

# The FenHil News

‘Respect, Honesty, Kindness and Collaboration’

31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Website: [www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk](http://www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Ofsted Update**

We still await with anticipation our call from Ofsted. In September 2019 Ofsted produced a new framework with which we have to comply. When they come they will be looking at what life is like for children at our school and whether I, together with the rest of the teaching team are raising the standards of the education we deliver.

The inspection report will be much shorter than our previous one, Ofsted have deemed this easier for parents to access. It may come across that the inspectors have not looked very deeply into school life, however I can assure you that they do and will. We are working closely with the Local Authority and also the Headteacher of Eastfield infant school in St Ives to make sure we are ready for inspection.

The new framework reports on the following areas:

**The Quality of Education** – the most important aspect here is our curriculum and the quality of the delivery. How we cater for children with Special Educational Needs and the most vulnerable pupils. You may already be aware that we have had a complete curriculum overhaul this year and are now teaching a ‘Knowledge Curriculum’. This means that we are exposing the children to deeper learning opportunities across all subjects. From learning about the Ice Age in Year 1 to implications of the British Empire in India in Year 5. Our curriculum has been designed to interlink with all subjects so if the class are learning about a certain period of History, they will link this to the art and music of that time too. It has been and continues to be a very exciting journey.

**Behaviour and Attitudes** – how our children behave in and around school, whether they care for each other and whether the staff nurture and look after them. We use a ‘Step On’ approach to behaviour which is a therapeutic approach. We have found that this gives every individual the strategies that they need to be well behaved and happy at school. Some children need more than others.

We appreciate this and work with the child and their family. This also focusses on the children’s attitudes to learning and whether they want to work hard and display good ‘learning behaviours’.

**Personal Development** – This looks at how we develop the children as citizens of the UK. The opportunities we give them to learn an instrument, take part in a club or become a play leader, be on school council or a ‘buddy’ for our Reception children. We are also required to cover ‘British Values’ with the children, which include – Democracy, Respect, Individual Liberty and the Rule of Law. This is something that is also represented in our own values of Respect, Kindness, Honesty and Collaboration.

**Leadership and Management** – This area will look at how the school is lead and managed at every level. Not just me, as the head, but the Senior Leadership Team, the subject leaders, the Governing Body. How we manage the extra money that comes into school such as Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding. How decisions are made to ensure the children are getting the best possible education they can and how, collectively we are raising standards of education.

The team and I are so grateful for your support in this journey. We have been expecting the call since November so we are constantly ready for an inspection. We were last inspected, as you may remember in November 2017. In the 2 and a bit years that have passed much work has gone into meeting the targets that we need to. A snap shot of this is below.

As always, please speak to us if you are concerned about your child and we will listen and work with you to find a solution. It is also lovely to have positive feedback too, so if you have had a really good experience at school we would love to know so that we can look to replicate it for other families.

<p>Improve the effectiveness of leadership and management by ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– subject leaders are given the necessary training, support and challenge to help them raise standards and improve outcomes, particularly at key stage 2.</li></ul>	<p>In house Professional Development for subject leaders has ensured they know what raised expectations look like</p> <p>Clear monitoring structures are in place and feedback is scheduled by Senior Leadership Team</p> <p>Key Stage 2 progress data for Maths and Reading is in line with national expectations.</p>								
<p>Improve the effectiveness of teaching, learning and assessment and, as a result, raise standards, by ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– all teachers share the same high expectations about what pupils can achieve, so that work is appropriately challenging, consistently engaging and well matched to pupils’ needs</li><li>– opportunities are taken to share the best teaching practice across the school and, where appropriate, in conjunction with other local schools and services.</li></ul>	<p>Teachers expectations have been raised through professional development.</p> <p>School to school support has explicitly been planned for and delivered through an INSET day – visit another school and shared practice.</p> <p>Year 6 team shared practice with another local school.</p> <p>School continues to work with two other primary schools on the development of the curriculum.</p> <p>Shared learning with local primary school for Music and Foundation subjects.</p> <p>Termly moderation (looking at books) for both writing and maths</p> <p>Teachers act on improvement suggestions from staff and LA.</p>								
<p>Improve provision and outcomes in the early years by ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– teaching, learning and assessment are consistently strong throughout the setting</li><li>– the new arrangements for leadership of the early years are fully embedded through training and support.</li></ul>	<p>Leadership embedded with clear staff structure.</p> <p>Provision is higher quality through well considered and effective planning.</p> <p>Results are rising and are now above national results –</p> <table><tr><td>2016</td><td>2017</td><td>2018</td><td>2019</td></tr><tr><td>55%</td><td>62%</td><td>68%</td><td>75%</td></tr></table> <p>Baselines are used to map the children’s needs and requirements to gain good outcomes.</p> <p>2019 pilot baseline trialled in school.</p>	2016	2017	2018	2019	55%	62%	68%	75%
2016	2017	2018	2019						
55%	62%	68%	75%						
<p>Improve the attendance of disadvantaged pupils.</p>	<p>Disadvantage pupil attendance is now average – 95%</p> <p>Weekly monitoring of attendance; measures put in place including meetings and letter system.</p> <p>Outcomes for pupil premium children continue to improve</p> <p>Strategy is clear and outlines impact of funding systematically.</p> <p>School has engaged with Vulnerable Lead in Local Authority to update strategy and used feedback.</p>								

