



# Featherstone Academy's Newsletter - Week Ending 03/02/2023

## A Message from the Headteacher

Having so many opportunities so far this term for parents to come in and be part of school life has been a delight, these opportunities will keep on coming! Staffing is beginning to improve but there is still impact in Y3 and Reception where we have seconded experienced Assistant Headteachers from a partner school to lead the classes to provide a high calibre of education and also consistency. Please feel free to talk to them and ask questions as you would their regular class teacher. Thank you all for taking the time to read the newsletter, with this being our only communication, it would be easy to bombard you, we will try our best not to overwhelm.

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## School Improvement Forum

On Monday 13th February at 5:00pm, Mr Gatrad will be hosting a School Improvement Forum. This is an opportunity for parents to come together and hear things that have been happening in school behind the scenes, ask any questions, offer suggestions and share any concerns. We won't be able to talk about individualised issues concerning your own children during this forum. Tea, coffee and cake will be available as well as a childcare service. The childcare service can only be for children of Reception and

above unfortunately but we are more happy for littler ones to join us and remain with their parents - we will have ipads available to keep them entertained if needed! I envisage no more than 45 minutes. I really hope you are able to join us. Please also keep an eye out for parents evening sign ups on the next newsletter.

## Key Dates

### Upcoming dates for your diary

7th February – Safer Internet Week - **Whole School**

8th February - **Year 2** Arctic Explorers Day (see below)

9th February - **Year 6** Books & Biscuits - 2:30pm

9th February – **SEND** coffee morning - 9am

10th February – Children's Mental Health Day - Dress to Impress- **Whole School**

## Children's Mental Health Week- Dress to Impress

### Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place from 6th to 12th February 2023 and is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on and raise awareness for children and young people's mental health. The theme this year is "Let's Connect" which encourages an inclusive approach to making meaningful connections for all. During Children's Mental Health Week, pupils will take part in a range of activities with their class teacher to explore the "Let's Connect" theme further.

Place2Be believe every child should have easy access to mental health support whenever they need it. They create safe spaces in schools where students can open up without pressure, arming them with emotional skills to help deal with everything life throws at them. As a charity, Place2Be rely heavily on the generosity and support of the community to continue their essential work.

### Dress to Express

We're delighted to be hosting a Dress to Express Day during Children's Mental Health Week and raising much-needed funds for Place2Be. On **Friday 10th February**, as a school community, we will be encouraging all students and staff to use clothing and colour to express themselves. We also kindly ask that all children who take part to make a donation.

Your child/children's Dress to Express outfit can be as simple or elaborate as they like! Dress To Express is an opportunity for self-expression and celebrating a diverse range of emotions. The day also provides a great opportunity to be open about mental health and start conversations within our school community.

Thank you for your support with this ever so important calendar event.



## School Uniform

We have an ongoing problem with children misplacing their school jumpers or cardigans in school. Can parents please clearly label their child's uniform to make it easier for items to be found. On Tuesday 7th February we will be checking children's jumpers and cardigans if we find labels do not have a clear name or label we will be using a permanent pen to write the child's initials. If you would object to us doing this please contact the office to let them know. We appreciate the cost of these items to parents and we hope that we can work together to prevent this problem.

## Parent Volunteers

We are lucky to now have several volunteers who support children across the school with their reading, learning tasks and have even been on recent trips. On the days volunteers are in school, they also get to sit and have a free school lunch with their child.

There is so much you can do in just an hour or two. If you have spare time and would like to become a volunteer, please contact the school office for further information, or to begin the process.



## Year 2- Artic Explorer Day

A reminder to Year 2 parents:-

On Wednesday 8th February, Year 2 will be taking part in an 'Arctic Explorers Inspiration Day'. On this day, children are invited to come into school in their own clothes, dressed up in any explorer themed clothing.

The children will be taking part in various explorer themed activities throughout the day. We will be inviting parents in during the afternoon to work with their children. More information on this will follow.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Miss Tkaczuk.

**We are inviting parents into school from 2.15pm - 3.15pm to join in with some 'arctic' themed activities with their children. Please can all parents enter school via the school office. We look forward to seeing you.**



## Books & Biscuits

Upcoming Books and Biscuits dates:-

9th February-**Year 6** 2:30pm

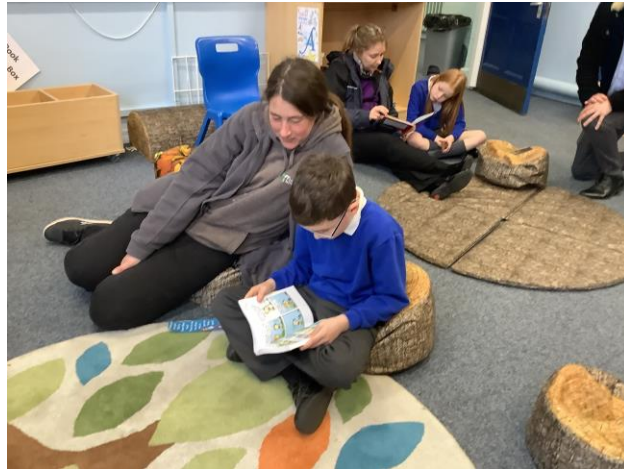
The 'Books and Biscuits' sessions went really well again this week. Thank you to Year 4 and 5 parents, carers and grandparents for attending, it has been lovely to see so many visitors in school. We hope you and your children enjoyed this special time together in school. Next week will be the turn of Year 6 we look forward to seeing you.



















