

Farway Church of England Primary School



Church Green,
Farway, Devon,
EX24 6EQ

Executive Headteacher:- Mrs Katie Gray

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23rd January 2015

Dear Parents,

The new display in the entrance hall is starting to take shape. If staff have seen an outstanding achievement or memorable moment then a child will be able to add this to the 'Skyline of Magic Moments' display. Each achievement will be written on a strip of paper and added to each skyscraper to create the different floors within the building, and these are now beginning to take shape. Hopefully, being part of a growing record of positive moments will really inspire the children.

I have been showing prospective applicants for the KS2 teaching position around the school this week, and am confident that we will be able to appoint when the interviews are held. I will keep you informed as the process continues.

If there are any families who may be eligible for free school meals, but haven't got round to applying yet – please apply as soon as possible, even if you don't want your child to have the meal. The school receives a Pupil Premium for every child entitled to free school meals, which we can use to provide extra facilities. You can apply online at <http://www.devon.gov.uk/text/fsm-application-form-2014.pdf> or ask for an application form from the office.

As you will know each week we send home a 'question of the week' in the newsletter for Class 2. The idea of this is to stimulate discussion at home around an 'open' question which may not have one correct answer. I would like to encourage you all to discuss the question each week as a family so that the children are able to hear a variety of opinions which may differ from their own. We would really value your contributions – whether that be written, drawings, photos, artefacts or discussion points.

Thank you for all your continued support.

God bless

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Farway School

Question for the week

Class 2: What would life be like if we had no electricity?

Childline

The ChildLine Schools' Service are holding an assembly at Farway for Years 5/6 this Monday, 26th January, followed by a workshop about keeping safe on Monday, 2nd February. These sessions will give the children an understanding of abuse and bullying and how to get help. Further details, including some questions and answers are listed in the letter sent home earlier this week. The letter also contains an opt out form. I feel the children will gain some very useful information from these sessions, and hope they will attend.

Sainsburys Active Kids

Sainsburys are running their Active Kids promotion again starting on 28th January. The promotion will run until 5th May, and we would appreciate your support to help us collect vouchers which we can use to buy resources for the school. Any vouchers you may collect during this period can be posted in the collection box in our entrance hall.

Arsenal Soccer School half term sessions

Arsenal Soccer Schools courses are aimed at 4-14 year olds of all abilities who wish to receive a unique, fun and safe coaching experience of Arsenal Football Club in a suitable environment based on their age, ability and experience. Children aged 4-6 years old will take part in a shorter 'Mini Gunners' course, while 7-12 year olds will complete the full 10.00 – 3.00pm Soccer School. Full days cost £15 (7-12 yrs), half days cost £4.00 (4-6 yrs). For more information visit www.playthearsenalway.com/february and get a 10% discount by using the code: PTAWDEVON

Attendance

Each year the governors approve an attendance target with our Educational Welfare Officer. This is based on national guidelines and our previous attendance records. It has become apparent that we have a few children who have slipped under this target recently and whilst this may be for perfectly legitimate reasons, such as illness, it is important that we are keeping accurate records. With this in mind we request that if your child is not going to be at school you call on the first day of their absence and then, when they return to school, provide a note detailing the nature of their absence. This should give detail such as "sore throat and temperature" rather than just stating "ill".

CLASS 1 Reading, Spelling and Keywords

Please help your child to learn by practicing their spelling and keywords and reading with them at home – just a few minutes each day can make a real difference. Spelling tests are on Friday morning, and if children have not practised these their day starts badly. Please help your child to enjoy school and learning by ensuring that they are prepared and ready to succeed – they really will benefit so much from your input.

KEY DATES	
Mrs Gray will be in school on Monday next week	
26th January & 2nd February	Child line workshops for Years 5 and 6
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 13th February	Pancake races / End of Term
Monday 23rd February	Back to School

Bad Weather

Now that we are closer to winter and bad weather situations become more likely, please can we remind you about the system for bad weather and school closures. If the weather looks like it may be bad enough to cause a closure please call the Saunders' special mobile number on **07811 058600**. If Mrs Gray has decided to close the school she will have notified them and they will put a message on the answerphone stating that school is closed. In the event of a closure, Mrs Gray or another member of staff will also call parents to let them know.

If you have any questions regarding any of this, please do get in contact with a member of the Admin team.

Milk at Lunchtimes

The new year has also brought changes in school milk provision. Schools are now required to provide milk for all children in school, with under 5's and pupils on free school meals supplied free of charge. Milk for the remainder of pupils should be chargeable. However, we have decided that for this academic year, in order to benefit all pupils, milk will be provided for all children in the federation free of charge. The children will be told about the availability of milk but we felt it important to let parents know too, so that you are able to remind them about it if you would like to.

Football with Exeter City Football Club

On Monday Class 2 were visited by a player from Exeter City Football Club who did some coaching with them, which they all enjoyed.

Public Consultation – School Admission Arrangements

Devon County Council are consulting stakeholders on the proposed School Admission arrangements and Education Travel arrangements. The consultation began on 2nd January and will carry on until 28th February 2015. You are invited to consider the arrangements proposed by DCC and by individual schools. To view the proposals and make comments on them please visit: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements or call My Devon on 0345 155 1019 for a paper version.

For the safety of the children,
please DO NOT park in the lay-by outside school

NEXT WEEK'S MENU – Week 1 – Please fill in the order form below and return to school

MONDAY	Beef Stew
	Vegetable Stew
	Iced Cherry Sponge
TUESDAY	Ham Pizza Sticks with Potato Wedges
	Veg Pizza Sticks with Potato Wedges
	Fruit Flapjack
WEDNESDAY	Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pud with 2 Greens and Roast Potatoes
	Vegetarian Hotpot
	Fruit Yoghurt
THURSDAY	Minced Beef Pie with Peas & Carrots
	Vegetable Quiche
	Fruit Jelly
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers with Potato Wedges and Peas
	Jacket Potato with Cheese & Coleslaw
	Chocolate Mousse

Salad to include: Lettuce, Cucumber, Grated Carrot, Grapes, Cherry Tomatoes, Coleslaw
 Drink: 200ml Semi Skimmed Milk is included with each meal

Please order meals for _____

	Choices for Week Beginning Monday 26 th January 2015	Cost
Monday		-----
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
	Amount Enclosed	£
	– Please make cheques payable to Devon County Council	