F&B NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term: Tuesday 30th January 2024

This week is week **1** of the dinner menu

Dear parents,

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5-11 February 2024. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. At F&B, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing. During Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters."

Families, parents and carers can get involved too! Download resources here so you can take part at home!

Squirrels and Koala class had a very special visitor visit them this week. A real life pilot called Mr Brooker came in and all the children were surprised to learn that he was Mrs Brookers husband! Mr Brooker told the children all about planes.

We had some fun trying to spot where the landing runway was in Austria and in Egypt. The Egypt runway was covered in sand and the Austrian one had a river and mountains either side which made them tricky to spot. Some of the children have very eagle eyes though and managed to spot them! We also listened to some of the warning sounds it makes if the airplane is not ready to fly, Mr Brooker said he had never heard any of these sounds in real life though on the plane – which is very reassuring!

The children had some fantastic questions to ask Mr Brooker, such as why the plane doesn't go straight up in the sky and how fast do the planes go? We learnt that the furthest Mr Brooker has flown is to Thailand! Squirrel and Koala Class loved this experience, thank you very much to Mr Brooker for coming in to see us!

Governor Newsletter:

Each term, a member of the governing body will tell you about what they have done so far this year. You can find more information about the governing board here.

Name: **Role:** **How long have you been a governor?**	Andrew Dongworth Maths Lead Governor and member of Resources Committee Since October 2022
When were you last in the school and what were you doing?	I visit the school regularly as a parent of a child in Reception, but my most recent visit in connection with my role as a governor was on 8 November to meet with the Maths lead teacher in order to review the progress being made in that subject across Key Stage 1 classes.
What did you learn during your visit?	The school's commitment to the effective teaching of maths is evident from the enthusiasm shown by all pupils in all aspects of their learning, whether it be working in pairs to discuss ideas, working in groups or problem solving at their tables. The teachers are confident in presenting the lessons in ways which engage the children and allow them to make progress at their own pace and in the ways which work best for each individual.
What challenges do you see for the future?	A clear priority of the school is to address any challenges which arise from the desire to ensure a smooth transition for children from the Montessori led approach in early years classes as they move into key stage 1.
When is your next visit to the school?	I will be carrying out another Maths monitoring visit later in the Spring term, when I hope to look at the Montessori teaching of maths in the early years classes.

Up and Coming Governor Articles:

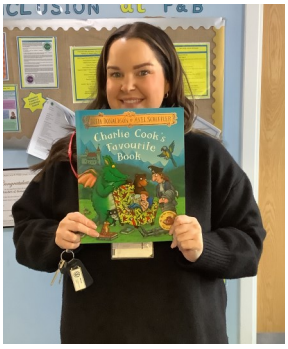
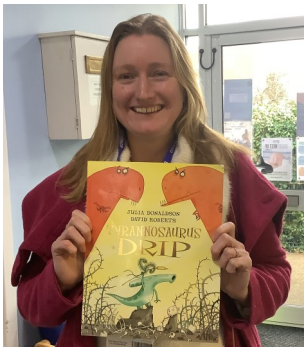
Spring 2: James Catchpole *(Resources/History) 12.02.24*

Summer 1: Megan Sutton *(EYFS/Computing) 25.03.24*

Summer 2: Chris Male *(PE) 20.05.24*

Nursery visited the conservation area last Tuesday for their memorable experience for our topic 'Where Does Snow Go?' . We went on a wintery walk at talked about what we could hear, see and feel. The children looked at an evergreen tree and we talked about how these trees never lose their leaves. We then looked at the pond and saw it was frozen to ice!

Secret Reader / Poetry recital

	Squirrel Class listening so beautifully! What a lovely experience. Thank you for having me **Stacey K**		Amazing experience once more! I loved seeing the children's faces and how concentrated they were on my reading. **Marta K**
	Thank you Otter Class!! It was a jot to read to them all and I loved hearing their favourite parts **Megan S**		Thank you so much for listening so beautifully to my story. I loved every moment and hope I can come back to see you all again soon! Remember: you can do anything **Timothy H**

Focus on Oracy: Poetry and rhymes

Learning poetry is something we are focussing on this year at F&B. Through enjoying rhymes, poems and songs, and reciting poems or parts of longer poems together as a class, we can build children's strong emotional connection to language. The predictability of rhymes in poems and songs also helps children to memorise and re-use newly acquired words and phrases.