## Term Dates 2023-2024

### Featherstone Academy

#### Term Dates 2023/2024

##### Autumn Term 2023

**Inset Days: Monday 4 September**

**Tuesday 5 September**

**Term starts:** Wednesday 6 September 2023

**Holiday:** Monday 30 October – Friday 3 November 2023

**Term ends:** Friday 22 December 2023

**Holiday:** Monday 25 December 2023 – Friday 5 January 2024

##### Spring Term 2024

**Inset Day: Monday 8 January 2024**

**Term starts:** Tuesday 9 January 2024

**Term ends:** Friday 9 February 2024

**Holiday:** Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February 2024

**Term Starts:** Monday 19 February 2024

**Term ends:** Friday 22 March 2024

**Holiday:** Monday 25 March – Friday 5 April 2024

## Summer Term 2024

**Term starts:** Monday 8 April 2024

**May Day:** Monday 6 May 2024

**Term ends:** Friday 24 May 2024

**Holiday:** Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May 2024

**Term starts:** Monday 3 June 2024

**Term ends:** Friday 19 July 2024

**Inset Day:** Monday 22 July 2024

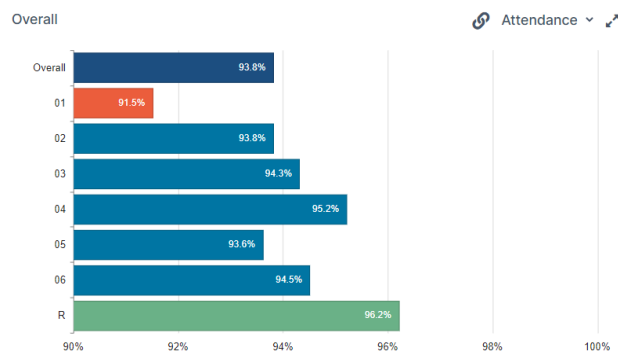
**Holiday:** Tuesday 23 July – Friday 30 August 2024

**Term starts:** Monday 2 September 2024

## ONE INSET DAY TO BE CONFIRMED

## ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance as at 3/2/2023 is 93.8%. Our whole school target is 96%.



## Winter Competition Winners

The moment has arrived we announce the winners of our Winter Competition

A big well done to:

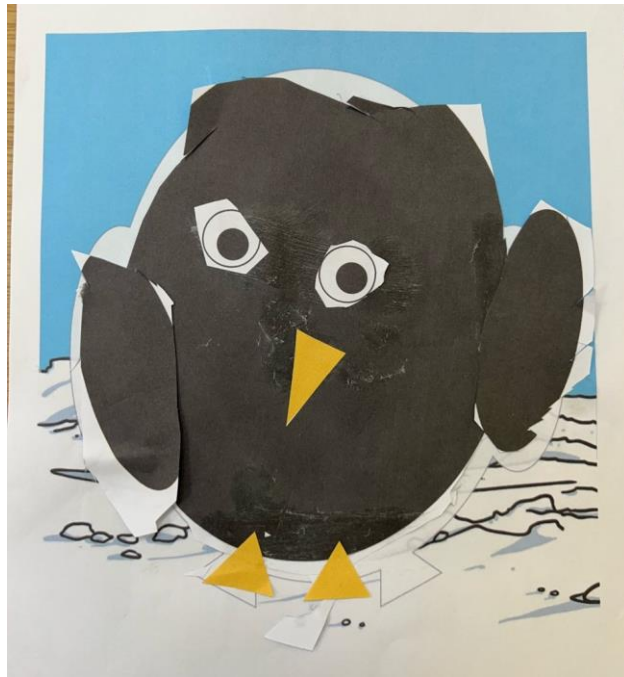
EYFS Winner- India Dickinson (Little Learners)

KS1 Winner- Eliza (Class 1) & William Brownbill (Class 5)

KS2 Winner- Jay-Jai Arthur (Class 5)



Thank you to everyone who entered, we have really enjoyed seeing all your creations, you all worked so hard.



*1 - India Dickinson*



*2 - Eliza and William Brownbill*



3 - Jay-Jai Arthur



Golden Book this week

A big well done to;

The Hive- **Locan Butler**

Little Learners- **Chase Davis**

Nursery- **Ella Mapp**

Reception- **River Jones**

Year 1 - **Ted Raybould**

Year 2- **Jack Northwood**

Year 3 - **Amelia Turner**

Year 4- **Phoebe North**

Year 5- **Niah Hanchard**

Year 6 - **Alanah- Drew Thompson**

Headteacher Mr Gatrad- **Rosie Smith**

Deputy Headteacher Mrs Steatham- **Max Evans, India Dickinson, Eliza Brownbill, William Brownbill and Jay-Jai Arthur**

## Contact Us

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## Facebook Page

We hope you are finding this weekly newsletter useful and informative. Please head over to our Facebook Page for additional reminders, updates and a showcase of the great learning going on every day.

[FEATHERSTONE ACADEMY FACEBOOK PAGE](#)