

23 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of term 1, I would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support and co-operation during these extraordinary times. Our pupils have adapted incredibly well to the hub structure which we put in place to protect the health and welfare of the school community. We continue to review and update our school risk assessment and planning document in line with Government guidance and advice from the Local Authority. This can be found on our school website under the 'Policies' tab.

Pupils and Staff

We have welcomed lots of new staff and pupils this term and they have all settled in well. We hope they have enjoyed their first term and that they will be very happy at Five Acre Wood School.

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival celebrations for primary pupils were a little different to previous years. As we were unable to invite parents and carers into the school for the occasion, we decided to hold virtual celebrations. Each class chose a harvest song to perform and each performance was recorded, so that it could be shared with parents and carers via Teams. I am sure you will agree that they all did really well.

Arts Mark

We are continuing to work towards the Artsmark award and prior to lockdown were making tremendous progress in the targets that we had identified. The recovery curriculums that are in place to meet the social and emotional needs of pupils as they have returned to school following lockdown are heavily based on the Arts. Pupils are responding positively to creative opportunities and it is supporting emotional regulation.

We are also about to embark on a 2 year project with the Gulbenkian Theatre / Colyer-Fergusson Hall, The Big Reveal and Kent Music along with some other Kent schools. Students will use music, drama, movement and story making with sound and video recording to explore the theme of a story based on transition. Our work will be uploaded to an online platform and the Arts Professionals will use the ideas and contributions to put together a musical production. At the very

least, this will be an online production but it is hoped that it may lead to a stage production with an accompanying foyer exhibition of students' work. We will keep you updated.

School Games Recognition and Virtual Award

We are delighted to be able to share with you the fantastic news that we have been awarded the Recognition and Virtual Sports Mark Awards for 2019-20. Well done to all pupils who have been involved in achieving these awards for the school.

Hub fences competition

Following the success of our Christmas doors competition last year, we invited classes to decorate the Heras fence panels that are located between hubs. This was a great opportunity for classes to be creative whilst brightening up the hub divider panels. Prizes were awarded to all classes who entered with a special prize to the chosen winners – Sparrow class. Well done and thank you to everyone who took part.



Sparrow



Lynx



Otter



Hawthorn and Maple



Wild Cat



Chaffinch



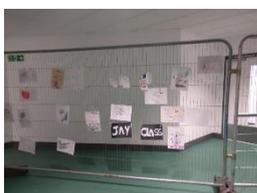
Butterfly



Dormouse



Blackbird



Jay



Osprey



Wren



Swallow

Assistant Head Teacher – Structured and Early Years

I am pleased to announce that one of our existing Teachers has been appointed as Assistant Head

Teacher for the Structured and Early Years learning approaches, working with Sarah Costain and Scot Greathead. Congratulations to Kirsty Oudot-Smith. We wish her luck in her new role which will commence after half term.

Healthcare Plans

With effect from this academic year, Healthcare Plans will only be sent home for Parents/Carers to review at the start of each academic year and prior to your child's annual EHCP review meeting, with the exception of the red Healthcare Plans which will continue to be reviewed four times during the school year.

Please can I remind all parents/carers that in the interest of your child's health and safety, it is your responsibility to ensure all information on Healthcare Plans is kept up to date and you should therefore notify us of any changes as they arise.

Strategic Development Plan

Please find attached a summary of the school's Strategic Development Plan for this year which highlights all of the targets that we will be working towards this year.

Please also find attached the term dates with provisional diary dates for your information. Please be aware that due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, these may be subject to change/cancellation. We will send out information regarding individual events closer to the time.

I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable half term and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 2 November.

Kind regards,



Peggy Murphy
Principal

Transport – car park update from Sarah, our Logistics Manager:

As the school continues to grow, so does the traffic onsite, with an increase of KCC Transport operators and many parents/carers wishing to drop off and collect their own children during these unprecedented times.

Myself and my team have continually assessed the situation throughout this term and have made

relevant changes to issues as they have occurred, to ensure the safety of all who access the site at peak times. We have found ways to encourage social distancing between vehicles, parking each bus or car in separated lanes as well as to provide staff with separate waiting areas as per their hub colour. We are currently managing approximately 45 transport vehicles and in excess of 100 parent/carer drop offs and collections. We have grid locked the entire site 3 times and still been able to find positive solutions to overcoming this. At present, the inbound and outbound traffic is managed by separating transport arrivals and departures with Parent drop off and collection times.

We have had positive feedback from many parents who come onsite daily and would like to thank Rosie Blackman for her support and for gathering various parent views about the car park. We really value the views of our parents/carers and are looking to set up a working party in the near future so that we can all work together for the best interests of the school and the safety of all those who access the car park every day. If you would like to be more involved with the transport team and are interested in being part of the working group in the future, please send me an email to the following address: seiffert@five-acre.kent.sch.uk

Many thanks for your continued support.

