



3rd January 2024

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

I hope you have all enjoyed the Christmas break and have had the opportunity to relax and enjoy valuable family time. We are very much looking forward to the start of the new school term and welcoming our Foresters back tomorrow. On behalf of all the staff and myself may I thank you for all your kind gifts and cards that we received before the school holiday.

INSET Day Staff Training

Staff have been involved in a variety of topics during our Spring INSET Day. Class and Specialist teachers spend time reviewing particular curriculum areas including assessment and subject moderation.

The Teaching Assistant Team joined me in visiting The Little Green Sock Project Headquarters (our Parents' Association charity) for some hands on community outreach work. We hope to have learned more about the charity whilst giving them a helping hand with all the wonderful work that they do.

Staff Information

We are delighted to welcome Mr Sam Rimmer to Forest as our new PE Teacher. Mr Rimmer has a wealth of experience teaching across the primary curriculum, with a particular interest in sport. Mr Rimmer is also a qualified swimming teacher and will also be working on Fridays, coordinating our Years 1 – 6 pupils for their swimming lessons, as well as teaching across the swim groups. Mr Bullock will continue in his role as Head of Sport and will liaise closely with Mr Rimmer on a daily basis.

Mr Rimmer can be contacted on: srimmer@forestschoo.co.uk

From tomorrow, Miss Bardsley and Mrs Singer will be job-sharing the Wraparound Supervisor role for both Breakfast Club and Late Stay. Mrs Singer will be managing both provisions from Monday to Wednesday and Miss Bardsley will take over on a Thursday and Friday.

Parent Pastoral Survey

Many thanks to those parents who completed the pastoral survey at the end of last term. Once we have reviewed the feedback, I will write to the parent body with the result and our plans moving forwards.

Continued



Independent School Examinations

Good luck to the Year 6 children who will be commencing their independent school entrance examinations next week.

School Lunches

Our revised spring menus are now available on the school website. Following on from the catering survey last term, you will hopefully notice a difference in the offerings. Our menus will now operate on a two week cycle, with significantly less processed food on offer.

Uniform

Forest prides its self on its appearance and smartness, therefore we ask that children wear the correct uniform to school. This also includes children in the Nursery and Kindergarten classes. All boys from Reception to Year 6 are expected to wear their caps at the start and end of the school day. Girls' boater hats are to be worn with the summer uniform only (Reception upwards).

Open Door Policy and Home/School Communications

Whilst WhatsApp can be a great tool for building communities, a reminder the Forest prides itself on an open door policy, therefore do contact a member of staff directly, should you have any queries or concerns.

Forest Flyer

You will receive an overview of dates for the spring term very shortly. This hopefully allows parents to plan in advance. A 'live' calendar is also available on the home page of the school's website.

My colleagues and I wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Booth
Headmaster