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February/March Newsletter- Half Way through the Academic Year Already!

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you suitably refreshed and you managed to dodge the wet weather over half term! It's great to have all the children back in school and I can't believe we have started term 4. It only seems like yesterday we were welcoming our new families to our school in September and now we are 'rolling' towards Easter. I hope everyone has a fabulous term and I know we are all very much looking forward to celebrating your children's achievements at Parents' evenings this week. If you would like to make an appointment with myself or Mrs Knight (Special educational needs coordinator) then please feel free to contact us by email via the office.

Staff News

It is with great pleasure that I announce the return of Miss Southall to teaching Class 9. She has thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the pupils during term 3 and she will now be teaching on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays until the end of term. Mrs Lakeman will continue to teach Class 9 on the other days (Monday and Wednesday). Both teachers will be present at parents' evening for Class 9 appointments this week.

I'm also very proud to welcome Mr Ridd to our school. He is our new Key Stage 2 Leader and will be teaching Class 7 for the rest of the year. He has already worked closely with Mrs Summers to get to know the children and I know he can't wait to get started. St. Mary's Primary in Yate were incredibly sad to say 'Goodbye' to him and we are all really excited for him to be joining our school's Senior Leadership Team. I'm sure everyone will make him feel really welcome so please stop and say 'Hello' to him when you see him in the playground.

You will also notice a few new faces around our school this week. We have three student teachers completing their final university placements with us. Miss Pickard will be working alongside the teachers in Class 3, Mrs Parker will be working alongside Ms. Thomas in Class 6 and Miss Jewell will be working alongside Miss Whittock in Class 10. They will be with us until the penultimate week in June.

Parents' Evening This Week

Thank you for making your appointments for Parents' Evening. I'm sure you'll be really impressed with the children's learning and we love celebrating their hard efforts with you. We appreciate you being punctual for your meeting and please feel free to 'knock' if the appointment before your own runs over. I know I was always the worst culprit for this but was always happy to book an additional meeting if we weren't able to cover everything in the time we had.

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'Learn With Me' Session on Thursday 22nd March 9-10.30am

Inspired by the brilliant sessions held in Class 1 and 2, we have decided to put on a literacy 'Learn With Me' session on Thursday 22nd March for all children in Years 1-6. Once the children have been registered, there will be a series of activities out in their classes for them to complete based on the targets they have been learning this term. This will give you the opportunity to see how they have been getting on in class and the teachers will also be available to answer any questions you might have. Our Reception children have loved learning alongside their parents over the past two terms and we think it will be a lovely morning where you will be free to visit all your children's classes. We hope you'll all be able to join us as we look to make this a regular date in our school calendar.

'Friends' Fundraising Activities in Term 4

Our 'Friends' continue their sterling support of our school this year with a couple of brilliant events. 'Ladies Night' on Friday 23rd February is sure to be a great success and I know there are still a few tickets available if you'd like to have a 'pamper' and a 'laugh'.

We will also be holding our 2nd Annual 'Frampton Globe Trot' on Saturday 17th March. Although entries sold out within 4 hours, there are still other ways to get involved if you'd like to support the event. Please feel free to get in contact with any of the 'Friends' committee members if you'd like to 'lend a hand' either beforehand or on the actual morning. It was a wonderful occasion last year and I'm sure you'll all come out and cheer on the runners as they tackle our local muddy terrain.

Attendance at FCCE

I'm really proud to announce our school attendance has risen since the beginning of the year. We are currently in the top 10% of schools in South Glos. And this is down to your unrelenting commitment to supporting your child's education. Thank you so much for ensuring our pupils are well-equipped for their school day and trusting us to make sound judgments when you send your child in but they might not be '100%'. We will continue to work alongside parents and support them so please don't feel alarmed or worried if you are contacted to discuss your child's current attendance patterns. We will be printing out your child's attendance certificate and giving them out to you at parents' evening so please ask the teachers if you have any questions regarding attendance rates.

FCCE's 3 Year Strategic Plan

Alongside the Governors and the Senior Leadership team, I am currently developing our school's 3 Year Strategic plan in order to make Frampton Cotterell CofE Primary School the best possible place for your child to be educated. There will be a poster (designed by the very talented Sian Saxon) appearing in the near future asking for your help and support. If you have any interest in making further improvements to our school then please get in contact with me via the office email address (office@fcceprimary.co.uk). Once we have our 'working parties' we will then finalise our 3 year goals and present them to parents at the beginning of April.

School Caretaker Role Available

Sadly, Mr Davies, our caretaker for the past three years, has left us to work at Chipping Sodbury Secondary school. We wish him well and thank him for his hard work and dedication to our school. However, this means we will be advertising for his replacement. We will be looking for someone to work Monday and Wednesdays 12-6pm and

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Fridays from 2-6pm. If you would like more information on the role, or know of someone who would be an excellent addition to our school community, then please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office. An advert will be placed on the Eteach website (www.eteach.com) within the next two weeks and we hope to have someone appointed by the end of term 4. In the meantime, Mr Barnard (senior) will be performing the role as a 'relief' caretaker until a replacement is found.

Our Second Enrichment Day- What a Success!

Friday 9th February marked our second enrichment day and it was a resounding success. This was down to the hard work and effort of many of our wonderful parents who gave up their own time to crochet, bake, run, teach karate and paint nails to name but a few! It is one of the many things that makes our school such a happy and vibrant place and we can't wait to do it all again on Friday 16th March.

Mrs Barter will be announcing the different activities shortly and the children will have the opportunity to choose their three choices. It is imperative they have them written in their reading diaries as this is the only way we have of ensuring they receive one of their preferred choices. We will always do our best to accommodate everyone's wishes but it is a very time-consuming task and we thank you in advance for your support.

