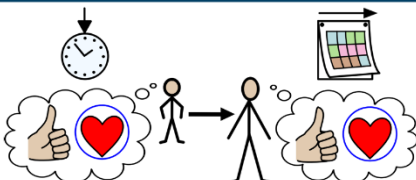




# Newsletter

## Summer 2023



"What does a good life look like for me  
now and in the future"



## Message from Swavek

Dear Parents and Carers,

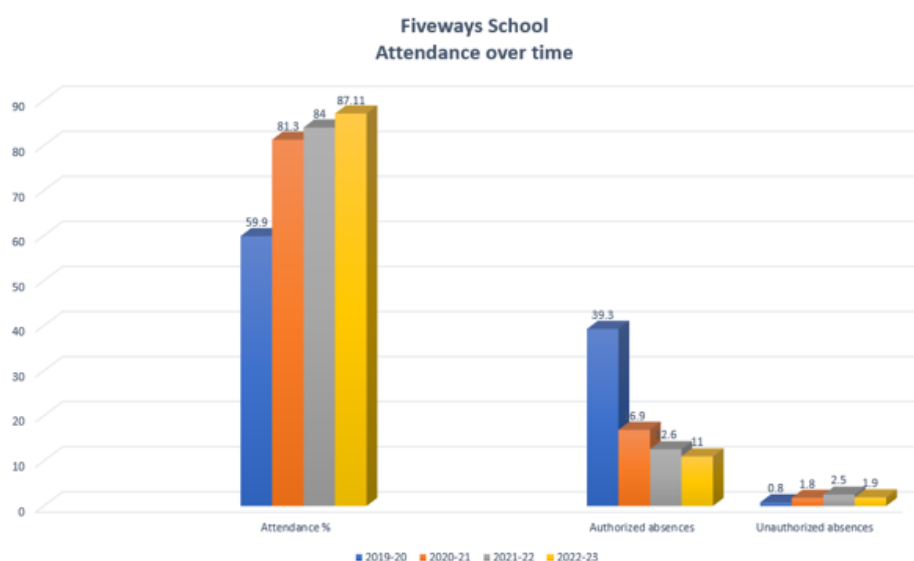
Another academic year has gone by and as always, throughout the year we have been supporting all pupils to achieve the best academic and social outcomes. Over last year we had seen so many pupils blossom and grow. A good example is the 6<sup>th</sup> Form leavers. Out of 4 leavers 3 will be going to mainstream colleges in September 2023. This is a great achievement for those pupils and their families. As part of our ongoing commitment to link with external education and adulthood providers we have made more contacts with local colleges including Strode college. Some of this year's leavers have been offered places in Strode college.

### Attendance

I would like to thank you, yet again, for your support with rising pupil attendance. As you will see from the graph below, this year we have reached the highest attendance in the last 4 years. We hope to increase this percentage further next year. There is clear evidence of pupil's progress and attendance, and this is why attendance remains high on our agenda. As always, we do understand that for some pupils attendance is affected by medical conditions etc.

#### **Attendance Tracker Over Time**

Academic Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Attendance %	59.9	81.3	84	87.11	
Authorized absences	39.3	16.9	12.6	11.0	
Unauthorized absences	0.8	1.8	2.5	1.9	



### Parents Code of Conduct and Parking Code of Conduct

You were asked to comment on the updated Parent and Carers Partnership Policy that included two appendices, **Parent Code of Conduct and Parking Code of Conduct**. I would like to thank those of you who participated and responded to say you were happy with the document.

### Ofsted Inspection

I hope that by now all of you will have had the opportunity to read the Ofsted report. Thank you for those of you who provided exceptionally good feedback to the Lead Inspector about the school and your child's experiences of education.

We are now working on developing and securing further our phase 5 aspect of the curriculum to continue to enable all pupils to achieve through stretch and challenge.

### Family App

Fiveways school uses the online and App version of Evidence for Learning (EfL). This allows teaching staff to capture evidence daily of pupil's progress against Personal Learning Goals (PLGs). The evidence of progress is captured in a number of forms including video, photo, completed piece of work and annotation. It is an excellent way to see how well pupils are making achievement and progress towards their PLGs over time. From mid-September all parents and carers will be given access to EfL family App. You will be able to see the PLGs the pupils are working towards and how the school evidence their progress. You will also be able to comment on the evidence that you see. In addition, you will be able to upload evidence of your child's progress and achievements when the pupils are not in school. This will support the evidence on how well the pupils apply their skills in any settings.

