Thursday 15th December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Can’t believe we are at the end of the Autumn term and Christmas is almost upon us. Really appreciate all the support you have given the school and your child/ren recently from the Literacy Morning & Decorations Morning (130 parents came), the Infant performance of ‘Big Bad Ben of Bethlehem’, the Christmas pantomime ‘Jack & the Beanstalk’ and of course our walk around the estate singing carols to the local residents on Tuesday night. The children have also been subjected to our very own staff performance of ‘Cinderella’, providing a number of comical moments including a soaking of Ruby T and Isaac P – thanks Mr Sutcliffe!! All told, it has been lovely!!

A huge thank you goes out to our PTA ‘The Friends of Fairfield’ who have worked tirelessly over the past 6 weeks to support and run many events including our first ever Halloween party, a very successful Christmas Fayre - raising around £1000, and of course putting on discos for the Infant and Junior children. This is on top of the 212 presents bought and wrapped for the children at their parties this week. Thank you!

Happy retirement Mrs Hopkins!!

Mrs Hopkins is the longest serving member of staff at Fairfield, as she has worked at Fairfield for some 30 years as a lunchtime supervisor. Tomorrow is Anne’s final day as she retires. We wish her much luck and happiness in the future!!

Sports

The children have been a great credit to the school in their representation this half term. There have been lots of success stories!!

Football: The Year 6 football team played in a County FA tournament against the best 8 teams (winners of different regions) in Leicestershire. They beat all 3 teams to top the group and qualify for the semi-finals, only to be beaten 4-3 on penalties in the semi-final against Kirby Muxloe. The boys played with determination and dignity, and were a credit to the school.

The Year 4/5 girl’s team have played on two separate evenings at South Wigston High School and have won each of the four games they have played against different Oadby & Wigston schools. If they win the next two matches, one against Glenhills (sorry Mr S) they will win the league.

Netball: The Year 6 netball team played their first full competitive game this half term against Parklands Primary School and successfully beat them
14-0. Hopefully the boys and girls will continue to work hard on developing those core skills in preparation for the Oadby & Wigston area schools competition.

Running: The children representing the school have competed in a further two events at Presswell Hall (now three in total) as well as two separate cross country events at the Wigston Academy. Congratulations to all the children who have competed, and for the improvements they have made. Well done Lily Graham (Year 4) finishing 2nd and Jack Slater (Year 3) finishing 3rd this term.

Free School Meals
Are you aware that the government is providing schools with extra money based on our number of Free School Meal Children. Therefore the more parents who apply and are eligible (e.g. if you claim income support) the more funding we get to directly support your children. Please contact the Free School Meals on 0116 3056588 or 0116 3057093. Just a minute of your time can mean a lot.

Do you run a business and would like to advertise your services?
As you know, we have a giant TV screen outside the Year 2 classroom and a linked smaller screen situated in the Foyer of our school. If you, or someone you know, has a business or company that would like to advertise on these boards, let Mr Sutcliffe know and he will have a chat about ways forward with it. For a small fee, we could just display contacts (e.g. Bob the Builder, no job too small, phone 0116 2345678) or we could work with you, and some of our pupils can produce a short video about your business! Being able to advertise to a captive audience of parents, especially at the end of the day, is too good an opportunity to miss. You know it makes sense!

Other staff news

Congratulations to Mrs Goodger (SENCO) who gave birth to a beautiful girl – Phillippa (Pippa) a few weeks ago 9lb 11oz. It was lovely to see Mrs Goodger this morning with Pippa, and the Junior children certainly got a surprise when she was brought in to the children’s assembly. 3 weeks old….ah bless!!

Charities
Thanks for all the support you have given the school & the elected charities this year.
Wobbly Wednesday in November was fantastic. Charlie for the final time at Fairfield enjoyed leading a whole school assembly with Mr T to raise awareness, and everyone enjoyed having wobbly jelly & ice cream at the end of the day. We raised £101.46 for the Nystagmus Network.
Remembrance Day, we raised £370.19. Thank you for your kind donations to purchase a poppy/other poppy items to remember those soldiers who had died. A two minutes silence was observed.
We also raised a fantastic £270.11 for Children in Need and this was largely down to the efforts from the Year 6 staff and children. The cake/gifts sale was really well supported after school so many thanks for your attendance!

