for assessment purposes on an app called Evidence Me, these photographs are e-mailed directly to you and printed out every term so that at the end of your child's time at Flagg you have a Learning Journal booklet to keep. You can send us photographs of your child's learning and achievements at home by replying to the Evidence Me e-mails and attaching the photo. If there is something you are particularly proud of you can fill in a "Proud Cloud." There are paper copies of this in school to take home; alternatively you can find an electronic copy to download on the website.

- Finally there is always the old fashioned approach: you are very welcome to discuss any concerns or questions you may have with staff at the beginning or end of any session in person! I appreciate that this is more difficult right now as parents are not allowed in the building but if you need a private chat, please call or e-mail and we will arrange a socially distanced meeting.

Parent Pay and the 30 Hour Entitlement

As mentioned above we aim to be a cashless school. With this in mind we use a system called parentpay, which is an online payment system. If you haven't already had your login details you will receive a letter shortly. We no longer send invoices out and charges are updated on parentpay daily so please check your account on a regular basis. **Please ensure that you clear your balance on a weekly basis.** If you intend to pay with childcare vouchers or tax free childcare please call Mrs Simpson in the school office and she will explain the process to you. All children are entitled to 15 hours of funding every week starting from the term after their third birthday. Some two year olds are also entitled to 15 hours of funding, please call 01629 539319 to find out if you are eligible for 2 year old funding. Most three year olds are entitled to a further 15 hours of funding (up to 30 hours) if both parents are working for a minimum of 16 hours a week. Please go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to find out more. Once you have successfully applied you will be given a code which you need to give to us along with your national insurance number. The 30 hour funding needs to be in place the term before it is to be used so if you need the funding in January then you need to apply for it before the end of December. If you need any help then just call Mrs Simpson in the office.

Guinea Pig Naming Competition



We have two school guinea pigs. Sadly Nibbles passed away in July: he was very old! We now have a new red haired guinea pig to keep Massey Ferguson company. We are looking for a new name for him and there will be a prize for the child who comes up with the winning name. Suggestions from the children so far include Mr Wiggles, Red, Cornflake and Ratbag! Please send your child's suggestions to me via e-mail. Alternatively they can just tell us when they come in to nursery. Thank you.

INSET Days

Every school has five staff training days (INSET days) over the course of the year. During 2020-2021 our INSET days are on Tuesday 2nd September (paediatric first aid), Monday 2nd November (food safety), Friday 18th December (safeguarding), Tuesday 4th May (language development) and Thursday 22nd July (outdoor learning).

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

Wednesday 23rd September 7.30pm	Governing Body Meeting
Friday 25th September 9.30am	Friends of Flagg meeting online
Wed 14th / Friday 16th October w/b 12th October	Parent consultations online or by telephone Harvest festival
Friday 23rd October	Break up for half-term holiday
Monday 2nd Novemeber	INSET day, nursery closed for staff training (food safety)
Tuesday 3rd November	Back to School
Friday 11th December 2pm	Christmas concert (via Zoom)
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas party day
Thursday 17th December	Break up for Christmas holiday
Friday 18th December	INSET day, staff training

Sarah Brown