Office Traffic!

As I'm sure you'll agree, Mrs Addicott, Miss Gale and Miss Dean do a magnificent job in our school office. They are three of the most patient and kindest members of our school community and we are blessed to have them working with us. However, I have noticed they are dealing with an awful lot of 'requests' from parents and this is taking them away from the important roles they play with our children. Of course, they are all far too nice to ever say 'no' to any parent 'favours' but could I please ask you to consider whether it is absolutely necessary before asking something 'above and beyond' from them (the office is looking like a post office with all the deliveries being passed on to other parents!). As some of their main duties revolve around medication it is vital they are able to attend to the children throughout the day and I would really appreciate your cooperation in helping to reduce their workloads to 'school matters' only.

World Book Day on Thursday 1st March

Just a quick reminder to get thinking about what costumes the children would like to wear as we celebrate World Book Day. It is always a fabulous occasion and I can't wait to see everyone dressed up as some of their favourite characters!

Dates for your diary

Monday 19th February- Start of Term 3

Monday 19th February- Maths Parents' Evening (if your child's maths teacher is different to their Class teacher)

Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st February- Parents' Evening

Thursday 22nd February- Weekly cricket sessions for Year 1 and 3 pupils during PE time (run every Thursday)

Friday 23rd February- Friends Ladies Night

Monday 26th February – Clothes for a Cause collection

Wednesday 28th February – EYFS Worship Service (9:05am in the hall)

Thursday 1st March- World Book Day (Children to dress up as their favourite book characters)

Friday 2nd March- Class 1 Assembly to parents (9.05am in the hall)

Monday 5th March- Year 2 SATs meeting for parents at 2.30pm and 6pm (really good opportunity to learn about the standards expected by the end of Year 2).

Wednesday 7th March- Class 4 Worship to parents (9.05am in the hall)

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Wednesday 7th March- Year 6 SATs meeting for parents (5pm in the library)
 Friday 9th March- Class 8 Assembly to parents (9.15am in the hall)
 Sunday 11th March- Mothering Sunday worship at St. Peter's Church (10.30am)
 Tuesday 13th March- Rock Steady Concert for parents (2.30pm in the hall)
 Thursday 15th March- 'Understanding the World' Reception parent workshop (9.05-9.45am)
 Friday 16th March- Our third Enrichment Day
 Monday 19th March- Our school annual sponsored run (supporting children in our sister school in Kenya). Please ensure all children have their PE kits and trainers.
 Tuesday 20th March- School Easter Service at St. Peter's Church (1pm and help with walking to the church would be gratefully received!)
 Wednesday 21st March- Class 3 worship to parents (9.05am in the hall)
 Thursday 22nd March- Parents 'Learn with Me' session where you can learn alongside your child in their literacy lesson (9.05-10.30am in classes for Years 1-6)
 Friday 23rd March- Easter Fun Day
 Friday 23rd March- Last day of term 4
 Sunday 1st April- Easter service at St. Peter's Church (10.30am)
 Monday 9th April- First day of term 5
 Friday 20th April – Class 5 Assembly (9:15am in the hall)
 Friday 20th April – Friends Quiz Night
 Monday 23rd April – Class Photos (Tulip Photography)
 Wednesday 25th April – Class 8 Worship (9:05am in the hall)
 Monday 14th May- 17th May – Year 6 Sats
 Monday 14th May – 18th May – Year 5 Swimming Lessons
 Tuesday 15th May – Class 1 and Class 2 Expressive Art and Design Workshop for parents (2:15pm-3pm)
 Friday 18th May – Friends School Disco
 Wednesday 23rd May – Class 11 Worship (9:05am in the hall)
 Friday 25th May – Inset Day
 Monday 4th June – 8th June – Year 6 to Manor Adventure
 Friday 22nd June – Class 4 Assembly (9:05am in the hall)
 Wednesday 27th June – Class 5 Worship (9:05am in the hall)
 Saturday 30th June – Summer Fayre
 Wednesday 4th July – Year 6 Lifeskills
 Wednesday 10th July – Class 10 Worship (9:05am in the hall)
 Monday 16th July – Year 6 Production
 Tuesday 17th July – Year 6 Production
 Thursday 19th July – Achievement Award Dinner
 Friday 20th July – Last Day – Leavers Assembly

Congratulations

Term 3 has been jam-packed with successful learners... here's just an example of a few:

- Brilliant writing from Nolan and Archie in Class 2.
- Superb maths learning from Laila and Avalina in Class 8.
- Wonderful artwork from Esther in Class 5.
- Great writing from Barney and Evie in Class 8.

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- Beautiful handwriting by Ted, Gus, Oliver and Isaac in Class 6.
- Excellent phonics from Anna in Class 1.
- Super number learning by Tom and Isabella in Class 2.
- Mind-blowing maths from Blythe and Poppy in Class 2.
- Fantastic calculations by Flynn, Cameron, Louis and Theo in Year 4.
- Exceptional writing from Molly in Class 7.
- Staggering division work by Sam in Class 9.
- Fabulous topic writing by Bailey in Class 11.
- Marvellous calculations practise by Rosie in Class 9.
- Awesome writing by the two Reggies in Class 3.
- Gorgeous handwriting from Ella and Jake in Class 9.
- Amazing reading by Elsie S in Class 3.
- Unbelievable reading by Megan in Class 4.
- Smashing recipe writing by Eva in Class 1.
- Tear-jerking writing about friendship week by Bradey in Class 8.

What other job can you do where you get to experience such wonderful moments on a daily basis? I'm a very lucky Head teacher!

Thank you for your continued support,

Pete Barnard

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