Updates from Alex, our fundraiser:

Friends of Five Acre Wood and Grow 19

Friends of Five Acre Wood and Grow 19
Registered Charity Number 1153151



We have formally changed our charity name and objectives so that we can fundraise for, and make funding applications on behalf of, Grow 19. You will see a subtle change to the charity logo which incorporates the Grow 19 logo. Grow 19 started off as a pilot project – funded by a grant from Awards for All (the National Lottery) and is now a fully-fledged independent further education setting for young adults with SEND. As it grows, more of our students will graduate from FAW to Grow 19 and so the Trustees felt it was fully appropriate to support them in the same way that the charity supports FAW. Do take a look at Grow 19 on their website www.Grow19.com, they also have their own Facebook page and Twitter feed.

Projects completed...

With huge thanks to various funders – Greggs, Baily Thomas, The Radcliffe Trust, Sarah Hohler of KCC, True Colours Trust and the Kent Community Foundation – as well as many individual efforts, we now have completed the purchase of a Mobile Sensory Unit; a range of musical instruments for Music Therapy and our new Sunken Trampoline is installed at our Snodland site. It is always

wonderful to be able to tick things off and these three projects will bring great benefit to so many of our students.



Projects nearing completion....

Every day sees huge leaps forward in work on the hydrotherapy pool. Completion is scheduled for approximately 6 weeks' time. Do keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates and videos and pictures.

Projects that are ongoing.....

Snodland House – funding applications are being made to raise £200,000.00 towards purchasing a house in Snodland to be used as a life-skill learning resource for our older students. Alongside this £50,000.00 is being raised via community endeavours under a campaign called “Buy a Brick” – anything you can do to help us reach our target will be appreciated. Whether you can contribute £25 to “Buy a Brick” or you can contribute £10 to “Buy a Tile” – every bit helps!

Library for FAW Snodland – We are seeking funding for books (obviously!) but also magazine subscriptions, shelving, bean bags / comfy seats. We want to create a bright, modern stimulating area for our students so they can engage in the wonderful world of words.

Projects on hold....

ONLY TEMPORARILY!!!! Project Pony (which had expanded to include goats), just HAS to be on hold right now. As soon as it is the right time and we can safely have the animals on site, which also means enabling volunteers to be on site too, we will! None of the work that has been done on site by so many volunteers and none of the fundraising that has been done, will go to waste!

IQ Cards

Thank you for all the orders that have poured in for the IQ Cards and products. Everything has now been sent off to “IQ” and they will be busily working away to ensure all your orders are fulfilled and back with us in the first week of December. Your orders will be sent home with your child. This has raised about £500.00 for the school so has been a wonderfully fun and worthwhile project.

Shopping!

As Christmas approaches, please PLEASE ensure that any online shopping you do on Amazon is done via Amazon Smile! It is exactly the same website with the same products but you just need to register on Amazon Smile and choose us (Friends of Five Acre Wood) as your charity. We benefit every time you shop at NO extra cost to you.

Similarly, take a look at Easyfundraising and see the HUGE array of shops that have signed up to that. Big retailers like John Lewis, M&S, Ebay, Argos are registered along with thousands of others. Again, if you shop at any of these retailers via the Easyfundraising app, we benefit every time you shop.

Upcoming challenge....

As we couldn't have a summer fair and sadly, there will be no usual Christmas fair this year, we KNOW you must have loads of coins lying around that you would have brought along to the fairs, just waiting to be used. So, hang on to them for the....

MAMMOTH Christmas Coin Challenge!

There will be lots of news and info about this coming to you in the weeks after half term. It will run for a week from Monday 30 November to Friday 4 December. For the time-being, find any container you can and just keep lobbing those coins in between now and the Christmas Coin Challenge week and I'll let you know what you need to do nearer the time. Have a great half term.

Term Dates with Diary Dates 2020/21

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS, ALL DATES ARE PROVISIONAL AND ANY EVENT SCHEDULED MAY BE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION

Date	Time	Event
Term 2		
Monday 2 nd November 2020	N/A	First day of term 2
Monday 7 th December 2020	3.45-6.45pm	Parents evening
Tuesday 8 th December 2020	TBC	Nativity performance
Wednesday 9 th December 2020	TBC	Nativity performance
Tuesday 15 th December 2020	10.00-11.30am	Christmas Fair - Secondary
	1.30-3.00pm	Christmas Fair - Primary
Wednesday 16 th December 2020	Lunchtime	Christmas dinner
Thursday 17 th December 2020	Various	Class Christmas parties and Christmas clothes day
Friday 18 th December 2020	N/A	Last day of term
Term 3		
Monday 4 th January 2021	N/A	First day of term 3
Friday 12 th February 2021	N/A	Last day of term

Term 4		
Monday 22 nd February 2021	N/A	First day of term 4
Monday 8 th March 2021	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 9 th March 2021	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 10 th March 2021	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 31 st March 2021	TBC	Easter Fair
Thursday 1 st April 2021	N/A	Last day of term

