

Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 30th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week. In our bid to improve the outdoor experiences for the children, a group of children from Years 5 and 6 received training from Croydon Schools Sports Partnership to become play leaders. They will be out in the playground every lunchtime with their bubbles on a rota basis leading a variety of games to keep everyone engaged. Well done to Jarvani in Year 6, who impressed staff by leading skipping games with children in Year 4. He demonstrated leadership skills and showed responsibility and maturity.



CORE VALUES



Our core value for this half term is **COLLABORATION**. It empowers children by teaching them that collaboration is a useful learning tool in school and also in real life. They are able to clarify, build on and develop learning by discussing and sharing ideas with their peers. It helps them to develop their skills such as decision making, flexibility and problem solving.

ATTENDANCE

Class	19 th April
Reception Ash	97.98%
Y1Cherry	95.10%
Y2 Elm	99.02%
Y3 Holly	98.82%
Y3 Lime	99.05%
Y4 Oak	96.86%
Y5 Pine	98.42%
Y5 Poplar	98.57%
Y6 Rowan	99.17%
Y6 Willow	95.60%
Whole School	97.61%

Attendance at school is now mandatory for all children unless they are shielding or self-isolating. If your child is unwell, please phone and leave a message on the first day of absence National attendance is 96%, so well done to the classes whose attendance was above this last week.

THE BIG ASK

The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has commissioned the largest ever survey of children in England, designed to find out what their concerns and aspirations about the future are. The Big Ask is now live at <http://thebigask.uk/>. Please encourage your children to respond to the survey. Your views are also welcomed as a parent or carer. The results from this survey will help to identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve. The more children who respond, the stronger the results will be.

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PSHE & RSE FOLLOW UP SESSIONS

There will be an opportunity next week, following on from the presentations last term, for further discussion with school leaders on the changes to the PSHE and RSE curriculum. If you have any questions please email them to admin@forestacademy.org.uk. There is also further information about our RSE and PSHE curriculum on our website. Dates, times and details for the virtual meetings are below.

Years 5 and 6 – Tuesday 4th May - 14:00 – 14:30

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93118779265?pwd=ZzhwUTdaLzFDbVg5T3AzOUhjTUowUT09>

Meeting ID: 931 1877 9265

Passcode: 4pZdks

Years 3 and 4 – Wednesday 5th May – 14:00 – 14:30

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99485547374?pwd=WVJtZTFjVWxUNWNwYzdkajJVNXIUdz09>

Meeting ID: 994 8554 7374

Passcode: ZW5FZf

Reception, Years One and Two – Thursday 6th May – 14:00 – 14:30

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91961860097?pwd=RUtNRm5VakkzcjJHNjl6YUd2Z2pWdz09>

Meeting ID: 919 6186 0097

Passcode: CRx986

REMINDERS

Please remember to send your child to school with a named, reusable water bottle. The water fountains are still not in use so water bottles are needed for playtime and lunch time as well as in the classroom.



- 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 ensure your children wheel them in or out of school.

- Please make sure that all sweatshirts, cardigans, jumpers and lunchboxes are clearly named so that any misplaced items can be quickly returned to their owners.

- Please ensure that you keep young children under close supervision when collecting older siblings.

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RECEPTION ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 ENTRY

Do you or someone you know have a child who was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017? If so, they should be starting school in September this year. If you have not done so already, you should apply online for a school place with the borough in which you live. We may still have a few spaces available. If you need any help or wish to find out more about our provision in Reception, please call Mrs. Pizzy in the office.

RAMADAN

Some Muslim children in years 5 and 6 wish to fast during the holy month of Ramadan, which began earlier this month. Please email the school if you give permission for your child to fast.

THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

RECEPTION – ASH CLASS



In Literacy lessons the children have been engaged in discussions and writing about a number of different scenarios to determine whether these are fair or unfair. They identified how it may impact on the individual involved and how they might feel if they are being treated unfairly. During maths lessons the children have been exploring the number twenty. This week they examined matching quantities to amounts above ten; made amounts up to twenty using concrete objects and finding missing numbers. In expressive art and design the children entered a world of their imagination role playing the story of Little Red Riding hood. They have also expanded on this by writing about how Red Riding Hood was feeling.

YEAR ONE – CHERRY CLASS

This week Year 1 have been writing descriptive phrases looking at nouns and adjectives the children can pick out by looking at images from the book "Dougal's Deep Sea Diary." The children have begun generating questions and acting in role as reporters to ask questions and answer them in role as Dougal.

