



# Newsletter

**2020/21 Issue 1 – Friday 11th September 2020**

## Welcome back!

A warm welcome back to you all after what must have been the longest break in schooling since the Second World War. An equally warm welcome to all our new families who have experienced their first day at Fowlmere School this week. We have welcomed seventeen children into Reception this year, and four into other year groups, giving us a school total of 103 on roll. Please make our new families feel welcome on our temporary 'playground'.

Firstly, can I say how impressed I have been: with staff, who have been working hard in school to make the experience for children as normal as possible whilst adhering to countless new processes and rules; to you as parents who have read my updates, followed the expectations carefully and have offered many words of support and encouragement; and lastly, to the children themselves who have been so delighted to be back at school to see their friends and have greeted us warmly.

Monday wasn't quite perfect, but by now, the systems are becoming routine and we are all getting used to the way things are at the moment. I realised that many of you had forgotten how long it took for you to get to school in the morning, as lots of you were very early, but that has settled down and by today there was a steady stream of arrivals which is exactly what we want.

Our new Reception children have been amazing. Leaving parents at the school gates is unheard of in modern times, and yet this is what they have had to do. We're delighted that all children have joined us full-time and we know that we are one of very few schools who have offered this option this year, most insisting on a longer, part-time offer.

With rules changing all the time, and the number of cases on the rise, it is important we keep doing our part with these new routines. Thank you!

## Newsletter

I have reformatted the newsletter to be an email in itself, rather than a pdf attachment. Hopefully, this will make it easier for everyone to access. If there is someone you know that isn't receiving the newsletter but should, please let me know. Equally, if there's a better email address to reach you on, please let me know that too.

## School Meals



Lunchtimes are perhaps the most challenging part of the day from a risk assessment perspective, but not when it comes to the food.

Hertfordshire Catering have done an incredible job in getting their operation up and running over the summer and we have been hugely impressed with the quality of the food. Pictured are school caterers, Nicola Kirk and Brenda Barnes with Mobilisation Manager, Becki Cameron. The amount of time and effort which has gone

into staff development and training across all our cluster schools has been impressive and there is more to come.

We are hoping that this improved offer will attract more children to school meals – so why not give it a try?

We are running a canteen-style service at the moment to avoid the need for children to serve each other and don't forget that children have a choice of main meal – booked at registration – and a choice of salads, bread and desserts – see below:

