



Autumn Term

30.9.22

newsletter

Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements!

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Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another wonderful week has passed and I am yet again so proud of all in the Community.

If you have a moment, do check out our new school website. It is not finished; a work in progress. But, feel free to email me and let me know what you think at head@thakehamps.co.uk. The idea is the website will become so informative it will take the place of a prospectus.

FOTS met recently and have a new Chair and Secretary. I am sure they will introduce themselves shortly. Please get involved. There's a couple of really exciting ideas in the pipeline.

Please have a look at the request about the Parent Council below. I am ever so keen to hear about your hopes and wishes for the school - over a cuppa.

Best wishes for the weekend. Take care,

Will McDonald

Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements!

Who Are We Celebrating This Week?

Positive,
Persevering Perry



Co-operative
Caring Chloe



Headteacher
Award



Reflective,
Reviewing Rowan



Curious,
Questioning Cleo



Ruben (Acorn)
Joshua (Oak)
Freddie (Maple)

Mathilda (Acorn)
Dexter (Maple)

Jacob (Oak)
Ayla (Elder)
Lily (Elder)

Attendance Figures

Thank you for your support in helping our pupils to see the value in each and every day at school. We track attendance because only a little missed can have a huge long-term impact on a child's progress. **Our target is 97%**. Current attendance percentages for the new academic year to date are:

Acorn Class: **100%**
Oak Class: **95%**
Maple Class: **98%**
Elder Class: **98%**

Our School Values

Care – Cooperation – Honesty – Responsibility – Perseverance – Curiosity - Reflection

These are the values that drive our school.

They feed into how we learn, how we act with one another, how we teach, how we handle our pastoral elements; so much of what we do! So, it is important we remember them. Our Super Learning Heroes relate directly to these and are how we make our values child friendly.

Values of the Term

In our assemblies over the past month, we have begun looking again at the Fundamental British Values. These are the key values that define us as a British society. The children find learning about them fascinating. We are looking at each one in turn and how we display them in school:

British Values

Individual Liberty

- Freedom of speech for all
- The right to make our own choices

The Rule of Law

- Understanding rules and why they are important
- Following rules to develop order

Mutual Respect

- Treating others as you want to be treated
- Respect for each other
- Working together



Tolerance

- Learning about different faiths and cultures
- Listen to other viewpoints
- Learning about diversity

Democracy

- Making decisions together
- The right to an opinion/voice

Learning in Class

Here is a taste of what each class has been up to over the past two weeks.

Acorns

In Acorns, we have been busy with a new topic, 'Marvellous Me!' We have also spent a lot of time in our outdoor area, particularly in the mud kitchen and playing with water! The children are really enjoying their story times and love joining in!

Oak

Our Key Quality Text in Oak class at the moment is 'Shark in the Park' by Nick Sharratt. We have completed some wonderful writing about it. The children have also begun taking part in regular sensory breaks through the school day, for example we take five minutes to practice deep breathing as this helps us be calm and peaceful. Mental Health and Wellbeing is really important!

Maple

Maple class have been working so very hard – as always! One of the things that has really impressed us as teachers is how much progress the children are making with their maths. Mr McDonald came to see one of our maths lessons and said he was really impressed with how everyone took part and got involved.

Elder

Elder have been working hard in all areas but also been making sure to have a bit of fun too! We have been doing singing lessons with Mrs Hopkins, French with Mrs Bowbrick and have been continuing our wonderful topic about space.



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Job Advert for a Premises Manager

The wonderful Mr Meacher is leaving us at the end of this term. If you are interested in the role or know of someone, please visit West Sussex's website or email the Headteacher to get the link to the advert at head@thakehamps.co.uk.

Part-time Permanent Premises Manager – Thakeham Primary School

Address: Rock Road, Storrington RH20 3AA

Website: www.thakehamps.co.uk

Email: head@thakehamps.co.uk

Tel no: 01903 740176



Contract: Permanent Part-time: 7:30-10:00am Monday to Friday (12.5 hours per week); some flexibility possible with timings/hours. **Term time only** but with some flexibility for overtime to undertake some holiday maintenance work and to accommodate lettings by mutual agreement.

Post accountable to: Headteacher/School Business Manager

Grade 4 - 5: £19,650 (point 5) to £20,852 (point 8) **pro rata** £10.19 per hour to £10.81 per hour (depending on experience)

Required from: Wednesday 19th October 2022

Our friendly, popular and successful school with strong community links is seeking a reliable, trustworthy, skilled and hard-working Premises Manager. We are proud of our lovely school and everyone's contributions are valued as part of this. We are fortunate to benefit from a modern, newly re-furbished site (September 2017), which is well maintained.

