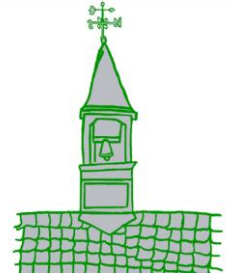




"Together we can"

Fakenham Primary Federation

Email: head@fakenhamjunior.org.uk
Executive Headteacher: Adam Mason



Be the best YOU can be

Friday 21st June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have come to that point in the summer term when everyone starts thinking about the next school year. This always presents a challenge as we still have 4 weeks, 10% of the current school year to go. That being said, it is normal to feel worried, as whilst 'change' is part of all our lives, it is unsettling for everyone. Feeling nervous or anxious is a normal human reaction - it is part of a self-protection mechanism; we discuss this with children to help them understand their feelings and learn how to manage them.

This year, we will let you know who your child's 'new' teacher will be on Monday 1st July, this will come via email. The high schools have their own procedures for informing children and parents.

Our transition day, when they will spend the day in their 'new' classroom will be on Wednesday 3rd July. Yr6 children will be at Fakenham Academy on 1st-3rd July or Alderman Peel from 3rd -5th July. New reception children are having a range of sessions to support them. Yr3 staff will also be visiting FINS on Monday 1st July. A meeting for new reception parents occurred on Thursday 13th June and on Monday 24th June, a similar one will occur for 'new' Yr3 parents.

There will be some changes at both schools from September 2024. As the impact of the past two years of inflation now hits schools, managing the budget has been a challenge. Due to pressures on the finances of both schools, we have had to make the difficult decisions to reduce staffing and the amount we can spend on resources. At FJS, we will be losing the equivalent of a 3 day a week teacher and 35 hours a week of support staff. At FINS, we will be losing the equivalent of 25 hours a week support staff. Some of the losses are voluntary, some are due to contracts not being extended. These decisions have not been easy. Having less staff does mean that supporting children will be harder, however, we will continue to follow our motto(s) – 'Together we can...Be the best we can be'. Please note, schools throughout Norfolk and up and down the UK are having to make similar tough decisions.

At FJS, Mrs Tucker will be leaving us as will Miss Pope and Mrs Elliot as Teaching Assistants (they will, however, remain as MSAs). Mr Ewart will also be leaving for adventures abroad; he will be replaced by a new teacher called Miss Key.

At FINS, as Mrs Register returns from maternity leave, Mrs Ayling will revert to being an MSA only. A few support staff are choosing to reduce their hours, which will not be replaced and Miss Nelson, an MSA, will be on maternity leave for the start of the year.

I would like to thank all these staff for their hard work, they will be missed by colleagues and children, whether they are leaving or reducing hours. All our staff work hard for the children and are integral to the success of the schools, I know most of you recognise this day in, day out. Later in the term we will share the staffing teams/structures with you, until then please bear with us.

With regards

Adam Mason