



Head Teacher: Mr P Clark

Gallow Field Road
Foxton
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 7QZ

Tel: 01858 545328

Fax: 01858 540171

Email: office@foxton.leics.sch.uk

Website: www.foxton.leics.sch.uk

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Dear Parents

FSA

A big thank you to our FSA who are busy raising money for the school. The last event was the children's film night – Despicable Me 3, which was a great success. Thank you everyone for supporting our FSA's fund raising.

Achievement Assembly

This month's Achievement Assembly will take place Friday 23rd February at 2:45pm in the School Hall. Year Group Cups are being presented for achievements in Writing and Spelling. Also, Fox Cubs will be sharing some of their work. The hall will be open from 2:30pm and I will be sharing our multiplication methods with you. Don't forget the cake raffle!

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 1st March and we will be sending home a World Book Day £1 voucher with each child. When they get their book token, all you need to do is to take it to your local bookseller and swap it for one of the ten World Book Day books!

Or, if you'd prefer, you can use your book token to get £1 off any full price book instead! And if you'd rather get an audio book, that's fine too! It's your choice, just as long as the book or audio book costs at least £2.99.

We will be holding a 'Book in a Box' competition – the children use a shoe box or similar and make a scene out of a book in it. A book token will be awarded to best effort in each class. Stuck for ideas then look at our website: <http://www.foxton.leics.sch.uk/news/image-galleries.php> scroll down to World Book Day 2016.

Black Hole Planetarium

On Thursday 8th February the Black Hole Mobile Planetarium will be visiting our school. The planetarium is an inflatable hemisphere and using various projection devices and visual aids the children's science learning will be enhanced.

Year 3 and 4 will be shown the fundamental concepts of light sources, shadows/shading and darkness. Eclipses and phases of the moon are explained as are the practical uses of shadows in sundials and illustrations. Optical effects such as reflection, magnification, the mixing of coloured light and rainbows are also discussed and demonstrated in the darkened planetarium dome.

Year 5 and 6 will learn about the nature of our Sun and stars generally, solar system bodies, day & night, years, distances, phases of the Moon and the apparent motions of the Sun and stars. Mythological figures are used to illustrate tales from Ancient Greece whilst graphically demonstrating the motion of stars across the sky and finally, a full northern star-field is projected as an introduction to navigating the night sky by reference to the star patterns within the Greek constellations.

Author Visit

This term's author visit will take place on Thursday 22nd February. Andy Tooze, the 'poet from the peaks' will be in school to deliver an exciting poetry experience to all the children. The sessions will be dynamic and interactive, involving speaking, listening, reading, writing and drama. The children will be given a variety of simple, helpful hints to enable them to compose their own poems.

Football

Our Sports Ambassadors and School Council have organised an intra-school football league between the Tigers, Pumas, Leopards and Jaguars, matches will usually take place on Tuesday lunchtimes.

Foxton Locks

There is a large amount of work going on with lock gate replacements and repairs to the locks and we are delighted to have been invited to see what is going on. We will see Foxton Locks as we have never seen them before, without water. There will be a chance to venture down into the bottom of the chambers using scaffolding steps. The children will need to wear footwear suitable for walking to the locks and have a coat to keep them warm.

Badminton

It was great to see Foxton represented by four children at the Derek Meakin Memorial Badminton Tournament at the Hermitage Leisure Centre near Coalville on Saturday 3rd February. Charlie B and Theo P won all of their eight matches and were awarded Under 10s Champions.

Internet Safety

Safer Internet Day 2018 has been celebrated globally on Tuesday 6th February with the slogan "Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you". We have looked at BE SAFE as part of our work on Internet Safety. Please reinforce the messages at home when the children use the internet.

Be careful – Be careful not to open e-mails from people you do not know.

Express – Express your feelings to a teacher or an adult that you can trust if anything has made you feel unhappy or upset.

Safety – Safety is key, so remember never to meet up with strangers you have met online.

Ask – Ask an adult for permission each time you want to go on the Internet.

Focus – Focus on making sure you do not give out personal information like your full name or address.

Enjoy – Enjoy using the Internet, but don't forget these important points and always be safe.

Staff Changes

Sarah Jones will be finishing her job as After School Care organiser on Friday 9th February. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah for working with us, her high level of care for the children and the interesting and exciting activities she has set up for the children. Mrs Ellis will be taking over from Sarah on Wednesday 21st February.

We have a volunteer starting with us after half term. Mrs Clark will be working with our Year 1 & 2 and Year 3 & 4 children as part of her NVQ3 course.

Menu Changes

On Wednesday 7th February there will be a Chinese menu – Chicken Chow Mein or Sweet 'n' Sour Quorn served with Egg Fried Rice or Noodles or Mushroom and Beansprouts with Noodles. For pudding it will be Fried Banana and Pineapple or Ice Cream.

On Friday 9th February the menu will be Sausage, Chips and Beans with pancakes for pudding.

Active Travel to School

Active Travel to School is a project which aims to increase the number of children travelling to school by walking, cycling and scooting. Benefits of this project for health and wellbeing include:

- Children will be more focussed and ready to learn.
- Promoting Active Travel will reduce childhood inactivity and obesity.
- Regular Exercise builds self-esteem and confidence, improving children's perceptions of having exercise for life.
- Promotes healthy active lifestyles into general family life through active travel alternatives.

It can also reduce the number of cars around the school which will also help to make the area quieter, safer and less congested. To encourage as many families as possible to actively travel to school we will be holding a special Active Travel to School Month during March, taking place from Monday 5th March until Friday 23rd March. Each class will record how many pupils have actively travelled to school using a wall chart. If children aren't able to travel actively all the way from home they can still take part by parking a distance from the school and walking, cycling or scooting the rest. Why not park in Foxton and walk up the path to school?

Ofsted

Thank you all for your support during our recent Ofsted inspection. The findings will be released to you in the form of a letter. I will send a copy to you as soon as it is available.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Clark
Head Teacher