It has been lovely that so many of the children have been so enthusiastic about learning and reciting the poems each fortnight. I can't walk around the school without a child stopping me to recite what they've learnt—it's been delightful! This fortnight's poem has been chosen once again by our English Link Governor, Zoe Russell:

Happiness by A.A. Milne

John had Great Big Waterproof Boots on;
John had a Great Big Waterproof Hat;
John had a Great Big Waterproof Mackintosh —
And that (Said John) Is That.

I was so happy to hear quite a few children learn the challenging poem from the last fortnight, Frost by Valerie Bloom. They were very happy to receive their stickers too. These children were Amelie D, Zac J and Matilda R from Panda class as well as Jacob N and Vivian D from Gecko Class.

Special Visitors

As a school, we are always seeking and looking to welcome special guests and speakers to specific year groups or the whole school. These could be athletes, musicians, authors or anyone with job or story that can inspire our young pupils. If you know of anyone please do contact Mr Wells via the office. **admin@fandb.herts.sch.uk**

Dexter

Hello, Alfie had a great weekend with Dexter. He took Alfie to his Hip Hop dance lesson on Saturday. Dexter had a sleep over with Alfie and his big brother and then celebrated Alfie's Nanny's birthday on Sunday.

End of Topic dates are as follows at 2.30pm, please remember we ask that only one adult attends for each child and no prams or siblings attend, as we can not fit everyone in the classrooms:

Nursery: Tuesday 13th February 2024

Reception: Monday 12th February 2024

Year 1: Thursday 15th February 2024

Yea 2: Friday 16th February 2024

We have a PTA non-uniform for Jazzy Jars: Friday 16th February - please see the poster further down the newsletter.

THE FRIENDS OF REEDINGS AND F&B

F&B WEAR your own CLOTHES day

Fri 16th Feb

F&B - Wear your own clothes day in exchange for a JAZZY JAR to support the Sawbridgeworth Town May Fayre.

Please fill your jar with wrapped/sealed sweets (no nuts please) and ask your child to jazz up your jar with decorations.

The Friends of Reedings and F&B

Parentkind Member Association

Term Dates 2023/2024

Please click the link here: to find this years academic dates

Fawbert and Barnard Infants School
Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2023						
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30	31					

November 2023						
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December 2023						
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January 2024						
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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April 2024						
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29	30					

May 2024						
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June 2024						
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July 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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August 2024						
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School days	School holidays	5 INSET Days/ 1 Occasional day	Bank Holiday	Weekend

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term:	Monday 4 September 2023 – Wednesday 20 December 2023 ***Half Term 23 October – 27 October*** *School Occasional Day 01/12/2023*
Spring Term:	Thursday 4 January 2024 – Thursday 28 March 2024 ***Half Term 19 February - 23 February***
Summer Term:	Monday 15 April 2024 – Tuesday 23 July 2024 *Half Term 27 May – 31 May* *May Bank Holiday - 6 May*

Hertfordshire Music Service Inclusive Choir
(Soundabout associate member choir)

An inclusive contemporary style choir in association with the music charity Soundabout.

- For anyone Year 5, 6 and secondary age, with a focus on giving a voice to those with SEN and complex needs.
- Sessions are twice a month, online, with an end of term, in-person, get-together at Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts.
- Starting April 2024 with a **free taster session** on Friday 15 March 2024 (5.00pm - 6.00pm).

soundabout
make music change lives

Scan the QR code to see Soundabout's music videos.

Starts Friday 19 April 2024 (March taster session)

5.00pm - 6.00pm

Online with an end of term get-together at Mid Herts Centre for Music and Arts

£35 per term

Scan me for more

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Hertfordshire Music Service

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