
Farney Close Newsletter Easter 2011



Message from the Head:

I am sure that many parents and carers will now appreciate that we are coming to a particularly critical part of the year. For pupils in Year 11 the examinations are approaching fast and they often feel anxious about moving on into "unchartered waters". For them it is really very important that they apply themselves to their revision and take advantage of the last few lessons they have left in order to give themselves the very best opportunity for success in the exam room. Although I will talk about the website later on, I would like to bring your attention to the section on the site under "Exam Results and Timetables" where you can find infor-

mation on each exam, including date, time and candidates, all of which are anonymised with initials. It is also as equally important that we keep talking to each other about supporting pupils as they move into College placements etc. So please contact either Angie, Sue Horscroft or myself if you have any difficulties.

For pupils in Year 10, they too have an important event coming up which is the work experience week beginning on Monday 13th June. For them it will be their first experience of work expectations which is a big shift from what they have experienced up to now. I understand from our co-ordinator, Sue Horscroft, that near-

ly every pupil has a placement so if your child is still unplaced, please contact her. Also, in the same week as the work experience the rest of the school are looking forward to the annual activities week, during which pupils and staff go off to a whole range of exciting and educational experiences.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the school's new website which I hope you will like and find easy to navigate. Whilst you are there, I would draw your attention to the Notice board section which although does not have much information on it at the moment, I am looking to fill it with events and information

Farney Close School

Newsletter Date
Spring 2011

This newsletter consists of the following news items:

- ☺ Message from the Head
- ☺ Message from the Deputy
- ☺ Message from the Care Manager.
- ☺ Fundraising update
- ☺ Voluntary work news
- ☺ News on our Gardening project



re-openings due to snow etc, which I know has been particularly difficult over the last two winters.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Happy Easter and I hope that you all enjoy your time together during the holidays.

Barry Robinson, Head

Message from the Deputy Head:

Another term has flown past and we are fast approaching the Easter Holidays.

All year groups have undertaken exams with our year 11s doing mocks over the last term.

We have sent pupils to the BECTA ICT show in London as well as hosting several enterprise activities ourselves.

A careers afternoon was held for Years 10 and 11 on apprenticeships and the Year 11s have had sessions from outside groups on Anti

Social Behaviour, a talk from the Police and a visit from the Fire Department looking at fires in the kitchen; two of the activities hosted in the PSHE lessons.



Whilst the Art department did two workshops on

screen printing where pupils designed and then printed T Shirts, this was a great success and mirrored some of the excellent work being produced in Art.

The end of year exams have now started in earnest with Year 11s having to begin an early examination regime.

On behalf of all the education staff, we wish the Year 11s all the best during these upcoming exams and for the rest of the school

Message from the Care Manager:

Yet another busy term at Farney draws to an end with us actually experiencing some nice weather and with the longer evenings we have been able to introduce lots of new, exciting activities. We are looking forward to maintaining these activities over the summer term and hopefully making the most of some hot summer evenings.

Some of the activities we have now started to offer, extra to our usual choices, over the last few weeks are kite flying, drama club, jogging, fishing, mountain biking and we have also purchased an XBOX and Kinect for the large screen in the chapel which has turned out to be a very valuable means of exercise for young people and staff as well!

We are not having our usual summer open day this year but an open evening on Wednesday 13th July after which the young

people will

be going home for the summer holidays; further details to follow but the evening will provide parents and carers with an opportunity to meet with both education and care staff and discuss their child's academic and social progress. Awards will also be presented at the end of the evening.

I am busy collecting in all the Parent / Carers questionnaires, so that I can evaluate them and set out an action plan for us to work on over the next year, so would request if you haven't managed to get them back to me yet if you could as soon as possible I would really appreciate it. Thank you

Let me take this chance to wish you a Happy Easter and remind you that due to the royal wedding the young people will travel home on Thursday 7th April and not return until Tuesday 3rd May.

Fund raising for others and for us:

We would like to begin by thanking you for your continued support with the Tesco and Sainsbury vouchers and also the support from parents who make donations towards our raffles and tombola's. We would also like to make you aware that we are also collecting the school book vouchers on the Nestle cereal boxes.

We look forward to offering several stalls on the parents evening, on Wednesday 13th July 2011, which will include the Raffle, Tombola, Card game, cake stall and may more, plus there will be BBQ food available as well.

This year fundraising money has provided the materials for an evening of screen printing which Emma, the Art teacher, sourced and organized. A lot of our children took part and produced some fantastic designer T Shirts. We are hoping to do the same before Christmas, so the children can make some prezzies for loved ones. We have purchased a couple of sets of Scalextrix (tracks and cars) for the children for evening activities, and various games for break times.

During the last few months the education department has also benefited from some of the fundraising monies for example a DVD Player was purchased for the Science department, Instruments for Music, Materials for Design and Technology, an Interactive Globe for Geography and replacement Word Shark for the English Department all of which have been of great benefit to the children and will continue to do so.

We have two events booked for December 2011, (nothing like forward planning) the Christmas performance where once again we will have stalls available and a coffee morning in Burgess Hill also during this month.

We are always looking for different ways to fundraise and if you have any suggestions or ideas please feel free to share them with us.

As previously mentioned your continuous support is appreciated and tombola and raffle prizes for the summer open evening would be gratefully received. Thank you.

Wishing you a Happy Easter
er
From
Clare and Sue



Farney Close School

Bolney Court,
Bolney,
Nr Haywards Heath,
West Sussex
RH17 5RD

Phone: 01444 881811

Fax: 01444 881957

E-mail: sara.hack@farneyclose.co.uk

www.farneyclose.co.uk

General Information:

All of the Children are due back to school for 9am on Tuesday 3rd May 2011.

Could you please ensure that your child returns to school with full uniform and that school shoes are checked to ensure that they still fit and are in a wearable condition. Pumps are not allowed as school shoes.

Please remind your child to hand in their mobiles as soon as they get into school, if they bring them back with them, and to ask staff to look after any valuables they have.

Can I also ask that you do not send your child in with a casual top to wear instead of a coat. Our definitions of casual tops are hoodies and sports jackets. We do not allow casual tops to be worn during the school day so they will need coats to keep them warm during break times. They can wear their casual tops during the evenings.

Thank you for your support with these matters.

Schools Gardening Project

The IG3 gang are busy weeding, seed planting and generally preparing for a busy summer term of gardening. They are planning to be selling plants on the parents evening in July so don't forget your pennies! They are also planning a BBQ where they will be cooking lots of healthy home grown vegetables before the end of the summer term but parents are not invited to that!

Rumour also has it that they are hoping to get chickens but you are going to have to wait and see if that comes off or not.

The hard work put in by the lads on IG3 and their staff is to be commended. Well Done.

Voluntary Work

The voluntary work undertaken by some of the year 10 and 11s is now starting to involve some of the year 9s. They are a credit to the school going on a weekly basis to help at a local school for young people who have quite profound disabilities.

We always welcome new volunteers so if your child should like to be considered to take part in this project encourage them to speak to Dawn Thompson or some of the other Farney pupils who already go so they can get an idea of what it entails and can then make a more formal request to Dawn to be considered to join the volunteer group.

Our thanks go to all our young people who have volunteered over the last year.
