



Farnborough Road Infant School

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30th August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to seeing our children when the doors open at 8.40am on the morning of Wednesday 4th September. Our Year 1 and Year 2 children will all start full school days 8.45-3.15pm. Our new Caterpillar, Nursery and Reception children have all received their own stay and play and start dates over the next few weeks.

Following the tragic events in Southport, we extend our sincere and heartfelt thoughts to the families impacted by these events. We hold very dear the wonderful memories that we have of Elsie Dot Stancombe, who will remain in the hearts and thoughts of our Farnborough Family.

As we return to school please can we ask you to be very mindful of the families in our community have been directly impacted by this incident. These families involved deserve to come to our schools feeling safe and secure. They have asked that you do not speak to them directly about what happened and be mindful of how we communicate with each other in the coming weeks and months. Thank you for your support.

We will continue to support you as our community as we navigate together through these most difficult of times. If you do need to talk about your own worries, we have arranged drop-ins for adults in First Steps Family Wellbeing Centre and we will share the times and dates of these with you shortly.

We are determined that this will be a calm and reassuring start to the new school year for our children and we are a flexible and inclusive setting that will do all we can to make sure that our children can start or come back to the school that they can love and thrive in.

Staff in our school have taken part in whole school training, which has strengthened their expertise in trauma informed practice and how to support conversations with children as and if they arise. Our school staff will listen and respond appropriately with care, empathy, honesty and reassurance and considering individual beliefs.



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Uniform Collection

Due to changes in our staff training schedule on Monday 2nd September our office will be open for Uniform collection 1.30-3.30pm. These are all ready for you to collect.

Drop off and Pick Up Arrangements

Children will arrive to their new class doors which will be open from 8.40am. These doors will close to begin the school day at 8.50am. At the end of the school day children should be collected from the same classroom doors at 3.15pm.

Please be aware that Guildford Road gates will be closed and locked at 9am each day. If you arrive after this time, the only access to school will be via the Farnborough Road entrance. You may be aware of the major roadworks that are still in place around school. You may want to take these into account in your travel plans in order to arrive at school on time for pickups and drop offs. Guildford Road gates are open as usual, but parking is clearly more limited.

Water

All of the children will have a new FRIS water bottle on their first day which will have water and their name on. There is no need to send other water bottles into school on their first day.

Assemblies

We will clearly take time to think about Alice, Bebe and Elsie Dot, in an age appropriate way, but we will NOT go into any details about this incident or discuss the circumstances. We will focus on the how school is a safe place for them to play and learn and the practices we have in place to keep them safe, this is part of our normal practice with the children at the beginning of term.

Jumpers/Cardigans

Please make sure that all new jumpers, cardigans and other part of uniform are named ready for their first day.

PE/Games

PE kits should be sent into school on your child's first day. These will remain in school on their pegs until half term.

Dojo

All families will be linked via Dojo to their new teacher. Please look out for the new link. If you are having a problem with this, please make contact as soon as possible as this is a vital link for all communication.

Farnborough Road Schools have always been a safe place for children and this will continue in the future. Our site is very secure and we have long established procedures in place to keep everyone who comes to the schools safe. These have been reviewed by experts in recent days who have agreed that our procedures and our safeguarding ethos are both excellent.

We are looking forward to welcome our new and returning families on Wednesday for the start of school or stay and plays.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Sephton
Headteacher



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