Sam Ensor, Deputy Headteacher, is leading on this project and in the near future you will hear from Sam regarding next steps. There is currently a trial underway with a small number of parents to get feedback in preparation for the roll out.

The feedback so far is very good including "Marvellous!", "It creates a bridge between the school and parents" "We can see first-hand ... and hopefully as parents we can reinforce these within the home".

In the meantime, if you have questions related to EfL Family App please do not hesitate to contact Sam directly.

### School further growth and new staff

In September we will start with 98 pupils which is the most we have ever had. The demands for school places are growing but we have limited spaces that we can offer. If the current number of consultations (pupils referred to us) continues over the summer holiday, we may increase the school numbers to 100 in January 2024. Due to the opening of a new class last year we have the capacity to do so without increasing number of pupils in each class. The biggest class that we will have will be the 6<sup>th</sup> Form, which from September will reach 13 pupils. Due to the nature of the 6<sup>th</sup> Form this number will not prevent all pupils from having an outstanding education offering and should support developing additional skills such as teamwork, collaboration and accepting others.

As a result of this growth, from September 2023, we needed to contract more staff. The new staff members include 6<sup>th</sup> Form teachers, Lower School teacher, 8 TAs, 2 Supply TAs and a member of the admin team. In the Autumn term newsletter, we will include their photographs. No doubt they will introduce themselves to you when you visit the school. Due to a number of staff going on maternity leave in the Autumn term we will advertise for further staff to work with us for a fixed term.

I wish you, your children, and your family a good summer break and I look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

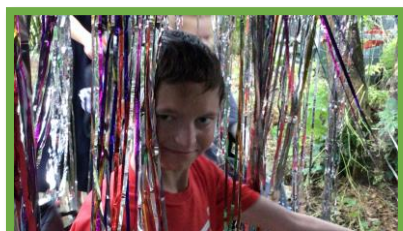
With my very best wishes to you all, Swavek Nowakiewicz, Headteacher



Massive thank you and congratulations to all the pupils and sponsors for the efforts during the Movathon back in May. We raised a massive £623 for FoFSA and PE Equipment!



On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June we had our sports day and Glitter Run. It was so much fun exercising and being energetic. Please see below some pictures from the day!





## Safeguarding children and young people through the school holidays

### What is safeguarding?

Ensures that every child, regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation, has a right to equal protection from harm. Safeguarding is the steps that people take to protect children and vulnerable people from harm.

**Examples** of safeguarding concerns to look out for:

#### Physical

A group of children start pushing or hitting a smaller child when an adult is not looking

#### Emotional

You see a crying child run towards their parent who responds in a harsh manner using inappropriate language

#### Sexual

A teenage girl walking home is catcalled and harassed, or being touched without consent

#### Neglect

You see a child wearing the same dirty clothes every day and who steals food from other children

If you have any queries, questions, comments  
or just want a brew and a chat ☺ please contact

Chloe Baker

Safeguarding & Attendance Officer

Tel: 01935 476227

Mob: 07557 671013

Email: [cbaker@fiveways.sch](mailto:cbaker@fiveways.sch)

Working days: Tues, Wed, Thurs. Term time only.



## **Safeguarding arrangements during holidays**

If you have a safeguarding concern and would like to raise it during the holidays, please send an email to [DSL@fiveways.school](mailto:DSL@fiveways.school). The Designated Safeguarding Lead or one of the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads will be monitoring emails over the holiday period.

If a child is at immediate risk, please call 999. For any other support which you may need during the holiday period please contact Somerset Direct 0300 123 2224.





## Careers Week

Back in May, in the last week of term we held a careers week which saw many different companies coming in to do a presentation and offer careers focused activities. We also had a careers fair which the pupils could have a walk around. Please see some pictures below.



## Dates 2023

**Friday 21st July** - End of Term

**24th July—1st September** -Summer Holidays

**Monday 4th September** - Inset Day

**Tuesday 5th September** -Inset Day

**Wednesday 6th September** - Inset Day

**Thursday 7th September** - Return to School



Our festival day on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July was an amazing and joyous day enjoyed by all (despite the rain)! We had the Drumming Bus, Folk Singer (Kitty), Circus Skills MOVE and Concert Corner. It was all finished off with a genuine and fabulous band performance by "Stepping Out" including one of our very own talented members of the cleaning team.



**Ready, Set, Read!**

I joined the Summer Reading Challenge today, a free reading challenge taking place in libraries.

I borrowed some books to start my Challenge. When I've read them, I need to take them back to the library and take out some more to continue.

[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place in libraries and online in the summer holidays. It's FREE, FUN and LOCAL! Read books and collect rewards along the way. Everyone can join in! Ask at your local library.

