6th September, 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another school year begins, and we would like to present you with the first newsletter of the new academic year; we hope you all had a lovely summer. Everyone is settled back into work, raring to go in their determination to make this another excellent year in school.

You will find a number of important dates, of which you might want to make a note, and a number of facts which you will need to be aware of. If you mislay this letter and need to refer back to what it contains, we always upload a copy to our website ([www.fensprimary.co.uk](http://www.fensprimary.co.uk)) in the ‘news’ section where the ‘newsletters’ link can be found.

Summer Half-Term Holiday

We would like to remind you of our arrangements for the summer half-term holiday of 2020, especially as the weather turns colder and many of you will be thinking about what to do for your summer holiday next year. We have, as we did during 2018-19, organised all five of our PD days (days when the children do not attend school, and which are usually spaced throughout the year) for the first week in June 2020 (Monday 1st June to Friday 5th June). This follows straight on from the half-term holiday (Whit Week) which occurs in the last week of May (Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May). This means that instead of school being closed for just one week, it will be closed for **two** weeks, and, because the first week in June is not school holiday time for the majority of schools, holiday prices will be cheaper than during standard school holiday times. Thus parents have the opportunity to take their holiday during the fortnight Saturday 23rd May to Saturday 6th June at cheaper rates without having to remove their child/children from school. We do hope you will give this serious consideration.

Earrings and Studs

Please remember that school has a *no jewellery* policy, for health and safety reasons, which means that children should *not* wear earrings or studs to school. If children attend school having forgotten to remove them, they will be asked to take them out, or if they can’t, parents will be contacted to come to school and do it for them. If parents want to have their child’s ears pierced, then the first day of the summer holidays is the time to do it so that the lobes can heal before school restarts.

PE Award

For the fourth year in succession, Fens has been successful in regaining the Gold Mark for PE. Congratulations and thanks are due to Mrs Wilkinson for once again leading the school through the award process, and to all staff and children at Fens whose work and effort have contributed to the school’s success. Yet another excellent team effort all round!

SATs and Phonic Testing

The month of May is SATs month for our Y2 and Y6 children and June is the month for Y1 Phonics Screening, along with, from this academic year, the Multiplication Test for Y4 children, so no requests for pupil absence can be granted for these periods.

The Y2 children undertake their assessments over the course of all of May, whilst the Y6 children will sit their examinations during the week beginning Monday 11th May. The Y1 phonics screening test will take place during the week beginning Monday 8th June, and the Y4 Multiplication Test takes place during a three-week window which also starts on Monday 8th June, 2020.

Uniform

School uniform is supplied by School Trends and can be ordered online using the following link:

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/FensPrimary>SchoolTS252LY. The ordering can be done on a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or PC, and size charts are available, so please refer to these and measure your child before

ordering. Delivery is £2.99 to your home address.

School Meals

Could we please remind parents that the cost of school meals is £2.05 per day i.e. £10.25 per week. If your child wishes to change their lunchtime arrangements to dinners or to packed lunches, you will need to complete the amendment form available at the office before the end of half-term.

Could we also please encourage any parents who think they may be eligible for Free School Meals to claim them as it generates a great deal of funding for the school. Instructions on how to apply can be obtained from the school office.

Parental Consultations

The first parents’ evenings of the 2019-20 academic year will take place on Monday 21st October from 3.40 to 5.30pm and Wednesday 23rd October from 5.00 to 7.30pm. Reminder letters with option slips for appointments will be distributed one to two weeks before those dates.

‘Flu Vaccinations

Parents of Reception to Y6 pupils will have received letters inviting them to complete online consent forms for their child/children to receive a ‘flu vaccination (administered by nasal spray). Our day for these vaccinations to be given is Friday 15th November.

Facebook and School App Reminder

Our school Facebook page can be found by visiting [www.facebook.com/fensprimaryschool](http://www.facebook.com/fensprimaryschool), and anyone who has not yet downloaded the School App can do so by following the instructions which were communicated in our February 2019 newsletter, which can be found on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C P Cornforth

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| **Date (2019 - 2020)** | **Event** |
| Wednesday 18th September | Individual & family photographs |
| Monday 21st October | Parental Consultations 3.40-5.30pm |
| Wednesday 23rd October | Parental Consultations 5.00-7.30pm |
| Monday 28th October– Friday 1st November | Half-Term Holiday – school closed |
| Monday 4th November | School re-opens |
| Friday 15th November | Rec to Y6 ‘Flu Vaccinations |
| Tuesday 3rd December | School Discos |
| Wb Monday 9th December | School Christmas Productions Week |
| Wb Monday 16th December | Christmas Parties Week |
| Friday 20th December | Last day of Autumn Term |
| Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January | School closed for Christmas Holiday |
| Monday 6th January | Children return to school for start of Spring Term |
| Monday 17th – Friday 21st February | Half-Term Holiday – school closed |
| Monday 24th February | School re-opens |
| Friday 3rd April | Last day of Spring Term |
| Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April | School closed for Easter Holiday |
| Monday 20th April | School re-opens for start of Summer Term |
| Month of May | Y2 SAT assessments |
| Friday 8th May | May-Day Bank Holiday – school closed |
| Wb Monday 11th May | Y6 SATs week |
| Monday 25th May – Friday 5th June | Whit Fortnight (Whit Week plus five PD Days) – school closed |
| Monday 8th June | School re-opens |
| Wb Monday 8th June | Y1 Phonics Screening Tests |
| Monday 8th June – Fri 26th June | Y4 Multiplication Test – three week window. |
| Monday 20th July | Last day of Summer Term |