

# The FenHil News

‘Respect, Honesty, Kindness and Collaboration’

1<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **PTA News**

The Bag2School collection is next Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March. Please bring your filled bags (any charity bag will do) to school on Tuesday morning and place on the green outside the school hall. Please don't bring bags in any sooner than Tuesday. If you are unable to carry bags in on the day, the PTA can collect them from outside your house the day before, on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> March. Please email [fhpspta@gmail.com](mailto:fhpspta@gmail.com) in advance to arrange collection. You can see what is accepted here: <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>. We raised about £100 last time we did this, so it really is an easy fundraiser for school.

The After-School Chill Outs are coming up on 14<sup>th</sup> (Infants) and 15<sup>th</sup> (Juniors) March. Look out for the emails next week to sign your child(ren) up. We'll be using online consent forms and Sims Pay again, as this worked well for the Infant Disco. The films will be *Sherlock Gnomes* (U) for Infants and *Incredibles 2* (PG) for the Juniors. The cost will be £3 and include a snack.

## **Spring term diary dates:**

Bag2School collection: Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March

Infant Chill Out: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March (3.30–5.00 pm);  
*Sherlock Gnomes* (U)

Junior Chill Out: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March (3.30–5.30 pm);  
*Incredibles 2* (PG)

Mother's Day present room: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March,  
over lunchtime

Cake sale: Date TBC – watch this space!

## **No Nuts!**

Please be aware that we are a nut free school, we have several children in school with severe allergies. This means that any snacks, or lunchtime treats need to be nut free.

## **Family Café Donations**

Thank you so much for all the donations made to date for the books which will be used for our Family Cafes – it's been a fantastic response and there are only 25 on the list left to buy! For those of you who have not yet been able to attend a Family Cafe, these are part of a Local Authority initiative called 'Cafes for All', designed to encourage whole school parental and family engagement. We are planning to run them very regularly across all key stages in the school. Each cafe will have a topic, and the relevant books will be available for you to come in, sit and share them with your children and then engage in other learning activities connected to the theme. Eventually a borrowing system for these books will be set up so the children can bring them home and you can share them together there too. Our aim is to let you know well in advance of these cafe dates for your child's class, and do them on different days also so as many family members as possible can attend. The children and parents have loved them so far and the more books we have the more we can discuss and learn together.

We now have a box in reception so you can drop donated books there. If you are buying from the wish list please can you include a gift note so we know who they are from - we are creating a stamp for the donated books so want to be able to name your family in the book you donated. As a reminder you can find the gift list at <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/21AG5YF7WN2Y8>

Thank you so much for your support!

Helen Hollins - PTA

## **A Lick of Paint**

Mr Morris has been working his way around school decorating the walls and making it look fresh and new. School looks fantastic at the moment due to the team's hard work.

## **Netball Tournament**

On Thursday, after school we went to Swavesey Village College to take part in a Netball Tournament. There were 2 teams – A and B. Both teams played 2 matches, the A team won both of their matches and B team won one of their matches. It was great fun and we had a good time. Hopefully we will get into the finals.

Aaron, Year 6

## **New Floor**

Our hall floor has been given a makeover, it looks so much better as it had not been treated for a number of years. During half term it was stripped back to the original floor and then retreated and varnished. The children are doing a good job of looking after the floor and are really pleased with it.

## **Exciting news!**

Our school has won a bid of £10,000 to build an outdoor classroom! This is so very exciting for us on our quest to improve our school grounds. The classroom will appear like a large octagonal shed with lockable doors and windows so that children can make the most of it during school hours. We will use it as an outdoor library as well as a space for University afternoons and an outdoor learning space. We thank Andrea Contreras Garces, from our Grants Committee for driving this forward and for all her hard work in the process.

## **Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health**

The mental health of children is a subject that has had a lot of media coverage recently. From 2020 each primary school is required to have a 'Mental Health lead', this would be a teacher who would oversee the provision that we as a school provide. This is not a new issue but children of today face the pressure of an 'Everything, right now' society where Social Media is prevalent and can be an anxiety inducing tool. We are fortunate that some of our Teaching Assistants have recently received excellent training on how to run groups for children that help them talk about and deal with feelings that can often become overwhelming. Every child in school will have some form of provision, as this important area is also covered in the PSHE curriculum. We also now have access to a trained counsellor who works with us on a Thursday and a Play Therapist. If you would like to know more about this then please do speak to me.

## **Values Day**

Mrs Turner is organising a school 'Values Day' on the last day of this half term – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The day will encourage each class to come off the curriculum and focus on a project involving one of our values. This may be through the media of art, technology, music or another subject. Parents will all be invited to sharing assemblies in the afternoon – times to be arranged. This sort of special day needs extra help. If you are willing to give up some of your time to come and work with your child's class that day then please let Mrs Turner or myself know. Thank you

## **Sofa please!**

We have been clearing out the front entrance, with the aim of making it feel more welcoming. We currently have some office type soft chairs there. However it would be really nice to replace them with a good quality sofa. This is an expense I cannot justify taking from the school budget and so am requesting that if any of you have a sofa that you are about to pass on or throw out could we have it please? We are not too fussy on the colour but it would be great if it was in good condition. Please send a photo to the office email address so we can see if it could be suitable.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support, I look forward to seeing all of you, next week, for Parent's Evening. That is, if I can still walk!

Kind regards,

Claire Worth,

Headteacher