In maths, the children have been revising and exploring arrays, for which they have written matching repeated addition number sentences. In RE the children have explored how one can be viewed in many ways by drawing a representation of themselves through a self-portrait. In curriculum, the children have explored the journey of recycling, and which items you might reuse, recycle or reduce the consumption of. In science they have explored what plants need to grow. In PSHE and music the children have begun learning a song about relationships between family and friends. The children have been learning vocabulary related to computing and explored the 2simple app to select images and type related to their learning in science.



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YEAR TWO – ELM CLASS

This week Year 2 have been exploring the setting from their core text 'Tin Forest'. The children used their senses to describe the imaginary rainforest using nouns, adjectives, noun phrases and adverbs. One of them wrote " Looking through the window, I saw an exotic, vibrant and sunny jungle I have dreamed of". In maths, they measured in centimetres and metres, compared measures and solved problems. Later in the week, they started learning about the weight of objects and have started using scales to weigh in grams and kilograms. In Science, they have planted herbs and discussed the parts of the plant and their functions. The big question this week was "What if we didn't plant any plants and trees?" During PE, children have been focusing on our core value of collaboration,



whilst playing team games. They have been learning how to bat and bowl a ball. They have also started their curriculum topic of sustainable development, by debating whether plastic is a good or bad invention.

YEAR THREE – LIME AND HOLLY CLASS

This has been an exciting week in Year 3. We have been researching Egyptians. We discussed finding information from secondary resources such as, newspaper articles, iPads and books. The children loved discovering interesting facts, like pharaohs coffins are called sarcophagus; Egyptians created one of the earliest known writing systems called hieroglyphics; and the Rosetta Stone helped archaeologists translate early hieroglyphics as it was inscribed in Greek as well. The children worked collaboratively in small groups and then presented their findings to their classmates. It was lovely to see their enthusiasm for our new topics.



YEAR FOUR – OAK CLASS



This week, Year four have been generating figurative language to use in their rainforest setting description. In maths, we have been comparing analogue and digital clocks and converting time into 12 and 24 hours. In science, we went on a walk around the environment to find and classify living and non-living things. In our global curriculum session, we have been looking at different types of farming from the past and present and comparing similarities and differences. We have also been discussing important people and objects and what emotions they feel when they lose them.

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YEAR FIVE – PINE AND POPLAR CLASS

This week in maths, to make the learning more practical, the children have been outdoors converting metric volumes of water and using the capacity of various containers. Mixing potions using a range of coloured water was an interesting way to learn about converting units of measurements and the difference between volume and capacity. In English this week, the children have been exploring the relationships and emotions of the main character of their core text book "Boy in the Tower". Explaining the reasons for night and day was the subject of the learning in science this week. Making a sundial and drawing the diagrams of the positions of the sun in the sky, helped children to understand this concept.



The Caribbean has been the focus of the history and geography learning this week. The children learnt about the location of many of the islands and about some of the islands gaining independence.



The gymnastics coach has been developing the children's balance and co-ordination skills. In art, the children have been evaluating a range of sculptures in preparation for their designing and making of a relief sculpture. Now the nights are not frosty, the planting out of seedlings into the garden beds has started!

YEAR SIX – ROWAN AND WILLOW CLASS

This week Year Six have continued to immerse themselves in our core text 'No Ballet Shoes in Syria'. They have evaluated the author's choice of language and have started to generate their own sentences in preparation for writing their persuasive letter to The Home Office. In Whole Class Reading the children have made connections between our core text and the poem 'We Refugees' written by Benjamin Zephaniah. They have unpicked the meaning of the poem through class discussions and have built on those discussions by making inferences. The children's curriculum lessons have had a geography focus, where the children have explored Syria by labelling its physical features and identifying biomes. They have discussed similarities and differences between Syria and the United Kingdom. In Music, they children have started their topic 'Inspirational Women in Music' by listening to famous artists such as Nina Symone and Erykah Badu. In R.E they learnt about The Five Pillars of Islam and how they guide Muslims to live a good and responsible life, they then reflected on the rules that guide their life.



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Our in-school mental health support service, Place2Be, has launched a new site for parents and carers called “Parenting Smart.” The site offers practical advice on supporting your children and managing behaviour with short articles and videos on a range of topics such as transition to secondary school, meltdowns and sleep difficulties. To learn more, click [here](#).



Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend!

We look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 4th May**.

From Mrs Oldfield, Mrs Wray and all the staff



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Happy Birthday wishes to:



Jaber

Lime Class



Eniola

Cherry Class



Jessie

Poplar Class



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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.
- [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
- 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 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

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

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

NSPCC

Tel: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

You may remain anonymous if you wish.

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