



Our Website address: www.foxwoodschoo.org.uk

Important Dates

Friday 12 February

School closes for Half term

Monday 22 February

School re-opens

Monday 22 February—26 February

Arts Week

Thursday 4 March

World Book Day

Wednesday 31 March

School closes for Easter Holidays

Thursday 1 April

Inset Day for Staff

Monday 19 April

School re-opens after Easter Holidays

Welcome

Welcome to Sally, she has joined us as Teacher in Class 7. Sally spent some time with us before Christmas getting to know the class, they have all settled very well

Thank you

Thank you to parents/carers for their continued patience when dropping off and collecting children. We will continue the same system after half term. The playground gates will be locked at 9.15 am. If you arrive after this time please telephone the office and they will get a member of the class team to come out to you.

PARENTS EVENING THURSDAY 4 MARCH 2021

This year Parents Evening will be virtual or over the telephone. A letter will be coming home on Monday 22 February. We look Forward to seeing you or talking to you then.

Message from Lucinda

It is hard to believe that we are almost half way through this academic year—another six months of disruption, confusion and anxiety? Yes, in many ways, and in all honesty.

However that is far from the whole story, and—as always—I am keen for us to focus on all that has been navigated, overcome, achieved and enjoyed.

This academic year we have continued with an improved school and home learning curriculum offer, we've found increasingly creative ways to use Evidence for Learning to share activities and learning opportunities, and to record and share success, we have celebrated some important Awareness Days together at school and at home in a variety of exciting and colourful ways (and I have no doubt this is set to continue, not least this Friday when we are encouraging everyone to 'Express Yourself!') We have introduced new Functional Skills videos and programmes which are shared on our school Website and our 'Fantastic Fox Wood' Fb page (and we continue to share our extremely popular OT Sensory Activity Challenges by popular request!)

We have been particularly impressed with the ways in which all of our pupils are making progress in relation to their Individual Education Plan targets—despite some possible hurdles, achievement in relation to these targets is excellent. These targets focus on each individual child's ability to make progress, and breaking down any potential barriers, and so it is vital that these remain at the forefront of the work we do together.

In addition to all of this Senior and Middle Leaders have been working together to create our latest School Development Plan, which we hope to be able to share with you soon in a 'family friendly' format so that we can also work together to achieve this year's key goals for our school, college and wider community. We have also been working on this together with our Governors (who are swiftly all becoming Zoom experts!) and staff from school and college have been delivering Zoom presentations to them in relation to areas that Governors have identified they are keen to explore and learn more about; including our Home Learning offer, Mental Health and Wellbeing of Pupils, Staff and Families, and how we promote British Values, Equality and Diversity.

So, as you can see, it's been an extremely busy and productive six months and we look forward to seeing what the remainder of the Spring Term brings after half term (some warmer weather would be much appreciated by us all, I have no doubt!)

During next week—cold or not—I hope that we will all find opportunities to leave any non-essential technology to one side for a while as we enjoy sharing time together, exploring the outdoors, and enjoying the positivity and power of nature (close to home and well wrapped up is my advice!)



READING

At Fox Wood School, we encourage all pupils to read for enjoyment. All pupils are read to or heard read daily during lessons. Reading is different for individual pupils throughout the school, ranging from being adult led to independent reading.

Pupils who are studying at the pre-formal curriculum stage (our more sensory, non subject specific learners), have sensory stories – these are stories which encompass all of the 5 senses containing objects to touch, smell, taste, hear and see. Sensory stories are generally matched to the topic and are repeated multiple times, building on responses. The key role of the adult is to facilitate engagement with the objects of the story- paying careful attention to responses to objects and any changes in responses. Sensory stories tend to have a few words/ refrains, are repetitive and are enhanced with objects to develop understanding of the topic.

Phonics work is related to sounds – making sounds and listening to sounds. Pupils who are working on the semi-formal stage will explore class books during lesson times and be read to/ read to an adult daily. These may be working on matching pictures, early phonic sounds, CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant words, such as dog, mum, cat.

Pupils working on the formal curriculum may be moving into reading that is more independent and read daily. These pupils may be looking at meaning within text and inference.

As with all of our pupils, reading is carefully assessed by the class team, and activities and books are matched to the pupils current reading level. We have a range of different resources and strategies that we use within school to enhance reading and to ensure it is relevant for individual pupils. If you have any questions about reading within school, please contact your class teacher or myself.

Lyndsey Phillips, English Lead

WELLBEING

At Fox Wood we continue to support the wellbeing of our pupils, staff and parents throughout this tricky time. Here are some links to help you find support if you need it. Please remember that we are here to support too.

<https://happyoksad.warrington.gov.uk/>
<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>
<https://www.thecalmzone.net/>
<https://giveusashout.org/>
<https://www.samaritans.org/>
<https://www.winstonswish.org/>

February...the end of the month the sun will set at 5.41, by March it will be 7.37, April 8.30, May 9.17 and June 9.34.... there are brighter days ahead. Please remember this won't last forever

EVIDENCE FOR LEARNING

Evidence for Learning is the online learning journal we use at Fox Wood, it is a 'window to school life'. Class teams upload photos, video clips and comments to record pupil progress over time. This is then shared with parents and carers via an individual link. Click on 'Journal' and this will keep you up to date about the progress your child is making and strategies that class teams are using to support this.



