Farway Church of England Primary School

Church Green, Farway, Devon, EX24 6EQ

Executive Headteacher:- Mrs Katie Gray

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13th September 2019

Dear Parents,

This week in Class 1, Mrs Jackson has really enjoyed getting to know the children and watching them adapt so well to all the changes. This term's topic is 'A *Carnival of Animals'* so the children have been looking at different animals from across the globe. The children have had fun helping to decorate the Topic wall, with pictures and collages of their favourite animals. They have also been sharing interesting facts about their chosen animal, for example: 'My dog is called Socks. He has long ears and when he is happy he wags his tail'. The children have also been thinking about how different habitats may contribute to the animal's survival, "Tigers have stripes so they can hide in long grass and be camouflaged, so hunters can't get them".

The Reception children enjoyed picking apples off the trees, for our apple crumble. It was the perfect opportunity for them to practise their counting skills and sort the apples into piles of ten.

In Maths this week, the Class 1 children have started looking at place value and exploring number bonds. They have been using lots of different maths equipment to enhance their learning. It is wonderful to see the children so enthusiastic in their learning and persevering, even when things can get more challenging. Fantastic start to the term! Well done Class 1.

Class 2 have made a wonderful start to the year with Mrs Marsh. They have spent lots of time in the outside environment, developing their skills of mapping and drawing geographical sketches ready for their topic on the Local Area. On Friday, along with Class 1, they made Apple and Blackberry Crumble from scratch which included picking and preparing the fruit. They shared the crumble with nursery on Monday, it was delicious!

In Maths the Class 2 children have been discussing Maths ideas to help them understand the braingrowth mindset. They are now learning and investigating Roman Numerals which is an area they can practise at home, there are many online games available.

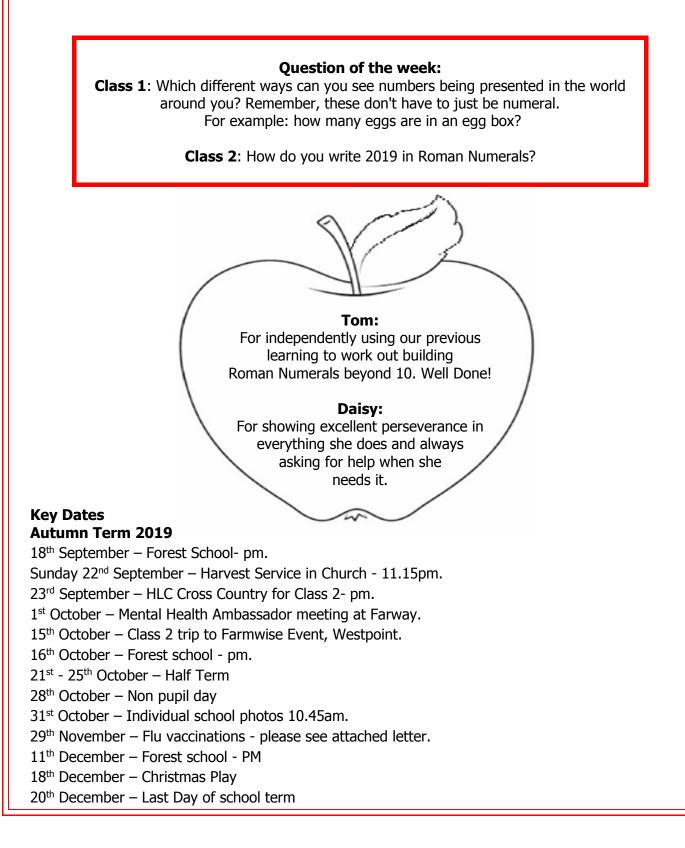
Class 2's shared text over the next few weeks is 'Where My Wellies Take Me' by Michael and Clare Morpurgo. This will result in the children writing their own versions of the book describing a walk that is familiar to them which included poems, maps and artwork. Mrs Marsh has also been working closely with the children to establish their reading, spelling and writing starting points; embedding expectations for the coming year.

Please send your child to school with a spare change of clothes for next Wednesday's forest school session. These sessions will continue throughout the year (please see our Key Dates).



We have decided this year to trial a new system with our newsletters. We appreciate that the website is an easier way for us to share information, however, keeping the website up to date as well as writing a lengthy newsletter each week is a large administrative task. Therefore, we are going to update the website more often with photos and curriculum information but just write a newsletter on the first Friday of the month, or first Friday of the term. If important things come up between the main newsletters then we will send specific notes home and we will send short reminders about events if appropriate. I hope you find the new system helpful.

