

# Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, we would like to thank you all for your overwhelming support this half term. The school re-opened to all pupils in September and we were not quite sure what to expect. However, we have had a fantastic start to the new school year and we couldn't be happier! Your children have been simply amazing! They have adapted to the new routines, shown positive attitudes to learning and worked extremely hard. They should be very proud of themselves. This week, the staff and children have been working on finalising their outcomes for the Museum of Hope which will be opened during the first week after half term. We can't wait to share the children's wonderful learning outcomes with you!

## CORE VALUES



This week, we have spoken to the children about staying safe and being respectful online as well as in person. Many children have mobile phones, tablets, use social media and play games online with friends. It is extremely important that you are aware of the age restrictions for the games and websites your child is using, make sure you know who their online friends are and that you monitor very closely the messages your child is sending and receiving and that you have activated age-appropriate parental controls.

Our core value for next half term is **RESPONSIBILITY**.

## THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

### RECEPTION

Ash class has been showing their creativity in a number of pieces of artwork they have done. The children created a collage self-portrait using a range of different types of materials. They have also been engaged in still life painting and using sand to create beautiful art work. The children have also done some amazing writing of their hopes and dreams on leaves. It has been a delight to see the evidence of the development of the children's letter formation! They are working hard in Ash class to make sure that everyone enjoys all aspects of being part of our school community and as a class wrote:

*We are Ash class.*

*We promise to respect each other and be kind.*

*Our job is to listen and learn*



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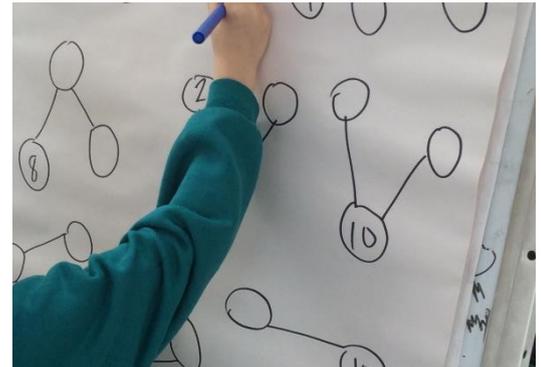
## YEAR ONE – CHERRY CLASS

Year 1 have been solving missing number equations by using their knowledge of number bonds. They have explored a variety of ways to represent number bonds, such as using tens frames and part-whole models. The children have begun solving worded problems and have been explaining their understanding.

In phonics the children have now been taught all of the Phase 3 phonemes and have begun learning Phase 4 blends and learning how to blend sounds in words such as the 'cl' in the word clown.

The children have spent this week writing up a 'Guide to Kindness.' They have written about how you can be kind, how you feel when you receive kindness and how we can make the world a kinder place!

The children are very excited about displaying their learning and seeing each other's outcomes in the Museum of Hope exhibition.



## YEAR TWO – ELM CLASS



It has been a very busy and exciting week in Elm Class. Children have been confidently reciting their acrostic poems linked to our 'hopes and dreams' theme. They have created their own steps to success such as a clear voice, eye contact, posture, confidence, tone and volume to reflect on their performance. In maths, they have consolidated their knowledge of number bonds to 10 to help them to bridge ten when adding and subtracting. They have used 'error spotter' and 'explain it' stickers to reason and justify their answers by giving meaningful explanations to deepen their understanding. In PE, they have engaged in a variety of outdoor games and movements with balance, agility and coordination to perform dances. In art, they have been inspired by the artwork of Pablo Picasso and they re-created his style using colours, shapes and space. After half term, all children are looking forward to visiting the Museum of Hope at Forest Academy to show our 'Wonder' and 'Relationships' character skills.

## YEAR THREE – LIME CLASS

Year 3 have been learning about fossils and how they are formed. They learned about the process of fossils being formed and re-created it using plastic dinosaurs to create a mould in a slice of bread. Then, they waited two days for the mould to form and filled it with plaster to create a cast of their mould.



