



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Newsletter 1 – September 2022

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome to all our new 'Flax Families' who are joining us in Chestnut Class and across the school. I hope you have all had a good summer and the children are rested and ready for the exciting learning and events planned for the term ahead (although many will already be flagging as we move through this first week!)

Parent Welcome Meetings to new classes

Please find below a list of dates for all class meetings to talk through the expectations and organisation of each year group for the year ahead:

Chestnut: Wednesday 21st September at 7pm

Maple: Wednesday 21st September at 2.30pm

Willow: Monday 19th September at 2.30pm

Beech: Thursday 22nd September at 2.30pm

Elm: Wednesday 21st September at 2.30pm

Oak: Friday 23rd September at 2.30pm

Sycamore: Tuesday 20th September at 2.30pm

Drop off and Pick up times

Drop Off: There is a drop-off window **between 8:40-8.55am** and you can arrive at any time within these fifteen minutes. Please note that there is a change to last year and **classroom doors will now be closed at 8.55am**. (This is to reduce the disruption caused to learning by pupils arriving at 9am when lessons are starting.) Lessons will start promptly at 9am, so please ensure your children are in school and settled, ready to start learning by this time.



If you arrive after 8.55am please enter via the main reception door and register your children's arrival in the school office.

Pick up: The end of the day for children in **Rec-Year 2** is 3:15pm. Children in Years Rec-Year 3 must be collected by an adult.

The end of the day for children in **Year 3 – Year 6** is 3:20pm. Children in Years 4-6 will be allowed to leave classes independently at the end of the school day. Children in Year 5 and Year 6 may walk home independently if the classteacher has received written permission.

Please read the attached Flax Attendance Procedure document for further information.

PE lessons and PE uniform

Children will need to arrive at school in their PE kit on the days they will have PE lessons, including swimming.

PE kit should be:

Plain coloured t-shirt in the house/planet colour.

Plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms/joggers/shorts.

School jumpers/cardigans.

No logos or coloured/patterned sportswear please. No jewellery should be worn except stud earrings.

Water bottles

All pupils need a NAMED water bottle in school every day.

Welly boots

All children need a pair of NAMED welly boots to be kept at school if they are to play on the field and in the forest school area.



Book bags

Children should ONLY bring Flax book bags into school. No rucksacks please. Bookbags for all children will be needed in school in school EVERY day.

Volunteers in class

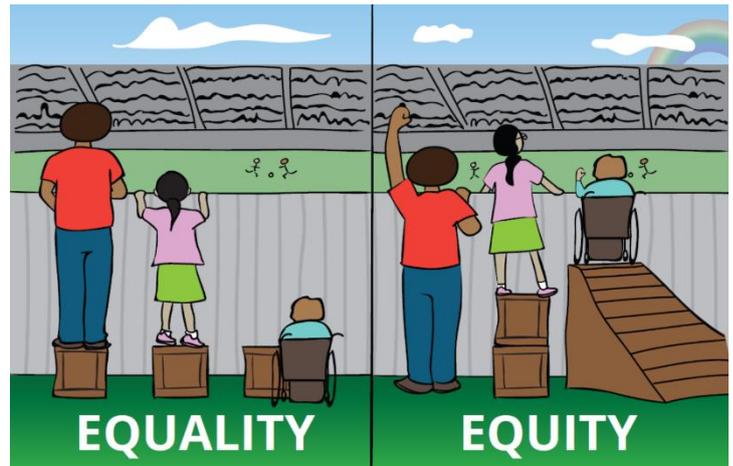
We are keen to have volunteers into classrooms to support learning - please see or email class teachers if you are able to help. Thank you very much!

Sycamore Camp Meeting

There is a Sycamore Class (Year 6) meeting about the upcoming PGL camp on **Monday 12th September at 4pm**. This will be held in the Sycamore Classroom.

Equality V Equity in our approaches to supporting learning and behaviour, including for pupils with SEND

During our INSET day at the start of the year we discussed the difference between providing exactly the same support for all pupils at all times (equality) verses providing varied and targeted support for different pupils in different ways to ensure they can all access the curriculum (equity). This image very clearly illustrates why different support (the boxes) may be needed. This can be in the shape of extra adult support in class, 1:1 sessions, group intervention support for both academic and social/behavioural learning.



It is sometimes easy to forget that children do not arrive at school already knowing all the social skills and they can be expected to get it right all the time in a way we do not expect the same from an academic perspective. For example, if children struggle to learn in maths we revisit the learning from different angles until it 'clicks'. We do the same for social skills and we teach them explicitly and in an ongoing way through our PHSE programme and through our school values.

The different boxes are reflected in our SEND policy and our approach to support children with additional needs (academic or social) by adjusting what we do to provide support to best meet an individual pupil's needs. The vast majority of pupils will be like the child on the left of the image (in red) and their needs will be met by our quality first teaching provision. However, not all pupils will be treated the same all the time and, at some point, most pupils will need an occasional 'box' of support with something they are finding tricky.

New website

We are planning to move over to a new website provider in the next week, so keep your eye out for some changes. You can access the website from the same address: <https://www.flaxbourton.n-somerset.sch.uk/> Any feedback or comments for improvements will be welcomed.

Online Safety Tip

Your children should not be using any social media platforms until they are 13, however, there are lots of other lovely games and apps that are suitable for them to use. Common Sense's Parents' Ultimate Guides can help keep you up to date and answer your questions about all the latest tech titles and trends. Whether you're trying to figure out if a new app is safe for your child or if a popular game includes blood and gore, they've got you covered.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/parents-ultimate-guides>

SHINE

Shine are delighted to announce that our new improved website is now live.

We have made a significant investment that has transformed our website into the market leader in the activity booking experience for families. Whether you are booking at your school, holiday clubs or evening activities for children or adults, we hope you will find it easy to use and intuitive to make your booking as stress free and as simple as possible. Click here for the [MY SHINE booking link](#)

Bike to School week



All pupils are invited to arrive at school on bikes, scooters or wheels from 26th – 30th September.

Absent from school? Tell the Office: Please ensure you either telephone (01275 464468 press option 1) or email (mailbox@flaxbourton.n-somerset.sch.uk) the school office before 9am each day that your child is going to be absent from school. Please don't send absence information to the class email addresses.

Best wishes,
Jane Bennett

At Flax we will be Aiming High, Respecting Others and Having Fun as we are growing together towards 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10)

FLAX BOURTON CHURCH
MICHAELMAS
MARKET
SAT 1ST OCTOBER 10-4

LOCAL STALLS...

BACKWELL BOTANICALS:
SOAPS & CANDLES
TRADICRAFT & FAIRTRADE
PLANTS & SEED EXCHANGE
PAINTINGS & CERAMICS
GREETINGS CARDS

A GREENER FAIR

WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS ECO-CHURCH STATUS AND WILL STRIVE TO MAKE THIS A 'GREEN' EVENT

CHILDREN'S KNITWEAR
PRE-LOVED CHILDREN'S CLOTHES & TOYS
PICKLES & CHUTNEYS
BOOK EXCHANGE
MICRO BAKERY
LOCAL HONEY
RAFFLE

CHURCH CAFÉ

HOMEMADE CAKE
PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH
BEVERAGES
EAT-IN OR TAKE OUT

FREE FAMILY ECO-ART ACTIVITIES

