

"Together we can"

Fakenham Primary Federation

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Be the best YOU can be

Friday 20th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am pleased that the reception children and the new nursery children seem to have settled well into school life – it is amazing how quick most of them adapt. The Y3 children have also shown amazing resilience. They thought they were leaving FINS, only at the last minute to be told this will be delayed. They have taken this in their stride and have settled into Y3 life the best they can, whilst not being at the FJS site. It was lovely to discuss their new learning with them this week. Once I have further information that I can share with you, about the work required at FJS and the actual timescale, I will inform you. For now, what matters is all the children are in school, learning and that they are safe.

Autumn is now almost upon us. Whilst we have had a few warm days again recently, the weather is once again becoming more changeable. With this in mind, please ensure you send a coat of some type into school each day. If it is just drizzling, we will still try to get the children outside so it could be a lightweight waterproof in a bag, however, as the weeks go on a warm outer layer will be needed.

Considering clothes – <u>please remember to name all school uniform</u>, already we have a lot in lost property which we cannot reunite with the right child. Help us, to help you, keep your costs down.

Food

This is an important reminder – **both FINS and FJS are nut-free schools.** This policy is in place as we have children and staff with life threatening conditions if they encounter nut products – sometimes, even the airborne particles, breathed out by someone who has eaten nuts, are enough to cause a major incident. Obviously, this means **no nuts but also all products with nuts in them- peanut butter, some chocolate spreads, some snack bars – please check the ingredients** carefully, as you put together packed lunches. If we do have concerns we will remove an item, seal it, contact you and ensure your child is given an alternative.

Dino Tails – these products are not allowed as they are a sweet. Our policy states that one small chocolate related snack is allowed (chocolate biscuits, small chocolate cake etc – but not chocolate bars), sweets are not allowed as part of packed lunches.

At FJS, only fruit and veg can be sent for snacks at break – at FINS these are provided free of charge.

Free School meals – please check if you are eligible to claim FSM (if you are not sure contact one of our offices). Please remember, families of children in receipt of FSM will be issued a food voucher worth £15 in September and in October. However, if your claim for FSM is not approved until October, you will miss out on the September voucher – please check now.

<u>Attendance</u>

I am sure all of you are fully aware that the DfE has tightened its regulations around attendance. All Synergy Multi-Academy Trust will adopt the Local Authority policy and work with the LA to ensure it is implemented.

Good attendance at school is very important hence the further clampdown on unauthorised absence. However, if your child is ill and not fit for school then they should not be sent. If they are ill at school, we will contact you. Already we have cases of sickness and diarrhoea, if your child has an incident then they are expected to remain away from school for 48 hours from the last bout – this is following advice from the NHS.

An updated Attendance Policy and information will be sent next week.

I hope you have good weekend, Adam Mason