# Forest Academy News

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Friday 23rd October 2020

## YEAR FOUR – OAK CLASS



In preparation for the Museum of Hope exhibition, Oak class have been busy editing and publishing their woodland setting descriptions. They have also recorded a video sharing their hopes for the future. In art, they have put the final touches to their Picasso inspired cubist artwork and in reading they have been practising how to summarise text. In maths, they have been using reasoning skills to solve word problems relating to adding and subtracting fractions.

It has been wonderful to see all the children's hard work come together, as they complete their outcomes for our Museum of Hope. They are very excited to share it with you after half term.

## YEAR FIVE – PINE CLASS & POPLAR CLASS



This week year 5 have been learning about fractions and solving problems involving fractions in maths. In English, they published their narratives ready to be incorporated in the Museum of Hope. In science we have been evaluating our findings using scientific language. In reading, Year 5 have been looking at different types of questioning and developing strategies of how to make their questioning more effective.

## YEAR 6 – ROWAN CLASS & WILLOW CLASS

Year 6 have been extremely busy this week publishing their final written outcomes in English as well as adding the last few details to their artwork. In reading, pupils have been making links between texts and using their sentence stems to form opinions and record their thinking. Within maths, they have been learning about prime and square numbers and using the correct order of operations to solve problems with more than one operation. They are currently in the process of putting all of the fantastic work together in our Museum of Hope which the children will get to visit after half term.



To see more of the fantastic learning at school follow us on:



Twitter @Forest\_Academy

or



<https://www.facebook.com/Forest-Academy>

<https://www.forestacademy.org.uk/>



@Forest\_Academy

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Friday 23rd October 2020

## **BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

Our breakfast and afterschool clubs are operating as normal. For further information please call the school office. To book a place in advance for your child, please call **07538 030914**.



## **CONTACT DETAILS**

If you have changed your contact details it is really important to let the school office know as this information will be used for all communication. Please also let us know if the details of the emergency contacts you have provided us with have changed so that there is someone we can get hold of quickly if we are unable to contact you.

## **ABSENCE AND ILLNESS**

Please remember to report your child's absence on the absence line if your child is unwell and unable to attend school for **any** reason.

## **ROAD SAFETY**

You are reminded that the yellow zig-zag lines outside school mean that stopping or waiting is strictly prohibited. Please do not stop to drop your children off or park on the zig zag lines. They are there to keep everyone safe. We have asked the police and parking enforcement officers to support us in improving road safety outside the school and avoid an accident happening. Also, please do not stop in the middle of the road for your children to get out of the car.



## **PARENTS' EVENING – 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**



Due to COVID -19, consultations with teachers will be conducted via a 10 minute phone call. You can sign up for a slot through the link sent to you by email and text on teachers2parents.

## **COVID-19**

You will be aware that the infection rate and number of cases of COVID-19 are continuing to rise nationally and that Greater London has been placed in the "high" category. The school has implemented several measures to minimize the risk of transmission in school. We need all members of the community to help stop the spread. As stipulated in government guidance, if your child displays symptoms or has a positive test result, they must not attend school and will need to isolate for at least 10 days unless they have a negative test result. Any siblings will need to self-isolate for 14 days. The main symptoms (NHS UK) are:

# Forest Academy News

## Keeping you up to date!

Friday 23rd October 2020

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.



If your child displays any of these symptoms they will not be able to return to school unless they have been tested and the result is negative, or they have completed the required period of self-isolation. If you are asked to self-isolate the school will send you a text to remind you of the date that your child can return to school in the event that you cannot get a test. Remember that self-isolation means staying indoors and not mixing with other households at all.