YOUTH SPORT TRUST | INSPIRING ACTIVE READERS | THE READING AGENCY | SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

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Summer Reading Challenge 2023

**Ready, Set, Read!**

Presented by The Reading Agency. Delivered in partnership with libraries.

TAKE PART IN THIS YEARS SUMMER READING CHALLENGE BY JOINING ONLINE TODAY VISIT:

<https://bit.ly/SRCRegister2023>

Or scan this QR code with your phone

The above reading scheme runs through the holidays, the children need to share/read/listen (talking books) to 6 in total to get a certificate and a medal.



## Resources available on the Fiveways Website



Please see the list of training and advice available via the Parents / Carers advice and training section of our website

- Emotion Coaching - understanding emotions and supporting emotional regulation
- Behavioural Assessment - understanding the reasons behind challenging behaviours and how to accurately analyse these
- Sleep strategies - OT guide to supporting bedtime routines
- Wellbeing - Link to the Somerset wellbeing framework
- Five steps to Wellbeing - 5 supportive steps to aid your wellbeing
- Time in Reflection - Understanding the benefits of dedicating time to aiding connection
- Calming strategies - OT guide to supportive sensory strategies
- Oral Hygiene - NHS guide to brushing teeth
- Oral defensive tooth brushing - OT guide to supportive tooth brushing
- Tactile defensive Hair washing - OT guide to supportive hair washing
- Meal times - OT guide to supportive food exposure

Dr Rob Kirkwood has recorded a Sensory Integration training session for parents, which we will make available to you virtually through our school website.





Congratulations to those of our 6<sup>th</sup> formers who successfully completed all their volunteering, physical, skills modules plus the expedition to achieve the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. We are incredibly proud of them.

The school also received an award for supporting the volunteering aspect of Duke of Edinburgh.





# Class News

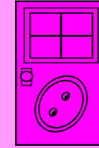
## GEMS



This term we have continued with the theme 'Into the town' and reading the book 'The wheels on the bus'. We didn't manage to get into town on the bus due to various things preventing us but we did get to sit on the bus and explore it. Even having a go at blowing the horn, which was great fun! And also had a good sing a long of Wheels on the Bus whilst on it.



## Buttons



Buttons have been working really hard this term, sharing and taking turns with our friends during sessions as well as working on our own skills. We were learning to race and throw in preparation for sports day (which everyone enjoyed). As well as working towards sports day we have also been working on our movement e.g., going horse riding and enjoying rebound.

We really focused on our core skills as well as having lots of laughs in the process. In cooking this term, we have experienced several recipes including making BBQ skewers, pasta salads and potato salads. In maths we have been working on our prepositional language and numbers whilst building towers. In literacy we have been exploring what different high street shops might sell.

Have a lovely summer, Buttons.





# Class News



Acorns class have had such a fun summer term! We have been learning about places in the town, such as the shops and the post office. We have enjoyed careers week, lots of hot weather, sports day, Fiveways festival and lots of exciting activities to celebrate the end of the school year!

We made lots of lovely things to sell at the Summer Fayre. We did so well, we made £70! At the end of the year, we practiced going to our new classes with the new staff. We all had so much fun making new friends and we are very excited to be joining our new classes next year!

Thank you so much to all the wonderful pupils in Acorns class 22-23, this has been the most amazing year, the staff have loved it so much and we hope you all have the best summer holiday! See you soon!



In PE this half term Shells Class have been practicing their athletics. We have been racing against our friends doing running and relay races. Jumping and stepping over hurdles in races and practicing our throwing skills with foam javelins.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June was sports day. We joined in different activities around school which involved running, jumping and throwing. We all loved doing the Glitter run through the Woodland Walk. It was a lovely sun day and we all had lots of fun.

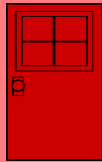






# Class News

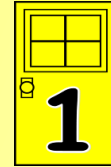
## Feathers



This half term in Feathers, we have been busy exploring outside; preparing for the Summer Fayre; playing in the paddling pool (with the occasional water fight). To finish of the term, we have had a wonderful day playing with lots of sensory materials and experiences as well as exploring ingredients for some meals.



## Class 1



Class 1 went to Weymouth on the train, the lady gave us fidget spinners, and she gave us a bag label.

We went on the beach.

We went in the water, It was cold and freezing

We had chips, after that we went to get ice cream!

We went back on the train.

We had a great day, it was so fun at Weymouth.