Term 5		
Monday 19 th April 2021	N/A	First day of term 5
Monday 3 rd May 2021	N/A	Bank holiday (pupils and staff not in school)
Friday 28 th May 2021	N/A	Last day of term

Term 6		
Monday 7 th June 2021	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 8 th June 2021	N/A	First day of term 6 for pupils
June 2021	TBC	Sports day
June 2021	TBC	Sports day
June 2021	TBC	Sports day – FAW Snodland

Friday 2 nd July 2021	All day	Transition day
Monday 5 th July 2021	3.45-6.45pm	'Meet the new teacher' parents evening
July 2021	TBC	Secondary summer performance
July 2021	TBC	Secondary prize giving
Wednesday 21 st July 2021	All day	Woodstock and Last day of term

NOTE TO PARENTS/CARERS REGARDING MEDICATION

To ensure that your child is given the most current prescribed medication of the correct dose and at the right time, please read these guidelines:

1. Please ensure that all medicines sent into school are in the ORIGINAL pharmacy containers/packaging clearly labelled with:

- Your child's name
- Name of prescribed medication
- The dosage and frequency of administration
- How medicine should be given, e.g. by mouth, via feeding tube
- Date medicine was dispensed
- Expiry Date

Any nurse will have the right to refuse the administration of medication to your child if this information is not clearly shown on the label.

2. Please inform the school nurse of any change to your child's regular medication, including alterations to dose, frequency or medication being stopped as advised by a doctor. These alterations need to be confirmed in writing by the prescriber. **We cannot accept verbal alterations and will be unable to give an amended dose unless we have the medication in its original contained with the correct information printed on the label or receive the changes in writing from the prescriber.**

3. If your child is prescribed emergency medication (Diazepam/Midazolam for epilepsy or Anapen/Epipen for allergy) please inform the school nurse immediately. Further information from your child's doctor will be needed regarding when the emergency medication should be given and this will be kept in school so all staff are aware of what care your child needs in an emergency.

4. Please ensure there is a sufficient supply of all the medicines your child needs whilst in school. We will contact you to advise when we are running low.

5. When sending in medication, it must not be put in your child's bag. Instead, it should be handed directly to a member of the class staff. If your child comes into school by taxi, the medication should be given to the escort who will then hand it to a member of the class staff when they arrive at school.



Five Acre Wood School Development Plan



Five Acre Wood School staff



are working on these targets



Quality of Education



To learn more drama and art and dance and



singing and music



To try different ways of learning



To show my learning

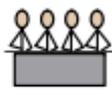


To help me go back to Five Acre Wood School



after I have been at home





Leadership and Management







For all adults to work together to help me



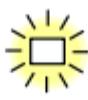





For all adults to know how I learn the best










For adults to find new ways of helping me



learn



Personal Development



To give me time to think about my learning



To help me to know about Human Rights



Behaviour and Attitudes



To give me time to get ready to learn





BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES



TARGET

- To introduce 'readiness for learning' time into the daily timetable for all pupils

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- All pupils will have the time, support and space to prepare for their learning



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

TARGETS

- To introduce reflection time into the daily timetable for all pupils
- To increase the opportunities that pupils have to meaningfully influence their lives by embedding pupil agency and self-determination within the culture of the school.



PUPIL OUTCOMES

- All pupils will have the opportunity to 'reflect' on their day and prepare for the transition to home
- Pupils understand and exert their human rights as defined by the UN Charter



FIVE ACRE WOOD SCHOOL

Growing and Learning Together

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2020-2021





OVERVIEW

To further develop Five Acre Wood School, the Strategic Development Plan for the school has been developed for the coming year

The aim of this plan is to remain 'Outstanding' whilst building upon our current excellent practice

In order to achieve this, there will be four key areas:

1. Leadership and Management
2. Quality of Education
3. Personal Development
4. Behavior and Attitudes

This document is an overview of the plan for the academic year 2020-2021



There are also seven Strategic Plans that focus on the development of each of the Learning Approaches and Therapy Provision



QUALITY OF EDUCATION

TARGETS

- To continue to raise the profile of the Arts across the school
- To embed a 'whole school' approach to assessment
- To deliver a Covid –19 recovery curriculum in each learning approach
- To introduce the Pyramid Approach to Education in some structured and EYS classes

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Pupils will have access to high quality arts experiences and have the opportunity to achieve arts accreditation
- Pupils will have their progress demonstrated in a meaningful and appropriate way through their school career, involving their families
- Pupils will be supported emotionally to return to school and be ready for learning
- Pupils learn through enhanced learning opportunities



LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

TARGETS

- To continue to harmonise health and education working practices within school
- Due to the high number of new teachers, to focus on Teaching and Learning in term 1
- To work with UCL to lead an 'Inclusion through Engagement' research project
- To trial a self evaluation tool to develop leaders within their learning approaches



PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Pupils learn through an enhanced holistic approach
- All pupils have access to suitably trained staff and therefore high quality learning opportunities
- Pupils will benefit from individualised, high quality learning environments and approaches