### REMINDERS

- Please remember to send your child to school with a named, reusable water bottle. The water fountains are currently not in use.
- Children should come to school dressed in their PE kit on their PE days. Please ensure that they wear a plain white t-shirt, plain black jogging bottoms and black trainers.
- Jewelry must not be worn other than **small studs** and a watch (not a smart watch). This is for health and safety reasons.
- Bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school grounds for health and safety reasons. Please wheel them in or out of school.
- Please make sure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat. The staggered start to the day means that even on days when it is cold and raining, children will have to wait until it is time for their bubble to go in. If they miss their slot, they will need to wait until the other bubble has gone in and will be given a late slip. For children in Reception, Years 4 and 6, the start time is 8.35am. For children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 5, the start time is 8.45am.
- Current arrangements for dropping off and collecting children will remain in place next half term.

### OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY

The school closes to all pupils for the half term holiday on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October for **one week** and re-opens on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you think that your child may be entitled to free school meals, please let the school office know and the staff will help you to check and tell you what to do next. We want to ensure that all those who are eligible are receiving their entitlement. The school receives additional funding based on the number of children claiming free school meals which enables us to provide your children with additional support and to purchase extra resources.

### MUSIC RELIEF FOUNDATION – OCTOBER CAMPAIGN

Below is a list of current services and outreach programs in October that may be of interest and benefit to parents, carers and children.

# Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 23rd October 2020

## For Children

### Safe Space - Mentoring and addressing youth issues

Safe Space is an online and offline platform led by three youth workers offering tailored support and mentoring to improve the lives of young people aged 11 - 25 experiencing mental health difficulties. Services include:

- Weekly **Instagram live series** exploring a new mental health theme each week - to date they have explored 1. Mental health and Covid-19, mental health and gangs, the role music, the media and social media play in positive and negative mental health and gender roles and relationship. This is available to watch Tuesdays @ 4.30 - 5pm via their Instagram channel @music\_relief. Students are free to join the discussion to share their opinions and engage with our youth workers to receive support and answers to issues affecting them.

- Alternatively, their Instagram live series is available in **podcast** version via the link [here](#).

## Half-term Activities

This October half-term they are pleased to offer 'Enriching Lives, Hybrid October Half Term Activities'. Sessions will be delivered by youth workers and will take place online and offline (social distancing and group gathering rules applied). Events will be split up between two age groups 8 - 12 years and 13 - 17 years. Activities are designed to use the creative arts to increase mood and well-being. More information and how to sign up can be found [here](#).

## Musictober

Music Foundation would like to connect with young people who are creatively talented, to send in a 3-minute video of themselves playing an instrument/drawing/acting or singing. They would like to know why they have chosen that art form to express themselves and how it has helped them.

They will be promoting these videos and schools they come from on all their social media platforms. At the end of the month, they will be hosting a webinar and reaching out to some of these individuals for a Q&A session.

## For Parents and Carers

### Discussion Group

"Express Yourself" is a platform for you to be heard, share experiences, opinions, build confidence, and connect. It provides topical discussion, social and emotional support. To date, they have discussed interesting topics such as 1. Relationships - Discussing breakdowns, barriers, and coping during lockdown. 2. Community and School - Exploring what do we want as a community from local authorities? 3. Covid-19 and Education - Addressing Covid-19's impact, life after lockdown and parental concerns. Their current project is The Journey of Me - Exploring self-identity and rediscovering forgotten passions.

The event takes place weekly on Zoom every Friday @8pm - 9pm. New members are always welcome.

# Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 23rd October 2020

## Webinar

On the **28th October @ 6.00pm - 7.30pm** they are hosting a Talk Through - Music Edition webinar which will explore the psychological and emotional benefits of music - increasing creativity, self-esteem, confidence, well-being, mood and mental health to name a few. You will hear from musicians, singers, music psychologists and teachers as they share their insights and personal stories of how music has helped them through various situations. The webinar's goal is to encourage everyone to partake in regular musical activities.

More information and information on how to sign up can be found [here](#).