By Charlie and Ben





# Class News



Class 2 have been keeping cool in lots of different ways. Swimming, paddling pool, foot spa's, fans, and lots of drinks. We kept in the shade with fun activities like bubbles and water play. Class 2 are COOL!



Swimming and foot spa's



# Class News



Making sure  
we drank  
lots and lots



Keeping cool in the shade with  
fans, water and bubbles. We've  
been busy in the heat-wave!  
Happy Holiday Everyone,  
Love from Class 2







# Class News

## Class 3



Class 3 had the BEST day on their trip to Weymouth. They took the train from Pen Mill train station, had some chips on the sea front and even got a delicious ice cream.



## Class 4



Class 4 have had a busy half term. They all enjoyed taking part in Festival Friday, the weather didn't put the pupils off at all.

There was lots to see and do during careers day (week!) The pupils really got into the spirit and joined in with all the different activities.

During the hot weather the children loved all the different types of water play, lots of splashing and smiles throughout.





# Class News

## Class 5



We have been making an animation of our class story of the Great Kapok Tree. Every student contributed to the animation. We had every student taking the photos using switches and voice overs.

We've also had a great time raising money for our enterprise and we will be spending our money on a treat to McDonalds.



## 6th Form



Our 6<sup>th</sup> form have had a fabulous final term of 2023, including AQA unit awards, Duke of Edinburgh expedition walks and the final D of E Awards, and culminating in a celebration during our open evening. It was so well attended by learners, parents, and staff (past and present!). We are so proud of their achievements.

We say farewell to Yosef, Jack and Hayden and wish them the very best in their futures.







## Message from FOFSA

Dear All

Well, what a year!! We have smashed our target of £4,000 so the communication boards are on order. We did so well we have also been able to give a little extra to purchase some smaller portable boards for the children to use.

Here's a little summary of how this year has been...

To start the trick or treat trail around the woodland walk where the children visited the spooky cabin to collect their bags of sweets.

Our first fireworks evening since the new playground has been built was a very wet and windy evening but with a quick change of plan, all that came along enjoyed the activities and firework display. It was lovely to see the virtual fireworks but without all the noise!

Our first Christmas fete where the classes all created crafts to sell with the monies raised going back to them. FOFSA had their own stalls as well as a few independent. A great success and although a little tight for space a really good and fun event enjoyed by all.

Christmas bingo we made a record-breaking amount for the event so a great success! We did slightly over run (we'll blame Swavek's calling for that) and the raffle was rather big, a few technical issues but we were trailing our software for the first time to save dragging out the old and dusty bingo machine.

The Fiveways staff boozy quiz proved popular and an idea we might take forward to next year opening it up to all...well maybe not the children!

The Gruffalo evening a small group joined us for a walk through the woods looking out for the Gruffalo and the other characters from the story with some messy Gruffalo themed play by the cabin. This was followed by activities and getting comfy on the beanbags in the rainbow hall to listen to the story. One thing we did learn from this event is that badgers LOVE spaghetti and ice-cream which helped with the cleaning up.

Easter Bingo with an earlier start proved popular. We had such an impressive turnout we had to squeeze everybody in. We still had an issue with the cheeky number 90 but we can only do our best. Again, another good fun raising event.

Family fun day, this was the opportunity to have some fun and to see the new playground. It was really nice event a chance for parents to relax, speak with others, enjoy a picnic and allow the children to just bounce, run, scoot and even get wet!!!

The first summer fete since the pandemic and the new build so a learning curve for us all. It was a huge effort by all to get it ready in time and this was really well supported by you all. The classes were invited to have their own stalls just like the Christmas fete. Well done Feathers £45, CLASS 1 £37.90 AND CLASS 3 £24.10. Another successful event which pushed us over our fundraising target.

Wow, and finally the Celebration of You event, this is the one that gave us the most sleepless nights but what an amazing time. Fun, laughter, dancing, and chance to celebrate just how amazing your children are. An opportunity to have some beautiful photos taking with you all looking so smart. We really hope you were able enjoy yourselves.

So that's it, the year is over and FOFSA could not have done it without the support from the parents, carers, staff, family and friends of Fiveways, so thank you all for your help we really do appreciate it.

As many of you know FOFSA do all this voluntarily, many whilst working, caring for our own children or with other responsible so please bear with us. We may not always get everything perfect, but our main aim is to do our best firstly raise funds for the children, but also to provide you with experiences to create precious memories in a safe environment surrounded by others that understand.

Thank you for your continuing support. We hope next year to improve on the usual annual events whilst adding in some new and exciting ideas. If you want to join in email us on [friendsoffivewaysschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoffivewaysschool@gmail.com)