Thakeham is a small school with 4 classes and currently 101 pupils on roll, sited on a larger site shared with Steyning Grammar School (though as separate schools). We are a strong, caring community of staff, governors, pupils and parents who work closely together, with the best interests of the children at the heart of everything we do.

The role involves opening up our school each day and undertaking a range of duties to ensure the school meets health and safety legislation and is a safe, clean and welcoming environment for the school community. The successful candidate will have some knowledge of building maintenance, basic gardening skills and a willingness to undertake training, as well as demonstrate a professional, friendly and helpful approach. We are hoping to recruit an individual who enjoys contributing to a team whilst able to work with minimum supervision.

The successful candidate must:

- be trustworthy and reliable;
- have a pro-active, enthusiastic 'can do' approach;
- be willing to go that 'extra mile' and take pride in what they do.
- have effective interpersonal skills and be a team player, inspiring confidence in their abilities
- have a proven track record of building maintenance, being confident and experienced/skilled in this;
- have a good understanding of health and safety or at least a willingness to train to ensure the school continues to meet statutory obligations;
- be able to undertake small aspects of garden maintenance

We can offer:

- fantastic premises, which are easily maintained
- a strong, supportive school community of governors, staff and parents
- ongoing training and professional development opportunities
- a forward looking positive approach
- the opportunity to work together as a team to further shape our school

Dates for Your Diary

- **3rd October:** Year 6 open event at SGS's Rock Road site
- **5th October:** Individual school photos
- **17th October:** Harvest Festival
- **18th October:** Elder class trip to South Downs Planetarium (details to follow)
- **18th October:** Parent Evening 5pm to 7:30pm (sign up info to follow)
- **20th October:** Parent Evening 3:30pm to 6pm (sign up info to follow)
- **Week of the 24th October:** HALF TERM
- **31st October:** return to school
- **Week of the 14th November:** Anti-bullying Week
- **23rd November:** Flu shots clinic in the excess hall (consent form and info to follow)
- **8th December:** Acorns Class Nativity Performance to parents (info to follow)
- **9th December:** Christmas Fayre
- **14th December:** Joint Oak, Maple and Elder Nativity Performance 9:30am (for parents to attend)
- **1th December:** Joint Oak, Maple and Elder Nativity Performance 1:30pm (for parents to attend)
- **16th December:** end of term

Parent Council

Your school needs you!

As mentioned in the newsletter last term, we are looking to set up two parent groups:

[1] A parent council – a forum where parents can contribute ideas towards the running of the school

And

[2] A Wellbeing Action Group – a forum where parents can support the teachers and governors with initiatives to support our childrens' mental health and wellbeing.

The Parent Council will be with Mr McDonald and Mrs Hopkins and will meet four to five times a year. The Wellbeing Group will be with Mrs Hopkins and Karen Bridle and will meet a similar amount of times.

Please put your name forward! We don't bite 😊

This is your chance to make a real difference. We have three parents who have already said they would take part.

As Headteacher, I truly believe a school should be the centre of the Community. I am keen to ensure we work together. We are looking to get the first meetings organised for before December.

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Time to Shine!

Please see below for some exciting news from our community. We are so proud of everything our pupils do and want to share!



This week Charlie, Marcus, Rudee and Daniel, who are all year 5 children at our school, competed in a maths competition at Christs Hospital School. All four went through the rounds of Broken Calculator, a Dominoes puzzle and a Tangram puzzle. Overall, Marcus and Daniel came 17th and Charlie and Rudee came 27th - this was out of 80 teams! They all did really well. As a special treat at the end, these boys had a treat of doughnuts, sausage, beans and mash potato and they also got to watch the school band play while the students marched to lunch.

By Evelyn and Chloe (Thakeham Reporters)

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**JOIN US FOR
CENSUS DAY!
6TH OCTOBER
2022**



Chartwells
So much more than fantastic food

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

For every child that eats a school lunch on census day, the school receives government funding, every child counts!

MENU

Cheese & Tomato Pizza,
Butternut Squash & Chickpea Curry with Rice

Rainbow Vegetables,
Salad

Chocolate Brownie



**Special diets will receive their signed off menu.*

Free school meals and Universal Free Meals do not need to take action.

Apply online at:
westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

Was your child born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019?

If so they are eligible to start school
in September 2023

Apply online!

It's simple, convenient and time-saving.
If your application is received after the deadline,
your chance of securing a place at one of your
preference schools could be seriously affected.

You can apply online from
Monday 3 October 2022.
If you would like further advice or
information, phone: **03330 142 903.**

Deadline: Sunday 15 January 2023

Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex libraries.

