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Dear Parents

Welcome back to Foxton Primary School at the start of the Autumn Term. I hope you all had a great summer! This is a very long term – nearly 16 full weeks, but I have no doubt it will fly by, they always do. A very warm welcome to the new Fox Cubs joining us this year: Jamie, Ellis, Harry, Tom, Ray, Aran, Amelia, Lucy Bosworth, Lily, Lucy Barker, Kyra, Chloe, Alfie, Reuben, Amy and Mason.

Summer Holidays

We've had two floods to contend with, my office carpet has just about dried out! We have had our water system altered so it feeds directly from mains water. This has caused a number of problems including a number of leaks as our 1960's pipe work couldn't cope with mains pressure.

The children's toilets have been altered to accommodate the different age groups using them and the old fixtures replaced. The hot water heaters have also been replaced. This refurbishment has really transformed the toilets and I am sure the children like them.

A massive thank you to Jenny Burbidge for dealing with the issues these works have caused and for making the school so clean and welcoming for the start of term.

The teachers have been very busy too: Mrs Hanger (and Mrs Ireland) have organised their new classroom, Mrs Bellamy and Mrs Simkins (and Mrs Smith & Mrs Bratu) have given a Victorian feel to their classroom, in Year 3 and 4 Mrs Sillifant and Mrs Foster (and Mrs Walker) have transplanted part of Ancient Egypt into their book corner and a Kenyan safari has arrived in Year 5 and 6 courtesy of Mrs Frow and Mrs Whitehead (and Mrs Thurlby).

Thank you to all the parents who have helped water the garden over the summer and to Mr Rowe who has completed fencing off the pond.

Class News

As well as the children, the teachers are settling in well with their new classes.

In Year 1 & 2 Mrs Bellamy will be teaching on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Simkins will be teaching on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

In Year 3 & 4 there is a two weekly cycle, Week 1: Mrs Sillifant will be teaching on Mondays and Tuesdays with Mrs Foster teaching on Thursdays and Fridays. Week 2: Mrs Foster teaching on Mondays and Tuesdays with Mrs Sillifant teaching Thursdays and Fridays. Each week the teaching on Wednesdays is shared between them and with a sports coach teaching P.E. To further complicate things I will be teaching science on Tuesdays and Mrs Whitehead teaches French on Mondays!

In Year 5 & 6 Mrs Whitehead teaches on Mondays (except when Igor takes the class for P.E.), I teach every Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays, and Mrs Frow teaches on alternate Wednesdays and every Thursday and Friday.

After School Clubs

Further details to follow but these are on the list so far: Mondays – Basketball (starts 9th September 3.20pm – 4.30pm cost £1 per session per child), Tuesdays – Go Active (starts 10th September 3.20pm – 4.30pm), Wednesdays – Multi-Sports (starts 11th September 3.20pm – 4.20pm), Fridays – FDS Football (starts 6th September 3.20pm – 4.20pm). A brand new club called 'Maths Magic' will start on Wednesday 25th September; the presenters will be taking an assembly to explain the club in a couple of weeks' time.

Home and Produce Show

This will take place at the Robert Monk Hall in Foxton on Sunday 15th September. There are six categories for children of all ages. The show's schedule and entry forms have been sent home, one per family.

Annual Calendar

The Yellow Annual Calendar is nearing completion and should be with you soon. There are lots of exciting things to look forward to, some of the highlights for me are: the new Class Assemblies, Years 5 & 6's trip to Birmingham to see Tom's Midnight Garden, Year 1 & 2's Victorian Christmas at Beaumanor Hall and Years 3 & 4's production of Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available from 8am in the school hall, £1 for supervision, £2 for breakfast and supervision, no booking required, just turn up!

Learning Log and Planner

These have now been sent home with children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Please read through the Learning Log and Planner and find the Home – School – Child Agreement and the ICT Acceptable Use Policy which needs signing. Our mathematics calculation methods have also been printed and I will be explaining these in more detail later on in the year. The children can complete the Times Tables Practice Grids at any time. The diary pages are to be used as a reading record and homework diary. The Learning Log and Planners need to be in school every school day and there will be a charge for a replacement if it lost.

Term Dates

Academic Year 2013 – 2014

Autumn Term

Schools Open	Thursday morning 29th August 2013
Mid-Term Break	Monday 21st to Friday 25th October 2013
Schools Close	Friday evening 20th December 2013

Spring Term

Schools Open	Tuesday morning 7th January 2014
Mid-Term Break	Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2014
Schools Close	Friday evening 11th April 2014

Summer Term

Schools Open	Monday morning 28th April 2014
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May 2014
Mid-Term Break	Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2014
Schools Close	Friday evening 11th July 2014

Academic Year 2014 – 2015

Autumn Term

Schools Open	Thursday morning 28th August 2014
Mid-Term Break	Monday 20th to Friday 24th October 2014
Schools Close	Friday evening 19th December 2014

Spring Term

Schools Open	Tuesday morning 6th January 2015
Mid-Term Break	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2015
Schools Close	Friday evening 27th March 2015

Summer Term

Schools Open	Monday morning 13th April 2015
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2015
Mid-Term Break	Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2015
Schools Close	Friday evening 10th July 2015

Here's to a great term!