



Fairstead Life

04/09/15

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to school and I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday with your children. Many thanks for making me so welcome. Many of you know that I taught here between 1997 and 2003 and it is a pleasure and a privilege to return as Head. I am very much enjoying getting to know your children and learning their names as quickly as possible!

Reception and Nursery children were delighted to find a wonderful new playground awaiting them and they are enjoying exploring the new equipment.



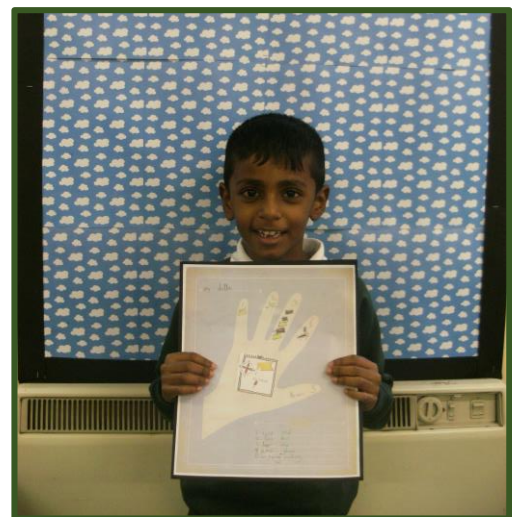
Nursery children have all settled in well and Nursery is now open five days a week and Nursery children are also very welcome to Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club.



Year 1 have had an exciting start to their topic and have enjoyed looking at and handling a range of Victorian washday artefacts. They particularly enjoyed climbing into the tin bath!



In their first Thinking Skills lesson, Year 2 have been thinking about all the things they are good at doing with their hands and they have created hand maps demonstrating their positive attitude to learning. Here, Abiram proudly displays his 'hand map'.



Year 3

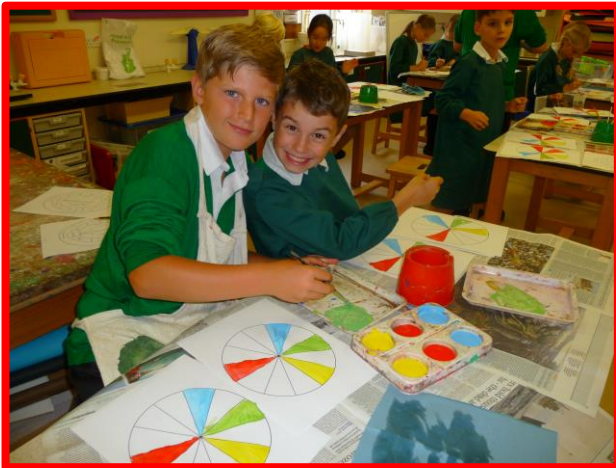
As ever, the big excitement is having a classroom upstairs! The children have quickly got used to their new routine.



In Geography, Year 4 have been exploring and recording their local habitat.



Year 5 have enjoyed exploring the colour wheel and have created secondary and tertiary colours which they used with delightful effect.



Years 5 and 6 have been introduced to the Fairstead House Award scheme, an exciting scheme giving the children a wide variety of challenges to complete at home and in school covering a wide range of topics with the aim to enhance worldliness and citizenship. Awards will be presented at the end of the year based on effort, completion, understanding and presentation. As part of their study of their own locality, Years 5 and 6 will be exploring Newmarket one afternoon next week.



Congratulations!

Many congratulations to Samantha Moore for gaining her Grade 1 piano with merit and to Phoebe Mallen for gaining her Grade 1 Clarinet with distinction. Well done, both!



Congratulations also to Emma Louise Barrett on her singing Prep test and to Alexander Hazell, Adele Shaw and Georgina Duffety for their piano Prep test.

If you are interested in your child learning a musical instrument, please contact the school office for details.

Inevitably, the start of a new academic year necessitates some reminders.

Car Park

We are lucky having a large car park; however, for it to work, we all need to use it considerately. If you choose to park in the central area, please pull as far forward as possible within the marked area. This area is short stay only. I will be on duty outside to let children out of cars using the 'through lane'. Please note that the middle gates are for exit only. Finally, please ensure that the horse walk is never blocked and great care is taken when crossing it. Thank you.

Uniform

Girls

Girls are very welcome to wear their summer dresses as long as the weather allows. Please note that summer dresses should be worn with white socks whilst the tartan pinafores and skirts should be worn with green or red tights (or long socks, if preferred)

Hair – hair must be tied back and off the face with red, green or hair coloured accessories.

Earrings – earrings are not appropriate for school and should not be worn.

Boys' hair – please ensure that boys hair is above their collar.

Hopefully, they will not be needed for a while; however, when the weather is colder, hats, scarves and gloves must be the school regulation ones, available from the uniform supplier.

Clubs

All clubs start next week. Please ensure that all forms are returned by Monday morning, thank you.

Swimming

Swimming for Years 1 and 2 starts on Thursday 10th September.

Meet the Teachers Evening – Years 1-6 Tuesday, 7.00pm

Wine and nibbles will be served in the PA from 6.45 pm. You will then be invited to take your glass to your child's classroom where their teacher will go through the expectations and routines of the new year, including your child's timetable. Parents of children in Years 3 and 4 will, in addition, find out more about the forthcoming residential trip to Burwell House and have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have. I look forward to seeing you.

Changes to advertised dates

U9 High 5 Netball and Football v Moreton Hall

This, our first fixture, has been moved to
Wednesday, 9th September, 2.00 pm
(Home)

Finally, my very best wishes for a lovely
weekend with your children.

Best wishes



Lynda Brecken