 ***APRIL NEWSLETTER*** 

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter holidays and some of the sunshine we had. The children have returned refreshed and ready for learning as we embark on this busy summer term.

We have lots of exciting learning opportunities and events coming up, including Class 1’s water theme, starting with a trip to the Deep, and Key Stage 2 children’s trip to Lincoln University which is linked to their theme ‘On the Catwalk – Fashion through the decades.’ In addition to this, linked to our RE theme, we will be welcoming Sunita Patel into school who is going to hold a selection of Hindu workshops with us, including Diwali story-telling, Rangoli art for class 1, Hindu dressing up and Bollywood dancing for Key Stage 2, and as a special pre SATs treat, Y5/6 children will be completing an Indian cooking workshop. We would like to thank the FOWS for paying for this event.

I’d like to thank all the parents who attended our sharing of learning events last term and left helpful feedback. You had lots of positive comments regarding the learning environment and opportunities for your children. There were some parents who said that they missed coming into school each morning. We have had to implement this system due to rigorous government safeguarding requirements put in place to protect your children. However, I do understand that you would like more opportunities to share in your child’s learning journey. For that reason, this term we will launch ‘Family Friday’ – an opportunity to arrive at school at 2:50pm on a Friday so that you can come into the classroom to either read with your child and/or time for children to show you their books. ‘Family Friday’ will commence from Friday 28th April. We ask that parents/carers come in through the main door at 2:45pm and leave with their child at 3:10pm so that class teachers have time to prepare the rest of the class for home time. You are welcome to attend ‘Family Friday’ as little or as often as you like, rest assured, if you can’t make it your child will have other activities available to them. If you have more than one child in school, I would suggest going to different classes on alternative weeks rather than trying to split the time, so that each child can get your full attention for an appropriate amount of time.

Other safeguarding measures the school is required to put in place to ensure your child’s safety are emergency lockdown procedures in case of incidents such as: sudden extreme weather conditions, dangerous animals, or intruders on site. I have spoken to all children about these procedures in a sensitive manner and we have practised what we would do if these unlikely circumstances should occur. However, if your child is worried in any way, I would be grateful if you could reinforce the message that these events are unlikely and that the procedures are put in place to make them feel safe; not scared!

We’re also happy to announce our new partnership with Jackie Storr and her child-minding business. As Willoughton doesn’t have a pre-school, we’ve linked up with Jackie who works with lots of children who will be coming up into our reception in the future. This new partnership will see the children visiting our school once per month to use the facilities and become familiar with the surroundings. Miss Ferrier will also be visiting Jackie’s new log cabin facility to ensure a smooth transition for little new comers into our school!

If you have any questions or queries regarding anything in this letter or anything else at school, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanking you once again for your continued support.

Mrs J Lees

Head teacher