## PTA News

The deadline to sign up for the **Infants' After-School Chill Out** (showing Secret Life of Pets 2) is next Tuesday (4<sup>th</sup> Feb). Full details were sent by email last week and can also be found on our Facebook page. We look forward to seeing your children there!

We're still happy to take any unwanted (Christmas) gifts for prizes for our raffles or tombolas. Just bring them to the school office.

Here at PTA towers, we're already thinking about next year. We lose quite a few of our current committee at the end of this school year, as children move up to secondary school or due to other obligations.

Many hands really do make light work and we would welcome any new committee members. One key position to be filled next year is that of Chair. Our current Chair is happy to mentor someone new through the next year, so you will have lots of support. Please get in touch at [fhpspta@gmail.com](mailto:fhpspta@gmail.com) or catch one of us on the school run if you'd like to chat.

As we are such a small committee this year, we've had to combine a number of roles into one. So it would be fantastic if we could share these roles out again. Don't fancy being Chair or Secretary? That's OK too. We need as many people as we can get to join us, in any capacity – there are all sorts of things you can do. Together, we can put on more events that the children love and help to raise money that our school really appreciates.

On the subject of fundraising... PTA has just purchased 15 new Chromebooks, replacing some out-dated laptops. These will be used throughout school, so all the children will get to use them.

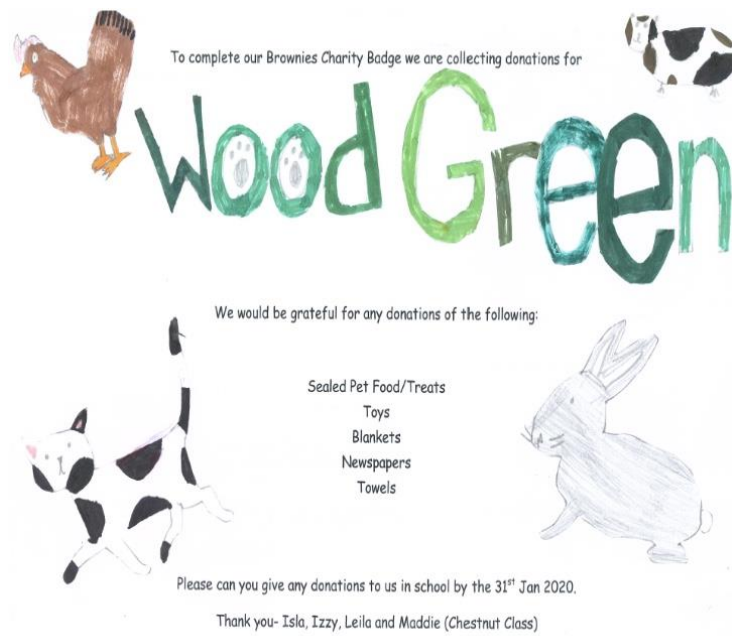
## Diary dates

- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February: R&KS1 After School Chill Out (straight from school – 5.00 pm)
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Cake sale (straight after school)
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Discos with Disco Dave (R&KS1: 3.30–4.30 pm; KS2: 4.45–6.00 pm)
- w/c 16th March – Mother's day present room

Thank you for reading my long passage, it is so important that you are aware of the hard work that goes into each and every day that your children attend our school.

## **Can you Help?**

Today is the last day to donate!



## **Pre-school Fence**

Next week our pre-school will be having a new fence built around their outdoor area. The perimeter fence will remain but the fence that separates school from pre-school will be replaced with one similar to the fence around our 'Forest Area' a low level, wooden picket fence with a gate that can be used to access school grounds and a pathway to the Key Stage 1 playground. This will make pre-school feel much more part of the school and will allow our strong transitions to be even more embedded.

## **Jane Rogers Workshops**

Our lovely Early Intervention Family Worker is running her excellent workshops again this term.

On Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup> she will be running a drop in on 'Encouraging Good Behaviour' 9-10am

On Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> she will be running a workshop on 'Friendships' 9-11am

Both are open to everyone, no sign up required.

## **And finally....**

Enjoy your weekend with your families.

Kind regards,

Claire Worth

Headteacher