



Headteacher
Miss K Greenway

15th September 2023

Dear Parents

It has been another busy week – but at least a little cooler! It has been lovely to welcome Daisies children this week and they have enjoyed exploring the classroom and outside area.

School Values

We will be reminding the children of our school values and vision over the next few weeks so I thought it would be useful to put them on this newsletter. They underpin everything we do with the children. These can be found on our school website.



We aspire for all at Parsonage Farm to feel valued and cared for, to have a continued excitement for learning, ensuring success as they journey onwards.



SCHOOL VALUE – We can follow the rules to keep us happy and safe

SCHOOL VALUE – We respect ourselves, others and our school

SCHOOL VALUE – We can make the right choices

SCHOOL VALUE – We can concentrate and listen well

SCHOOL VALUE – We try our best even when it is hard

SCHOOL VALUE – We think about the feelings of others

OUR PROMISE

“We will always listen to you.”

School Website

www.parsonagefarmschool.co.uk

Please do look at our school website – we try to add as much as possible that we believe parents need and is useful. Please do provide us with feedback if you cannot find things, it is tricky to access, you would like other things added – without your feedback, we cannot improve it.

There is a ‘School News App’ connected to the website. Normally it would send you an alert when anything has been added or changed to the school calendar. We have been made aware that currently it is not working on an Android phone (only Apple). We are working with the website provider to resolve this issue.

New to Year 1 and Year 2 Parents Meetings

It was lovely to see (both face to face and virtually) so many parents at these meetings and hopefully you found them useful. The presentations that were shared have now been added to the website – Parental Support- Parent meeting information.

Please could you let us know any feedback about whether it works providing virtual access and whether this is something you would like us to continue to try for other meetings.

New to Year R Parent Meeting

Tuesday 3rd October 2.45pm

Please come and find out more about Year R now your child has started school, with a focus on how to support with reading and phonics. The meeting will be held in the school hall, so come to the school office. We will also send a Teams link if you would like to join virtually.

Attendance

Message from Hampshire County Council

Hampshire County Council has shared a campaign encouraging families to do all they can to support regular school attendance for their children.

While rates of school attendance are improving locally, there is still more to do to match the levels typically seen before the Covid-19 pandemic. Educational specialists advise that attending school every day, unless unwell, is best for children to ensure that the solid foundations for their future education and employment can be laid. It is also one of the best ways of protecting a child's mental and physical health.

Regular attendance requires parents and carers, children, and school staff to work together. Staying connected with schools means parents and carers can quickly identify any potential difficulties their child may be facing and understand the support available. Families can take various steps to support school attendance, including:

- creating opportunities for children to talk about their time at school*
- staying up to date with all communications from school*
- attending school open evenings and functions, and letting the school know if this is not possible due to barriers like work, childcare, transport, or health issues*
- avoiding school absences where possible – for example, by arranging GP and dental appointments outside of school hours*
- building consistent bedtime routines – sleeping well, for the right length of time, helps improve energy levels, mood and concentration*
- establishing good morning routines at home to help children arrive at school on time, having had a good breakfast and ready to start the day*
- staying alert to signs of distress or challenging behaviours in response to going to school, and reaching out for help as soon as possible if there are any concerns*

Please remember to speak to us if you are struggling with your child's attendance. The aim is for all children to have 95% or above attendance. We understand that when young children start school for the first time, they often pick up all sorts of bugs and seem too often be ill. Please do not worry if this happens. As a school, we monitor attendance all the time and at the end of each term, I will contact any parents whose child's attendance is significantly below 95% and work together to plan how to improve this.

School Photos

These will take place on Thursday 28th September and you have already received a separate email about these. If you wish to have a family photo before school starts, please complete the form as soon as possible. Year R have PE on Thursdays – the photos will only be of their head and shoulders so they can still wear jogging bottoms or leggings. You might want them to wear a polo shirt with a collar rather than a round necked t-shirt on that day.

Daisies – if your child is not in Daisies on a Thursday and you would like them to have a photo, you are welcome to bring them to Cherry Blossom Hall (at the front of the school) at 9.30am.

Fundraising

We are very aware that with the continued increasing cost of living, fundraising will be really hard this year. We have made the decision that we will only support local charities and the school this year. We wanted to make you aware of things that will involve asking for a financial contribution this term so that you can plan ahead.

