

September 2021

Flagg News

Flagg Nursery School

Flagg, Derbyshire

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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: Alice, Arthur, Elizabeth, Finley, George, Hazel, Henry, Jackson, Millie, Nellie, Olivia, Sebastian, We look forward to working with you and hope you enjoy your time with us.

Tiddlypeeps

Our parent and toddler group "Tiddlypeeps" runs on Friday mornings from 9am-11.00am in Flagg village hall. This is run by Helen Brittain-Carlidge on behalf of the Friends of Flagg, our PTFA and offers free-play, outside play, snack, singing and storytime. It is a great way to meet other parents in a relaxing, friendly atmosphere.

£2.00 per family: all welcome!

There is a specific page for Tiddlypeeps on facebook for us to communicate with you as well as parent hub.

Tiddlypeeps is run voluntarily so please help Helen to tidy up and make snack etc. Thank you.

Session times, charges and school dinners

Breakfast club is available every day from 8am to 9am, drop off at the front door (big glass doors). The charge is £5 for the full hour or £2.50 from 8.30 to 9am. You can book in advance but you can also just drop off on the day. If you use breakfast club regularly you can use part of your 30 hour funding for this unless your child is already attending for the full 30 hours.

Our session times run from 9am-12pm in the morning with a flexible drop-off between 9.00-9.15am (cost £15 for 3+ year olds and £16.50 for 2 year olds). Doors are locked at 9.15am to enable teaching staff to begin focus activities with the children. School dinners are ordered at 9.30am so if you arrive after this time and you haven't let us know in advance then a dinner will not be ordered for your child.

Full day sessions including lunchtime (tractor club) run from 9am-3pm (cost £30 for 3+ year olds and £33 for 2 year olds). Please note that charges are liable to increase from April 2022.

We currently have flexi pick-up from 3-3.15pm because we recognise that a lot of families are picking up from two schools. Due to Covid we are still asking you to drop off at the garden gate next to the village hall (except for breakfast club) and pick up at the front door (big glass doors).

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. Events we have held in the past include: Halloween parties, Christmas chocolate bingo, a Valentine's café, an Easter bunny drive and a Strawberry fayre. Money raised by the Friends of Flagg is used to pay for sports coaching, living eggs (hatching chicks), the school guinea pigs, animal workshops, an entertainer at the Christmas party and Christmas gifts for the children. These meetings are informal and everyone is welcome. Our next meeting will be held on Friday 1st October at 9.30am in the village hall during Tiddlypeeps.



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. Wellies can go on the welly rack and can be left here if you prefer. Thank you.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be held on Thursday 21st October at 2pm: all welcome. If your child doesn't usually attend on a Thursday 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. We will be collecting items for the food bank in Buxton during the week beginning 18th October.



INSET Days

Flagg Nursery School is part of the Local Authority school system and so we have five INSET (In-service training) days like the primary schools. This year we have an extra INSET day to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. On these days the nursery is closed to children for staff training. This academic year the INSET days are Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September, Friday 23rd December, Monday 14th March, Tuesday 3rd May and Monday 6th June. Training for staff this year includes: paediatric first aid, the revised EYFS (early year's foundation stage) curriculum, safeguarding, and reviewing our assessment procedures.

Governors Section

Last year our Governors were very involved in helping to drive forward our School Improvement Plan. They visited the nursery (remotely!) and helped to monitor and improve provision in Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Home learning and ICT and the Outdoor curriculum, 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 in school on Wednesday 22nd September at 7.30pm, we will be thinking about our School Improvement Plan for the year 2021-22 and deciding which key areas we want to develop this year.

There are two vacancies on the Governing body so if you or someone you know is interested in joining our friendly and highly effective Governing Body please speak to me.