Thank you for all your continued support. God bless and have a lovely weekend. *Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Farway CE School*



Newsletters and Book Bags

All of the staff at Farway would be grateful if you can please read the newsletters and check regularly in your child's book bag for letters and important notes. A lot of work goes into organising school trips and events and information about these will be sent home throughout the term. If you have any forms to be returned to school, please either hand these into Tamsin in the school office or place in the red letter box on the windowsill in the foyer. We appreciate your help with this.

School Day

Please note we cannot be responsible for children before the normal drop off time of 8.40am. We do not have the appropriate staff on site to care for your children, so please do not drop them off before then. Thank you for your help.

Harvest Celebrations

Farway Church Harvest Service will be on Sunday September 22nd at 11.15am. A separate letter is included with this newsletter. We would love as many children as possible to be involved in this service, so please let us know if you are able to attend. We are also collecting donations to decorate the church for the service, please bring these into school on Thursday 19th September so that we can prepare the church for the service. Thank you.

Coats

As the weather gets cooler please can you ensure that your child has a coat in school at all times. Can we also ask that all jumpers, wellies, coats and P.E kit are labelled with your child's name. We understand how frustrating it can be when your child comes home with the wrong jumper or none at all! Thank you for your help with this.

Music Interaction Therapy

We are pleased to announce that we will have a music interaction specialist in school working with Class 1 children on Friday mornings throughout this term. These sessions are designed to help children develop language and social interaction skills. The sessions encourage self-confidence and self-esteem as well as the social skills of turn taking, accepting other's choices and working as a group. The therapy includes a mix of singing and music based activities and games. These sessions are funded by the Jean Price Music Bursary to whom we are extremely grateful.

Forest School - Forest School will continue this term with a monthly session, starting on 18th September. Please remember to send in a spare change of clothes, with your child, that you don't mind getting muddy.

Yoga - Our weekly Yoga sessions will continue this term on Tuesday mornings.

Flu Vaccinations

If you would like your child to have a flu vaccination, please register them online by 27th October. Please see letter attached.

School Menu

All children should have been given the new school menu last week, please ask in the office if you do not have one. Thank you.

Wellbeing

There has been much press in recent months about children's mental health. As part of our drive to support this we are going to include something each week in the newsletter about Health and Wellbeing. We hope you find this section useful. If you have any topics you would like us to find some helpful tips about, please let us know.

We hope that you have all enjoyed the Summer break. How did you get on with your 'Ten a day'? Just to remind you all, as we get into this term, that it is important to look after your mental health. Make sure that you and your family get your 'Ten a Day'.

Collective Worship Activity

This term we will be focussing in school on the value of Perseverance. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together. If the children bring back something that you have done at home linked to the Collective Worship activity, or can talk about a discussion they've had at home linked to it, then Mrs Gray will award them with a new special sticker.

TALK ABOUT PERSEVERANCE TOGETHER... Teachers often say that perseverance is something that many children find difficult. Very little that is really worthwhile

in life can be achieved without perseverance. An athlete may train for years before they are ready to compete at the highest level. A musician must practice every day, sometimes for hours at a time, if they are to really master their instrument.

- How would each family member rate themselves on a scale of 1 - 10 at perseverance?
- Can you give an example of something you have achieved by determined perseverance?
- Is there a skill that you think you could improve with perseverance?

Farway News

This year's Farway Harvest Service will take place on Sunday 22nd September in Farway Church at 11.15am.

Farway Church will hold an Open Day on Saturday 5^{th} October. 10am - 2pm. Please come and visit us to find out more about the history of the church and our ancient Yew tree. Light refreshments available.





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12 September 2019

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due

The Immunisation Team will shortly be offering the Flu vaccination to **all Primary school children from Reception to Year 6 (and up to 18 years in Special Schools).** Delivery of the programme will run from October - December 2019 across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay.

This vaccination programme is recommended to help to protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable friends and family by preventing the spread of flu.

The vaccination is free and recommended for young children, and will be given by a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, it is recommended to have the flu vaccine again this year.

In order to provide electronic consent for your child's Flu vaccination, please access the secure consent portal via the following link: (<u>https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2019/devon</u>) and follow the online instructions.

We request that consent (or refusal) is provided electronically by **27th October 2019.** This is to ensure our nurses have sufficient time to clinically process the information prior to the school visit.

Information to assist you in completing the electronic consent is detailed on the consent portal including FAQ's, patient information and contact details should you wish to speak to one of the school Immunisation Nurses regarding the nasal vaccination.

If you have any difficultly completing the form or do not have electronic access, please contact a member of our team, who will be happy to assist.

Yours sincerely

Immunisation Team