For pupils learning at home, class teams are adding three learning activities per day to the 'Activities' section, plus Individual Education Plans, Physiotherapy Programmes, Speech and Language Programmes and Sensory Steps to the 'Reports' section. If you need any support to access Evidence for Learning, please visit our Facebook page, click on 'Videos' and look for the pictures of a laptop screen, these videos will show you how to log in, how to upload photos and comments and how to access the Activity Channel. If you need your password re-setting or your individual link, please contact the school office and we will email these to you.

If your child is learning at home, please upload some photos and comments using the 'Upload' button and the class team will be able to celebrate and feedback on your child's achievements. Thank you to everyone who has already sent photos, video clips and comments, we really appreciate your help to capture this important part of your child's learning journey in their journal.

HOME LEARNING

Our home learning offer is still up and running- and will continue to do so if your child/children are remaining at home for the time being. On Evidence for Learning you will find lots of activities- animal guessing games and story massage for English, overwriting numbers and shape monsters for Maths, cooking and water pistol art, to name a few.

On our website you can find a wide selection of resources under the 'home learning' tab. These include- 'let's chat' communication boards, mental health and wellbeing resources, as well as links to printable worksheets. Don't forget that you can also find activity videos by Lucinda Warren (OT) and links to useful activities/ resources on our 'Fantastic Fox Wood' Facebook page.

Friday 12th February marks Class 5's Time to Talk awareness day.

In the run up to this, pupils talked about the different feelings that they might experience and what these could look like in themselves and in others. They shared their opinions about how their feelings are viewed within school and took part in a variety of different well-being activities within their bubble groups.

On 12th February, pupils will be taking part in a variety of mindfulness activities, aiming to promote their own mental well-being and create a positive environment to talk about their feelings.

Pupils are invited to share their individuality, following the theme of '**Express Yourself**', by choosing their own clothes for the day - they can wear whatever makes them happy! We look forward to seeing all of the pupils (and staff!) in their wonderful outfits and spreading some positivity and joy around the school!



Social Media

Please follow us On Facebook or Twitter at 'Fantastic Fox Wood', we regularly post ideas for home based activities and photographs of our school community and the activities we get up to!



FOCUSSED SUPPORT

The Focused Support Team are really looking forward to be able to start again after the half term. We will be working with the children on their wellbeing and having this 1:1 time will help us to focus on any areas of their learning that they may have lost confidence in over the lockdown period, and help to bring back their enjoyment for learning here at school.

Other Notices - Dinner Money—Just a reminder that Dinner Money has increased to £2.40 per day, (£12.00 per week) This is still payable on the Friday for the following week and must be paid on a weekly basis or termly in advance. Any monies sent into school must be in a sealed envelope with the pupil's name, the amount, and what the money is for, written clearly. School cannot take responsibility for any loose cash.



Hi my name is Sally Ireland and I am a new teacher at Fox Wood.
 I am based in Class 7 this year.
 My hobbies are: going for lots of walks and baking.
 My favourite food is: anything italian!
 My favourite subject to teach is: art
 I want to help the pupils to: gain more independence and confidence in their own abilities.

SCHOOL TERM DATES – 2020/2021

| Term | Date of Closing | | Date of Opening | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Summer 2020 | | | Mon | 7 September 2020 |
| Autumn Half Term 2020 | Fri | 16 October 2020 | Mon | 26 October 2020 |
| Christmas 2020/2021 | Fri | 18 December 2020 | Mon | 4 January 2021 |
| Spring Half Term 2021 | Fri | 12 February 2021 | Mon | 22 February 2021 |
| Summer Term 2021 | Wed | 31 March 2021 | Mon | 19 April 2021 |
| Summer Half Term 2021 | Fri | 28 May 2021 | Mon | 7 June 2021 |
| Summer 2021 | Wed | 21 July 2021 | Thur | 2 September 2021 |

STAFF INSET days: School closed to pupils

Thursday 3 September 2020

Friday 4 September 2020

Thursday 1 April 2021

Thursday 22 July 2021

Friday 23 July 2021

Monday 3 May 2021 - May Day

This weeks safety activity

Fire Escape Plan

FIRE SAFETY WORD SEARCH

Circle the words that you find in the word search. (Hint: Cross out the list words as you find them.)

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-----|
| ALARM | ESCAPE | MATCH | PLAN | LOG |
| SAFETY | STOP | DETECTOR | TEST | MAP |
| FIRE | DROP | FIREFIGHTER | OUTLET | |
| SMOKE | ROLL | FIRETRUCK | CORDS | |

FIRETRUCKER
 LOGTPFVODFF
 CISALIEREII
 ARALARM DTRR
 SEFCNEASEET
 TAETESTTCFO
 OUTLETCP TIR
 VFYNSFHLOGT
 ERMDCEODRHE
 OTPFATGRMTR
 RSTOPSMOKES
 ROLLEMAPTRA

Could you create your own Fire Escape Plan.
 You could ask an adult that you live with to help you.