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20/10//2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy but productive week in school. It has been lovely to see so many of you come to see your class teachers and discuss your child's work and how they are settling in. I have to say, from my point of view, the children are so settled, kind and polite and this is an absolute credit to you all! They are amazing.

### **Information from Mr Fox**

#### Cross Country Final

A huge congratulations to Jack in year 6 who, last week participated in the Tees Valley Cross Country final at Stewarts Park. In one of the most physically individual and mentally challenging sports the pupils will ever take part in, Jack ran an amazing race, finally finishing **7<sup>th</sup> overall**. Fantastic! Well done on your personal achievement Jack. We are all incredibly proud of you here at Fairfield.

#### Girls' Football

We entered 2 teams into this week's Stockton girls' football finals earlier this week. With 12 teams taking part, it was a very competitive and challenging tournament. Both teams represented themselves, and the school with integrity and a great deal of pride and enthusiasm. At the end of all their matches, one of the teams finished 4th, just outside of the playoff finals, whilst the other team finished joint top of their league with a neighboring primary school, but narrowly missed out on the gold medal play offs on a count back of goals scored. However, they did manage to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Again, we are very proud of all the girls that represented themselves and our school exceptionally well.

#### Halloween Disco

Thank you to everyone who has bought a ticket for the Halloween disco. We look forward to have a good dance on Wednesday. Please remember that your children need to be collected at the end of the disco from the school Hall. Many Thanks.

Year 1&2 – 16:00 – 17:00

Year 3&4 – 17:15 – 18:15

Year 5&6 – 18:30 – 19:30

#### Year 2

Mrs Hughff will continue to cover Miss Noble's class after half term until she is well enough to return.

## Snacks

In Early Years (nursery and reception) and KS1 (year 1 and 2) children are provided with free fruit at breaktime. Just to let you know that if your child is in KS2, you are more than welcome to send in a piece of fruit or a healthy snack for break – such as a cereal bar but please make sure it does not contain nuts (no bars of chocolate or crisps please).

## Hedgehogs

We seem to have a number of hedgehogs on our school field which is lovely but some of our year 6 children told me that if you see a hedgehog through the day – this is not normal!

Mrs Humble, one of our parents has kindly sent me the following information:

### **I have seen a hedgehog out during the day, what should I do?**

Hedgehogs are nocturnal and only come out at night. Generally, any hedgehog out during the day is probably in trouble and will need to be picked up and taken to a wildlife rescue centre. You can pick them up using gardening gloves and put them into a cardboard box, although they are good climbers, so you would need to ensure it cannot escape. If you are local to us, then please bring it along to Tiggyswinkles, there is no need to call first as we are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. To find your nearest rescue centre, check [www.helpwildlife.co.uk](http://www.helpwildlife.co.uk)

So please could you keep a look out for the hedgehog and if found during the day contain it and get in touch with Whitby Wildlife Sanctuary:

<https://whitbywildlife.co.uk/contact-us/>

Tel: 07342 173 724

Please also see attached, a lovely poster made by Wilf in Year 6.

## Holidays in term time

As previously stated, Fairfield Primary follow the Stockton Borough Council guidance as there is no national statutory information. However, we have been made aware that the government intend to make this the same for all local authorities.

No holiday will be authorised. This means that an unauthorised mark will be given for the days they are absent. Holidays of 4 days and under will be unauthorised but no fine will be given.

Holidays of 5 days and over will be fined. This is £60 per parent, per child. We do appreciate that this is expensive but most parents do take children on holiday during term time as it is far cheaper. There may be exceptional circumstances for taking holiday out of term time so if you feel that this is the case, please contact the school office for guidance.

***We do not receive any money in school from these fines as they are issued by the local authority.***

Please can you ensure if you are handing a holiday form in, that it is signed by both parents, if they both have parental responsibility, if the form is not completed correctly it will be returned to you.

## Attendance

If your child is unwell, please could you call the office **every day** to let us know. It is important that we know every day that they are not coming in. Thank you for this.

[Links to our facebook page and the school website.](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068208664779>

<https://www.fairfieldprimary.org.uk/>

## Dates for your diary

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| October 25      | Disco  |
| October 27      | Last day of half term                        |
| November 6      | PD day for staff – school closed to children |
| November 7      | First day back for children                  |
| December 19     | Last day of term for Christmas               |
| January 3 and 4 | PD days for staff                            |
| January 5       | First day back for children                  |

(Lots more pre-Christmas dates to add after half term!)

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and many thanks for your continued support in school.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Dunford  
Acting Head Teacher