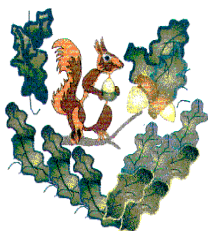


## Fleet Wood Lane School



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Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

## Happy New Year

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to everyone. On behalf of all the staff, thank you for the kind Christmas wishes and gifts. We are very humbled by your generosity. We hope that you enjoyed a wonderful holiday with lots of opportunities to spend time with the people you love most.

### A Fantastic Finale to 2023

2023 ended on a definite high. Santa made a personal visit to the grotto – thank you to the PTA for organising this.



The School Council once again lead our charity fund raising. The Christmas jumper day was a fantastic treat for the eyes to see – so many different designs of jumper and so much sparkle!

Thank you to everyone who sent in a kind donation. We raised £77.82 which is a great amount to give at this busy time of year.

Pupils in Robins and Bats did a great job at our Christmas Carol Concert. They immersed us in their reenactment of the nativity story at St Mary of Magdelene Parish church. They did a great job, as did the rest of the school (and our extended community) with their beautiful singing.

### Staff Changes and Vacancies in School

We continue to advertise three vacancies in school. We are seeking to appoint a part time (16 hours) School Bursar, a 25hour 1:1 Teaching Assistant post and a mid-day supervisor position. Information relating to these vacancies can be found on the school website. If you are interested, and wish to find out more, please do get in touch. The closing date is today!

As we move into 2024, Miss Hill will be reducing her hours, so we will see her leading teaching and learning in Hedgehogs class on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays. Mrs King will job share with Miss Hill, leading teaching and learning on Monday and Tuesday's whilst continuing to fulfil her assistant head teacher and senco duties during the rest of the week.





New for the new year is Talk for Writing across the whole school. Talk for Writing enables children to imitate the key language they need for a particular topic orally before they try reading and analysing it. Through fun activities that help them rehearse the tune of the language they need, followed by shared writing to show them how to craft their writing, children are helped to write in the same style. Schools that have adopted the approach have not only increased their children's progress but have found that both children and teachers love it.

Talk for Writing is powerful because it enables children to imitate the language they need for a particular topic orally before reading and analysing it and then writing their own version. It builds on three stages of teaching:

- 1) Imitation - the children learn a text and the language they need
- 2) Innovation - the children adapt the model text with ideas of their own
- 3) Invention - the children create their own text using the language and skills that the model taught them.

You can learn a little more about it from Pie Corbett (the author) via this link  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI2OWdZo6nY>

### **Attendance**

As you know attendance is a regular feature in newsletters, achieving high levels of pupils attendance continues to be a school priority. Whole school attendance for the Autumn term was 95.03%. This is tremendous and whilst below the 96% that the Department of Education would like to see, it is above the current national average. Well done everyone!

As part of our work to promote high levels of attendance our attendance policy has been reviewed and updated. I have included a copy of the proposed policy. It has been written with regard to the latest Department for Education guidance. Before finalising the policy, Governors wish to have regard for parent views. Please do take a few minutes to read the policy. If you have any comments in relation to the policy, please email these into [enquiries@fleetwoodlane.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@fleetwoodlane.sch.uk) identifying the subject line Governors - Attendance Policy.

### **Lateness**

School starts at 8.50am. All pupils are required to arrive in good time for the start of the day. We currently provide a 15 minute drop off window for children, so children are able to arrive between 8.35am and 8.50am to the main gate. Good time keeping is an essential life skill, learning that you need to be somewhere at the allotted time is essential in all walks of life so embedding these routines early cannot be understated. All schools are required to monitor and report data relating to lateness and demonstrate what steps are being taken to reduce lateness where it exists. Unfortunately, the start of the school day is disrupted daily by the late arrival of pupils. Each time a pupil arrives late, the start of the day and the learning opportunities it presents are disrupted for them and their classmates.

As we move forward into what is likely to be frosty weather, please do keep an eye on the weather forecasts and set out in good time to scrape the windscreens and drive safely. We have noticed much higher levels of late arrival when it is frosty!

In line with the Department of Education's guidance, where pupils are repeatedly late we are required to work with parents to improve this aspect of their attendance. Please do help us to avoid this by setting off to school in good time. Let's make 2024 a late free zone! Thank you.

## **Parent Code of Conduct**

The New Year presents the perfect time to refresh our partnership working. Please find attached a copy of the school's [Parent Code of Conduct](#). In line with Lincolnshire County Council's guidance, it supports our positive interactions for the benefit of all. Please do take a few minutes to refresh yourself of the policy.

As always, if you require any further information regarding the contents of this newsletter or any other aspect of the school's operations please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best regards,

Mrs M Parker  
Head Teacher