Parent Pay and the 30 Hour Entitlement

We aim to be a cashless school so with this in mind we use an online payment system called parentpay. If you haven't already had your login details you will receive a letter shortly. We don't send invoices out but 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.**

All children are entitled to 15 hours of funding per 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 or follow this link: <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/early-years-childcare/2-year-olds/free-childcare-for-2-year-olds.aspx> 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

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/> or 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 pop in to the school office and talk to Mrs Simpson

If you pay for your sessions or for breakfast club then you can save money by applying for tax free childcare: for every £8 you pay into the account, the government will top up with £2. Find out more by visiting www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

If you intend to pay with childcare vouchers or tax free childcare please speak to Mrs Simpson and she will explain the process to you.

Communication between school and parents

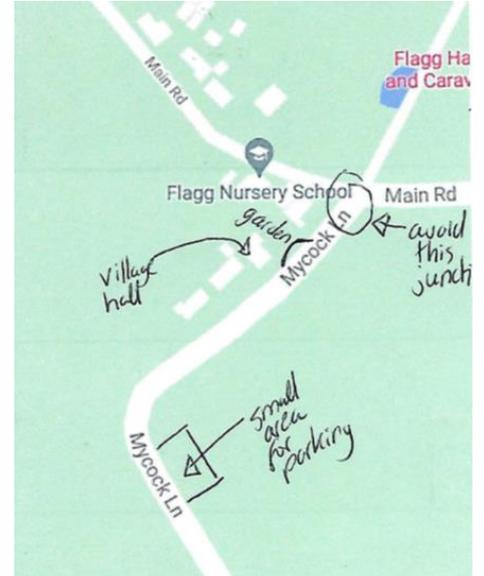
There are various ways in which we as a school communicate with you at home. We have an app called ParentHub for messages which can be download onto your phone, details of how to do this will be given to new families shortly. We also have a facebook page where we post events and photographs, however we don't usually 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 collect photographs of the children for assessment purposes on an app called 2Build a profile, these photographs are e-mailed directly to you. You can send us photographs of your child's learning and achievements at home by replying to the 2Build a profile e-mails and attaching the photo. We also have an app called Class Dojo where we post photos of what the whole class has been up to, videos of stories and songs and ideas about home learning. This was started during lockdown and we have decided to keep it as it has been highly successful.

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! If you need a longer, more confidential chat please let us know. Staff are always available via telephone, video call or e-mail. If something is bothering you then let us know straight away and we will deal with it immediately.

Parking

Please do not park too close to the junction, in the school bus stop or over people's driveways. We are still operating a flexi drop off from 9 to 9.15 and flexi pick up from 2.45-3.15 to alleviate queuing and crowding, this should also alleviate parking issues a little too. The safest place to park is on Mycock Lane (by the pencil fence) as traffic is very fast on the Main Road. We do acknowledge that the little village of Flagg was never designed to accommodate so many cars at once so let's try and work together for the safety of the children and the peace of mind of Flagg residents. It's better to park further away and walk than to park dangerously. There is a parking area, if necessary, shown on the map opposite where the recycling area used to be. It is a short walk and obviously care needs to be taken when crossing the road, there is also no footpath for some of the way.



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

Wednesday 22nd September 7.30pm	Governing Body Meeting
Friday 1st October 9.30am	Friends of Flagg meeting during Tiddlypeeps (village hall), all welcome
Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th October	Parent consultations via zoom or in person, tbc
Thursday 21st October 2pm	Harvest festival, parents and carers welcome via zoom or in person tbc
Friday 22nd October	Break up for half-term holiday
Monday 1st November	Back to School
Thursday 18th November	Photographer in school
Wednesday 15th December 2pm	Christmas concert for Bear class, parents and carers welcome
Thursday 16th December 9am	Cubs class Christmas singalong and Christmas crafts, parents and carers welcome
Tuesday 21st December	Christmas party day: Barmy Bella and Santa visiting, children only
Wednesday 22nd December	Break up for Christmas holiday
Monday 10th January	Back to School
Friday 18th February	Break up for half term
Monday 28th February	Back to School
Monday 14th March	INSET day, school closed for children
Friday 8th April	Break up for Easter
Monday 25th April	Back to School
Friday 27th May	Break up for half term
Tuesday 7th June	Back to School
Friday 22nd July	Break up for the summer holiday

Sarah Brown