School Photos – if you wish to buy these (payment due in October a percentage of total money goes to school)

Christmas Cards – later this term the children will be making Christmas cards that are then printed by a local company and you can buy if you wish (payment due in October/early November & percentage of total money goes to school)

Elf Run – this involves sponsorship and the money raised is for Phyllis Tuckwell (payment due in December).

FOPs (Friends of Parsonage Farm School)

From everyone here at the Friends of Parsonage Farm School (FOPS), we wish you a warm welcome back into School, and extend an extra special welcome to all the new families joining us this term.

For those of you who don't know who we are and what we do, we are the School's PTA, and our sole aim is to raise funds and provide fun events for the children, to enhance and enrich their time at Parsonage Farm.

We will be putting together a calendar of events for the Autumn Term shortly, and also sending out the date for our Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM is open to all parents and carers - so if you are interested in hearing about what we do and/or getting involved, please do come along and join us - we'd love to see you there.

At our AGM, all roles are re-elected. We are currently seeking a new Secretary to join us this year - please see the attached poster and get in touch if you'd like to hear more.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. Each year group now has a 'FOPS Rep' who will be able to answer your questions in person or via the group chats. These are:

Year 2 - Beckie Ridley or Kelly Scott

Year 1 - Kat Pearson or Lorelei Phillips

Year R - Kelly Scott

Daisies - Rachel Oxley or Abi Roffe

You can also email us at fopssecretary1@gmail.com, and don't forget to follow us on Facebook or Instagram!

Planter

I am sure you will have seen the new planter on the playground that has been constructed over the summer. It is not quite finished yet, but will be soon. We will then be asking if anybody has any cuttings of shrubs from their own garden, seeds etc that they would be willing to donate. Mrs Whittaker, who volunteers once a month, is busy planning this and has sent a list of possible plants we could put in the planter (please see attached). She is also trying to get together a group of lovely parents who may be able to help around the school grounds with general tidying – this can be regularly or on an adhoc basis.

We have also planned a Grounds Working Party on Saturday 4th November in the morning – usually this involves leaf clearing, tidying the allotment for the winter and other maintenance jobs. We ask parents (and children) to come and help for an hour or so and usually we have great turn out and achieve so much. More information to follow but please put the date in your diary now.

Help needed

We have a few toys and books in the entrance area that need to be taken to a local charity shop please. If you can help, please just pop into the office and collect them. Thank you.

Reminders

- Please remember to name all your children's clothes and water bottles – I have already found brand new cardigans and jumpers with no names.

From now on, I will send newsletters fortnightly.

Have a good weekend.

Take care.

Miss Greenway

Dates for Diaries

Thurs 28 th Sept	School Photos
Tues 3 rd Oct	2.45pm New to Year R Parent Meeting – school hall
Wed 18 th Oct	3.40 – 6.30pm Parents Evening (Yr R, Yr 1, Yr 2)
Thurs 19 th Oct	am Flu Vaccination (change to original date on last newsletter)
Thurs 19 th Oct	3.40 – 6.30pm Parents Evening (Yr R, Yr 1, Yr 2)

Mon 23rd – Fri 27th Oct Half Term

Mon 30th Oct	INSET DAY (SCL running)
Sat 4 th Nov	9am – 11.30am School Grounds Working Party
Fri 24 th Nov	Road Safety Day
Fri 1 st Dec	Elf Run – in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell
	2.30pm Golden Rabbit Assembly
Thurs 7 th Dec	9.15am Year 1 Christmas Performance
	2pm Daisies Christmas Performance
Fri 8 th Dec	9.15am Year R Christmas Performance
	2pm Year 2 Christmas Performance
Mon 11 th Dec	9.15am Year 2 Christmas Performance
	2pm Year R Christmas Performance
Tues 12 th Dec	9.15am Daisies Christmas Performance

Wed 13 th Dec	2pm Year 1 Christmas Performance
Thurs 14 th Dec	pm Christmas Parties
Fri 15 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
	1.15pm Finish – last day of term

Daisies Parents Evenings will be during week beginning 13/11 and 20/11 – more information to follow