

THE FED HEAD NEWS

October 2020

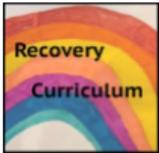


Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to first edition of the 'Fed Head News' for this school year, and what a unique year 2020 continues to be! It has been a challenging time for us all but I hope in reading this letter you will see there have been many positives for us at school.

An ACE return to school!

I must begin by sharing with you how ACE I think the children have been. They have returned to school with such positive attitudes and have adapted fantastically to all of the rules we have put in place to ensure our schools are happy, healthy and safe places for everyone. Health and happiness is one of key federation drivers and is more important now than ever in all that we are having to face and deal with.



The recovery curriculum which we offered over the first 4 weeks of the term was such a key part of supporting the children in their return and boy, did they make the most of it! Huge thanks go to the teachers and staff working in every bubble for creating an inspiring and engaging start to the term. The children imagined, discussed and created whilst also working hard on their basic skills in reading, phonics, writing and maths. They spent lots of time outdoors and built strong relationships within their class bubbles. Most of all, they had fun with their learning. How lovely following a time which was very different and isolating for many people to see everyone being able to live, learn and laugh altogether once again!

Since our recovery curriculum ended, classes have continued to work hard on their reading, phonics, writing and maths and have moved on to their topics which have either a geography or history focus. Learning in all subjects is linked as much as possible to their topics to enable the children to make links in their learning.

Whilst we have all been working in our own class bubbles we have still been able to achieve a sense of community through sharing wonderful and inspiring texts as a whole school during our recovery curriculum and celebrating together at the end of each and every week with our virtual whole school celebration assemblies!

I would like to say a special well done to our new reception pupils at both schools who have made a fantastic start and settled in brilliantly.

Thank you

I would like to thank you all for your support with our covid safe procedures and for your flexibility with the many changes, especially the start and end times of the school day and the different collection and

Our ACE Particles...

For those new to our school (or anyone who would like a reminder!) these are the values we teach in order for our pupils to be successful learners. We also celebrate them with our weekly ACE Awards. They also form a key part our behaviour policy. The full policy is available for you on our website. You can also read our 'Vision and Values' page for more information about ACE!



Positive attitude
Achievement
Responsibility & Respect
Try and try again - persevere
Independent Learner
Creativity
Live, learn and laugh
Everyone working together
Sharing & caring



Please help us by following these rules at drop-off and collection times:

- ☺ Be as punctual as possible
- ☺ Be calm and encouraging
- ☺ Only one parent/carer to accompany your child to school
- ☺ Only use your allocated drop off and collection point
- ☺ Maintain social distancing
- ☺ Say goodbye and leave as promptly as possible
- ☺ Keep younger siblings with you at all times – don't let them run around
- ☺ Don't wait to speak to your child's teacher – ring or email if you need to discuss anything

drop-off points. With the situation as it currently is, these arrangements will need to remain in place next half term. Your continued help and support with this will be greatly needed and appreciated. See the green box for a reminder of our collection and drop-off rules.

Whilst next half term, we will be able to offer some after-school club opportunities for pupils at both schools, I would like to confirm that there will still be no breakfast club at Bramford and no morning hubs at either school as it is imperative that bubbles continue to remain as separate as possible.

Online Safety

There is a highly recommended online safety course for parents; it is free to access and is hosted by Myleene Klass, who has been an advocate for internet safety since 2003. The video will guide you through some of the latest apps and the measures you can take to help your children to use them safely. Sign up at: <https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/free-parents-course>

What 'Remote Learning' can I expect from Bramford and Somersham Schools?

After half term we will be publishing on our website our new remote learning policy and information for parents and carers about our offer for remote learning in the event that your child has to isolate, a class bubble has to isolate or we have another whole school lockdown due to Covid-19. In preparation, we have asked all families who are able to, to ensure they have logged into Tapestry or have activated their child's Google Classroom account. If you haven't done so, please ensure this is done as soon as possible and before we return after the half term break. If your child's account is not ready to go it will cause a delay in them accessing remote learning should they need to.



Google Classroom



School Uniform

Thank you to parents and carers for ensuring the children have come to school dressed in the correct school uniform. We have updated our uniform policy and this is available to view on our website. The two changes we ask that parents and carers note for after half term are:

-  Long hair is always tied back
-  Earrings are removed or taped for PE but also when involved in other sports, such as if your child wishes to play football at lunchtimes



Both of these are to ensure the safety of your child(ren). Please refer to the policy for full details.

Clothing

After half term, we will need to continue to run our PE lessons and clubs outside as much as possible. Classrooms will continue to need to be well-ventilated in-line with Covid-19 guidance. We will also want to give the children the chance to get fresh air at lunchtimes, even on wet days! Therefore please ensure your child has appropriate clothing. Layers are great as your child can adjust as they need. A waterproof coat with a hood and a pair of outdoor shoes or wellies are also essential.



Parents' Evenings

We are continuing to look into software options so we are able to offer all parents and carers a virtual parents evening. We will provide further information about this after the half term with a view to holding parents' evenings next half term.

Bramford Build

We are pleased to announce that the new building at Bramford is completed! It is our aim to begin using it after half term with a view to the first class to move in being our current Year 2 children. We are hoping that something will be featured in the local press at some point after the half term.



Attendance

The DfE published figures showing average national attendance figures of 89-90% for the past three weeks. Despite all that is happening in the wider world, I am pleased to say that the school's current attendance rates are:

Bramford 92.3%

Somersham: 94.8%

Well done to all! Obviously this is a difficult time and we appreciate all that you are all doing as a community to work with us for the good to your wonderful children.

Please be reminded that Monday 2nd November is a PD Day...the term starts again for your child(ren) on Tuesday 3rd November



*I wish you all a very happy, safe
and healthy half term.
Best wishes,
Mrs E Burgess,
Executive Headteacher*