

FHA Newsletter



Falconer's Hill
Academy
★★★★★
Broadening Horizons

October & November, 2016

Falconer's Hill Academy, Ashby Road, Daventry, NN11 0QF

01327 703132 | www.falconershillacademy.co.uk



@falconershill

Headteacher Update

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term and as you will see from this newsletter, there has been a lot going on in school!

You may also have noticed some new faces in school. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Carlill as our new Administrative Assistant in the school office. Mrs Prentice also joins us as a Teaching Assistant working mainly in Year 5. We know that you will all make them feel very welcome.

One of our priorities for this term is to improve attendance across the school. As a school our attendance is above the national average, but we feel that this could be even higher. Good attendance is vital to your child's success at school and we appreciate your support with ensuring your child is here as often as possible.

This term is always a busy one and there a number of Christmas events coming up which you will be receiving more information about shortly.

As ever, if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance or myself or Mrs Hudson on the playground before school.

Matthew Reetz

What we've been doing and what's next!

As always, we have been really busy in school and everyone has been learning lots of interesting new things!

Pioneer Centre residential

More than 50 pupils from years 5 and 6 went on our annual residential trip to the Pioneer Centre in Shropshire in October. Residential trips are always a wonderful opportunity for children to make different friendship groups, take part in lots of new activities and often stay away from home for the first time. A number of photos of the event have been added to our Facebook page (thank you to all parents and carers for your patience).



Year 3 had a very interesting Anglo Saxon workshop last week where actors brought the period to life through interactive displays and performances. Children learned about all manner of aspects of early medieval life – some a bit smellier than others!

Flying High To Achieve

Our first Flying High to Achieve "Green" Reward Day for the year took place before half term where years 3 and 4 had an afternoon of fun at Tigers Indoor Play centre and Year 5 and 6 went to the Country Park to play. We encourage all children to "be green" so that they can all have access to the reward days and we really appreciate your support at home. It would be so wonderful if all children in the whole school achieve green in all areas and can take part! Let's go for it!



Halloween Disco

Our ever growing Friends of FHA team delivered a Spooktacular Halloween Disco before half term. This was a wonderful event which was well supported and feedback from children and parents was very positive. We have a number of other events planned, and these are listed at the end of the newsletter under the Diary Dates section.

A selection of Year 5 students are taking part in a Literacy Day at The Parker Academy later this month where they will be learning about William Shakespeare through a number of activities to include music, art and textiles, drama and English.

Shakespeare Production at The Derngate Theatre

A selection of Year 5 pupils have been working and rehearsing really hard for a production of Romeo & Juliet and are taking part in the Shakespeare for Schools Festival at the Derngate on Thursday, 17/11/16. If you would like to go along and watch the performance in the evening, tickets can be purchased by calling the Box Office on 01604 624811 or visiting <https://www.royalandderngate.co.uk/whats-on/shakespeare-schools-festival/>

Macmillan Coffee Morning

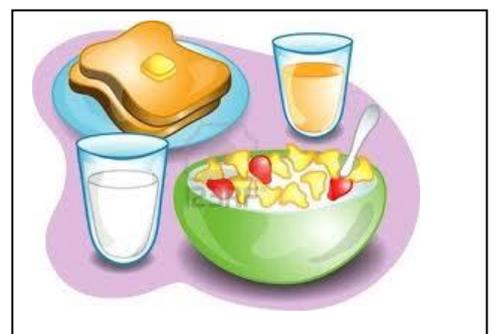
The Friends of FHA held a coffee morning late in September in aid of Macmillan Cancer support and we raised over £220. A HUGE thank you to all who helped and supported this event.

Family Learning – Cooking on a Budget and Magic 1,2,3

Further dates are scheduled for Family Learning where sessions will be delivered on cooking and behaviour management. We welcome you to come along if you are able to do so – dates will be notified later.

Breakfast Club

Our wonderful breakfast club runs every morning from 7.45am to 8.45am. If you haven't tried this yet, you are very welcome to come along! The cost is £2.50 and this covers breakfast, childcare before school and all activities. Children in receipt of free school meals can come along for free. You don't need to book – just turn up with an empty belly!





Nut products in school

Please may we remind you that children **SHOULD NOT** bring any nuts into school as we have a number of pupils and staff who have severe nut allergies. This includes Peanut Butter in sandwiches please.

Germ Defence

The Education and Health Care Team at The University of Southampton has developed Germ Defence - a novel and effective website to promote hand-washing within the home. Germ Defence has been shown to lower the amounts of colds, flu and stomach bugs experienced within households. The website is available FREE and can be accessed here: <https://pips.ecs.soton.ac.uk/player/play/GermDefence>

Governor Vacancies

We are delighted to confirm that our Governing Body is expanding and we have been successful in recruiting both a new Parent Governor and Staff Governor for our school. Further details will follow.



Safety Reminder:-

Please be reminded that the Bus Bay at the end of the school drive belongs to The Parker Academy and is used for their student bus services. Please DO NOT park there to drop off or collect your children as this causes significant safety risks.

Also, the Phoenix Centre car park is very congested in the mornings due to contract works. We would advise walking or parking elsewhere where possible.

Christmas School Lunch

Our Christmas Lunch is booked for Thursday, 15/12/2016. We would like to encourage as many children as possible to take part in this (as we may have a special visit from someone with a white beard and in a red suit...), and this can be booked via Parentpay by Tuesday, 06/12/2016. If you have any problems accessing the Parentpay service, please speak with the school office.



ParentPay

Please be reminded that although we are using Parentpay for school lunch at present, we are planning to use it to pay for trips, music lessons and other school events. Please activate your account as soon as possible, even if you do not intend to order school lunches.

Children In Need

The school and Friends of FHA are planning to support the Children in Need Campaign this year and lots of lovely Pudsey items will be available to purchase during all of the week commencing 14/11/2016. There will also be a whole school Non-Uniform Day on Friday, 18/11/2016 where children can come to school wearing something spotty in exchange for a donation of £1 towards this very worthy cause.



Diary Dates

Below are a list of dates as they currently stand. These will be updated in each newsletter and any other changes will be posted on our Facebook page.

**NEW* 10-12th November – Poppy Appeal – Year 6 pupils selling poppies and other British Legion items*

**NEW* 10-12th November – Book Fair – books and gifts on sale in the library after school*

14th November – Open School for new Year 2 parents – 9.00-10.00am & 5.30-6.30pm

**NEW* 14-18th November – Children in Need & Pudsey items for sale at school*

**NEW* 18th November – Non Uniform Day “Wear Something Spotty” £1 donation for Children In Need*

17th November – Year 5 Shakespeare – Romeo & Juliet performance at Derrigate

**NEW* 24th November – Year 4 trip – further details to follow*

9th December – Friends of Falconer’s Hill Christmas Fair and Party – 2.00pm to 3.30pm

12th December – Area School Carol Service, Holy Cross Church, 6.00pm to 8.00pm

15th December – School Christmas Lunch – bookable online via ParentPay

20th December – Last day of term