Fordham All Saints C. of E. Primary School



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PRIDE IN OUR LEARNING

*Perseverance, Respect, Inspiration, Determination, Enjoyment*

6th September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 academic year. It was great to welcome your children back to school on Wednesday. There were lots of smiley faces and it was great to hear so many parents telling me how much their children were looking forward to getting back to school! We are really looking forward to the year ahead and the challenges and successes that we strive to achieve.

Firstly, a huge welcome to our new pupils! We have 20 new reception children this year who have settled wonderfully into school life already, we couldn’t be happier with the positive start they have made to their journey.

Last year we had some great successes again at school, you will see on the bottom of our letter head that we achieved the Gold Award from the Woodland trust as a ‘green tree school’ and we also achieved the school games silver mark award. We are really pleased with our outdoor and sporting achievements and particular recognition must go to Mr Askew for his hard work and dedication in our outdoor pursuits and delivering a high-quality provision for our children.

Results again were fantastic. I featured them on the last newsletter of the year- but in case you missed it….. what a great way to end the year, and a great aspiration to start this academic year with!

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| Subject | School Result | National Average | Scaled score\*\* |
|  |  |  |  |
| GPS | 95% \*37% | 78% | 108 |
| Maths | 95% \*27% | 79% | 106 |
| Reading | 84% \*26% | 73% | 105 |
| Writing | 89% \*32% | 78% | N/A |
| Combined RWM | 79% | 65% | N/A |

\*greater depth

\*\* A scaled score of 100 being the expected standard to meet expectation

As you can see the school, again reached above the national standard in all areas. Well done to all of the Year 6 children that worked so hard, and the staff that supported them throughout their learning journey!

We have several changes to school this year. Mrs McMillan continues her maternity leave for this year and Mrs Crawley is taking on the role of Acting Deputy Headteacher in her absence. Miss Broadbent has joined us in Class 2 and Mrs Masterman has moved to Class 3 with a mixed KS1 and KS2 class. French is being taught in class by class teachers this year, after Madame Brown left us in July and finally lunch arrangements have changed in school and we are trialling a new system where all of the children eat lunch together in the hall, instead of the old ‘split sitting’ system. Please bear with us whilst we all adjust to the new systems in school. School has had a calm and settled start for the children, we are all working really hard to ensure despite some changes, it remains this way!

Attached are the diary dates for the year so far. I will send out new/ additional dates for school events as they arise, but we have taken in to account most annual events- even Christmas! (yes, I said it!) One major change you will notice is the timings of our learning conferences. More information will be provided when the letters for this come out, but learning conferences will now not happen in the school day but across two evenings, from 3.30-7. Meetings at this point of the year will be focussed on how your children have settled and their targets for the coming year. Each appointment will be 10 mins long and your children are still invited and encouraged to attend.

We are launching a new initiative for Year 3 this year, called the ‘Fordham 50’. This is a booklet of 50 varied challenges that we are encouraging our Year 3 pupils to achieve across the year to promote perseverance, risk and resilience. Mr Askew will be launching this to pupils and parents and more details of this will be coming soon with a parent coffee to follow.

A parent workshop for our reception children on phonics will be happening this half term too, Mrs Lawrence and Miss Stafford will be sending out details to parents. We will also be launching learning boxes for our pupils. These will be available to buy through the school. These boxes will contain learning resources to help your children though their early years at school. It’s a new initiative we are launching this year and we think it will help our pupils engage in their learning at home, with all of the necessary resources to hand and in one place.

We are in the process of setting up the new Class Dojo accounts for 2019/20. For our new parents, class Dojo is a computer based area where we can share messages with you, post reminders and you can see your children’s activities in class during the day. We really value it here at school and we hope you all enjoy it as much as we do. Letters will go out to new parents and existing families will be put in their new classes.

Finally, I hope that everyone has a really great year ahead. If there is anything school can do to help or support our families our door is always open.

Best wishes,

Jakki Sibley

Headteacher