**Forest Academy** @Forest\_Academy

Year 3 have been practicing their dance routines to represent 'Hope'



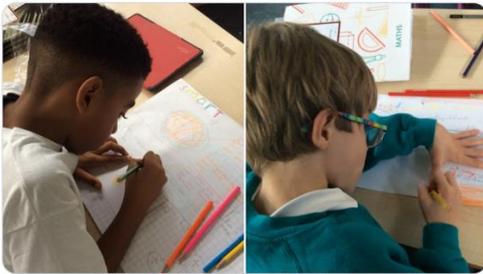
5:39 pm · 19 Oct 2020 · Twitter Web App

A tweet from Forest Academy showing a group of Year 3 children in a forest, practicing dance routines. They are standing in a circle on a path covered with fallen leaves.

Forest Academy Retweeted

**Forest Academy** @Forest\_Academy · 15 Oct

@Forest\_Academy Oak class have been learning about e-safety. They have created posters to explain how to keep safe online.



2 5

A tweet from Forest Academy showing two children in a classroom setting, focused on creating posters about e-safety. One child is writing on a poster, while the other is looking at a completed one.

**Forest Academy** @Forest\_Academy · 2h

Our friends at Ecole Victor Schoelcher have sent us a video of them reciting the alphabet in French! Can you hear and recognise the letters in L'alphabet en Francaise?



0:27 · 11 views

A tweet from Forest Academy featuring a video of children from Ecole Victor Schoelcher reciting the French alphabet. The video shows a group of children sitting on the floor in a classroom, holding up cards with letters.

**Forest Academy** @Forest\_Academy · 20 Oct

In Ash class we were ordering the numbers to create a giant number line.



1 4

A tweet from Forest Academy showing children in a classroom setting, working on a giant number line. They are using large numbers and markers to create a visual representation of the number line.

# Forest Academy News

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Friday 23rd October 2020



From



Mrs Oldfield, Mrs Wray and all the staff.



Happy Birthday wishes to:

	Peyton	Rowan Class
	Adam	Lime Class
	Ralston	Cherry Class
	Rami	Rowan Class
	Samuel	Ash Class
	Lacey	Lime Class
	Oliver	Ash Class

# Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 23rd October 2020

## Support and Advice

These are very challenging times for everyone, but there is a lot of help available. Below you will find the contact details of a number of organisations to go to if you need help or advice:

- For help with welfare rights advice, call the council's free advice line on 0800 731 5920 to speak to an advisor or email [welfare.rights@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:welfare.rights@croydon.gov.uk).
- [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be available for a limited time to top up housing-related benefits to cover housing costs such as rent
- You may be able to claim a [discretionary reduction in council tax](#)- visit Croydon Council website to find out if you qualify
- There are three food stops with community partners in New Addington, Selsdon and Thornton Heath, where eligible residents can get £20 worth of food and groceries for £3.50 per week. For information email [anita.konc Zack@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:anita.konc Zack@croydon.gov.uk)
- Gas and electricity prepayment meters during COVID-19. Contact your energy suppliers, to discuss options to ensure your supply is not interrupted. Visit this website for further information: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-and-your-energy-supply>
- The council's Gateway service helps residents avoid homelessness, and offers support ranging from one-to-one debt advice and maximising benefit entitlement. If you are a Croydon resident needing support from Gateway staff, email [gcc@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:gcc@croydon.gov.uk) including a mobile number so an adviser can call you back.
- Croydon Council have a [COVID-19 web page](#) which will be updated daily with any changes to services.
- Help for anyone experiencing or at risk of domestic abuse - Croydon Family Justice Centre  
020 8688 0100 or email [fjc@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:fjc@croydon.gov.uk)

**If you have concerns about a child (or their families) welfare, contact Croydon Council's Single Point of Contact (SPOC)**

Telephone: 020 8726 6400

Out of hours: 020 8726 6400 (ask for out of hours team)

Email: [childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 – 16:00

### NSPCC

Tel: 0808 800 5000

Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

You may remain anonymous if you wish.

**If you think a child is at risk of immediate harm telephone 999**