

# The FenHil News

'Respect, Honesty, Kindness and Collaboration'

28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Website: [www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk](http://www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk)

Twitter: @Fenhilp

PTA Twitter: @FenHilPTA

Dear Parents and Carers,

## PTA News

The first PTA disco of the year will be on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. This will also be a whole school non-uniform day so that children can come dressed to party!

For Infants (Reception & KS1), this will be straight after school (3.30–4.30 pm) and will cost £3, including a drink and a snack. Look out for a letter with reply slip in your child's bag on **Tuesday**.

The Junior disco will be from 5.30–7.00 pm (doors open 5.15 pm). This will cost £2, paid on the door. There will be refreshments and merchandise available to buy, plus a raffle with some exciting prizes!

Reminder – the AGM will be held on Monday, 8 October at 7.00 pm at school. Or you can become a Friend of the PTA. Email [fhpspta@gmail.com](mailto:fhpspta@gmail.com) to join our Friends list.

PTA Dates for your diary:

AGM - Mon 8th Oct 7pm  
Disco - Fri 12th Oct  
Movie Night - Fri 9th Nov  
Bag2School – Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Christmas Fayre - Fri 30th Nov

## Governor Update

The new school year is well underway and we would like to thank the team and you for the amazing start. We would also like to introduce our new Community Governor, Mike Gregory to you - his skills in education will be invaluable.

Governors held their first meeting of the year last week and discussed the key priorities for the school. Our vision is to continue to strengthen the team and ensure that they are fully supported in making our school a great place to learn. Key priorities include developing our Maths curriculum and ensuring that our children have the confidence to really excel in this area, as well as to deliver quality first teaching across the school.

## Attendance

Disappointingly, I have received a barrage of parents wanting to see me about taking their children out of school for holiday. Please see the following extract from Cambridge County Council:

*'Recent Government Guidance has removed the discretion on head teachers agreeing to term time holiday requests. Due to the disruptive effect on a child's education, you are strongly urged to avoid booking a family holiday during term-time. Parents do not have any right or entitlement to take their child out of school for a term-time holiday. Any leave of absence requests will be considered by the school in **exceptional circumstances** and will look at each request individually.'*

Children in any age group miss out on considerable learning when they are not in school. Our job is to get the children where they need to be from an educational perspective. This is an increasingly more difficult job as standards are extremely high. A dip in attendance makes this much harder. I will not authorise any holiday and will issue a penalty notice to anyone who takes their child out of school for more than three days. You should also know that if we suspect that your child has been on holiday and you haven't told us we can still issue the penalty notice, it is always best to be honest with us.

## Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for all the kind donations that children brought in yesterday for the foodbank. The children enjoyed learning about Harvest Festival from our wonderful church volunteers Mrs Hucklesby and Mrs Dunbar – thank you so much!

## March on Downing Street – 28.9.18

Today, many Headteachers have delivered a letter to Downing Street regarding the lack of funding in Schools. I have attached a copy of this letter to the newsletter for your perusal. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the march, however many Cambridgeshire Heads have travelled to London today to stand united and stand up for change as part of the Worth Less? Campaign. It is so important that we carry on fighting for the essential funding we require in schools to educate young people. I stand united with my colleagues today in spirit as I cannot be there in person. There is, and will be much media coverage on this subject if you are interested.

## Purple Lanyards

Mrs Cooper and I are now the proud owners of purple lanyards. This is to differentiate us as Child Protection Designated Persons. This means that we actively encourage good safeguarding practices as all members of the school's staff should and lead on Child Protection procedures.

## Contact Details

We would always prefer that you talk to us face to face, however we do appreciate that this isn't always possible. To reduce the amount of emails coming into the office account and ensure that you get a quicker, more personal response we have decided to provide you with teachers' email addresses and why you might contact them. You can expect to get a reply when reasonably possible and within 48 hours. **Please only email during the working week. Your emails will not be answered over the weekend.**

Please see opposite for details:

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind regards,

Claire Worth,

Headteacher

Email address	Nature of contact
<a href="mailto:office@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">office@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a>	Admin, dates, events, general queries
<a href="mailto:head@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">head@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a>	Leadership enquiries
<a href="mailto:lcooper@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">lcooper@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a> and <a href="mailto:ksnooke@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">ksnooke@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a>	Enquires or concerns about key stage 2 children (years 3,4,5 and 6)
<a href="mailto:hsumner@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">hsumner@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a>	Enquiries or concerns about children in Years 1 and 2
<a href="mailto:nthompson@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">nthompson@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a> and <a href="mailto:kperry@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">kperry@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a>	Enquiries or concerns about Reception children
<a href="mailto:mbyrne@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk">mbyrne@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk</a>	SEND enquiries