After School Care (3.15p.m - 6p.m)
This is starting on Wednesday 4th January in the Chester building and is open to all children at Fairfield on a daily, weekly and half termly basis. Mrs Love (staff member) will be leading this provision supported by either Miss Rojahn or Mrs Neal. Spaces are available if required. Please enquire with Mrs Walsh/Mrs Richards in the office if you require further details.

Breakfast Club
Breakfast club continues to run from 7:45am until school starts every day. There are some places still available on a daily, weekly or termly basis. If you are interested please download a form from the school website or speak with the office/Ms Hill.
Breakfast club includes a drink (Apple juice, Milk or water) and toast/cereal. This is followed by a range of activities organised by Ms Hill, Mrs Warner, Miss Rojahn and Mr Hollist (Sports coach).

School Admissions
Fairfield is a very popular school and there have been a lot of enquiries about places both in the Reception Class starting August 2017, and within other year groups. Admissions are controlled by the Local Authority and you can find further information regarding admissions either on our school website or at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions
First time admissions for our Reception Class should be made on-line (see above) by latest 15th January 2017.

House Points so far (up to end of December 2016)

- Tiger 4444 points
- Leopard 5048 points
- Jaguar 4496 points
- Puma 4494 points

Congratulations to Leopard House for scoring the most number of House points in the Autumn term!!

Jack and the Beanstalk

We had a smashing whole school trip to see ‘Jack & the Beanstalk’ this week at De-Montfort Hall. Sam Bailey (Previous X-Factor winner from Leicester) was in full voice and the cast produced a show that had everyone entertained. The children were very well behaved and had a thoroughly enjoyable morning, well for most... until the giant roared. We are again hoping to provisionally book early for next year as by doing so we guarantee the best seats in the house.

Lunchtime Supervisor at Fairfield

Fairfield have a temporary Lunchtime Supervisor vacancy available with effect from 30th January, the hours are 12.15pm to 1.25pm per day, term time only. The rate is £7.65 to £7.98 per hour. If you are interested in the vacancy please contact the school office for more details after the 4th January 2017.

General Reminders to all

As a school we want to ensure that all pupils who should be safe in school are actually here. Our procedure is therefore as follows:

- Parents are asked to contact the school office to inform us of the first day of any absence before 9.30 am.
- Parents should accompany pupils who arrive late to sign in at the office on arrival.
- Pupils leaving during the school day should be signed out at the office. Please avoid making routine appointments during school hours.
- The school will contact parents of pupils who are absent without prior explanation or parental contact.
- If mobile numbers are given, please ensure those mobile phones are ON during school hours. Please update any changes to new mobile phone numbers with the office in January 2017 so that contact can be made. We often use a texting service to communicate with parents and it is vital we have your up to date contact details.

Use of the Fairfield ‘Chester Building’ (Community Wing):

Fairfield Chester Building is available for hire for all sorts of events, either one off occasions or regular weekly, monthly events e.g. children parties, meetings, clubs etc. The building is fully air conditioned, has a small kitchen, toilet facilities and an interactive whiteboard.

Please note you can hire the Chester Building for less than or more than 4 hours as required.

To hire the building please contact the school office on either 0116 2782424 or email on office@fairfd.leics.sch.uk

I know bookings by parents for parties have been made very recently which is great and a number of community groups are now using the facility also to hold sessions that you may be interested in joining.

Key Date Reminders Spring term (please refer to our school calendar - see website)

- Tuesday 3rd January: Teacher Day
- Wednesday 4th January: First day back for pupils
- Wednesday 4th January: Year 4 swimming recommences
- Monday 6th February & Wednesday 8th February: Parent's evening (Letter regarding this will be sent in early January)
- Monday 13th – Friday 17th February: Half term week

Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas & New Year!!

Mr Tuckwell (Head of School) & Mr Sutcliffe (Executive head)