



# Forest Gate Community School

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Headteacher: **Simon Elliott**

10 March 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

## Key Dates for your Diary

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2015	All year groups return to school at normal time
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2015- Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 11 preliminary core exams begin
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2015	Year 8 immunisations
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 8 options evening ( 4.30-7pm)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	World Book Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March –Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 10 preliminary exams
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 8 immunisations
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	MFL trip Barcelona
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	All years Parents' Information Evening - Keeping your child safe online
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening and Preliminary Exam Results
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 8 immunisations
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March – Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015	Year 11 GCSE Art Exam
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2015	Fundraising Week – Easter 'Egg-stravaganza'
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2015	Last day of term. Early Finish.12.00 Non- Uniform Day

## Staffing News

Year 10 has a new Head of Learning and Student Manager, Mr Dixon and Mr Hanif.

Mr Francis will be the Student Manager working with Miss McGuigan and Year 8.

## Vaccinations

Cervical Cancer is caused by a virus called the Human Papillomavirus. Cervical Cancer can be very serious, after breast Cancer it is the most common woman's cancer in the world. Adolescent Girls who have the HPV vaccination will reduce their risk of getting cervical cancer by over 70%.

The HPV vaccine comes in two doses: the first was given in September 2014, 2<sup>nd</sup> dose is due and will be given the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 with catch up dates 17<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March. If you missed the first dose for whatever reason and would like your child to be vaccinated, fill in a consent form and return it to school. It is never too late to catch-up; the most important thing is to have both doses.

### **Attendance News**

In the majority of cases when children have a cold:

- They feel bad early in the morning and late at night. They can usually function throughout the school day.
- It is better to get fresh air. This stops the virus spreading as actively.
- They can relieve their symptoms by taking medicines such as paracetamol, which is available over the counter and by drinking lots of fluids.
- They are able to come to school and continue learning.

### **Did you know that most parents send their children to school if they have a cold?**

### **Absence**

If your child is off school on the last Friday before or the Monday following a school holiday, it will be assumed that you have taken the child on a term time holiday and a fine will be issued to you. No term time holidays will be allowed for any reason whatsoever. All children should be in school at all times. Thank you for your support.

If your child is unwell please call **each and every day** that they are absent. The telephone number is 020-8534-8666 extension: 1.

This procedure applies at all times, unless we are provided with a medical letter for a period of longer than one day due to hospitalisation.

### **School Lunches**

Lunch is an important part of the school day. It helps students concentrate and grow. It has come to our attention that some children are not having lunch each day. This is for a variety of reasons including not being entitled to free school meals, not getting up in time to make sandwiches and saving their money for unhealthy chicken and chips after school. The school offers a varied and nutritionally balanced offer each day in the school canteen. It is a parent's responsibility to make sure that their child is eating a lunch. We will be contacting parents with information about the lunch their child is taking in the canteen. If you have any concerns or would like advice on applying for free school meals, please contact the school.

### **Supervised Study Before and After School**

Morning Study: Monday – Friday 7:30-8:30 – Top breakout space

Afternoon Study: Monday – Thursday 3:30pm -5:30pm- Top breakout space

Students are expected to inform their parents ***in advance***, if they are staying back after school hours.

### **Uniform**

Thank you to all parents who are sending their child to school in the correct uniform. The majority of students are looking very professional.

Please remember that all outdoor wear, including coats, hats and scarves should be black.

Please note that all students should be in the new school uniform by September 2015.

## **Website**

Did you know all key information is on our website? It has had a bit of a make-over recently. Please make it your first port of call if you have any queries.

### **'Egg-stravaganza!'**

The week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> March there will be a variety of fundraising activities on the theme of 'eggs'! Look out for information on our website and social media for the events and please provide your child with a small amount of money so they can contribute. The last day of term (Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April) will be a non-uniform day for a £1 contribution.

All funds raised will go towards Richard House Hospice.

### **Parents' Information Evening- 'Keeping Children Safe Online'**

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 5:30pm the school will be hosting an information evening on '**Keeping Children Safe Online**'. In these worrying times it is important that parents and teachers know how to stay one step ahead to keep our children safe. This will be delivered by experts and will cover areas such as: what children are accessing online, dangers they might face and how to keep your child safe. We look forward to welcoming you.

### **National Science Week - 13<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> March**

The Science Department have organised experiments, a Science Fair and competitions to promote National Science Week. Your child will be involved. Please look at our website and twitter and facebook to see our young scientists in action.

## **Year 11**

### **Art Exam – Message from Mr MacGregor Head of Art**

Students have completed their coursework and are currently preparing for their final exam. Students have weekly homework tasks that they must be working on continuously throughout the week. These consist of in-depth artist research and the development and refinement of their own original artwork. The exam is worth 40% of their total mark and 30% of that is the work they are currently doing in preparation. The final 10% is the realisation of their own original artwork in the two day exam. Please encourage your child to use their time wisely and to do their homework at regular intervals over the week rather than trying to hastily attempt it the night before it is due. Application and dedication to creative independent learning at this stage really can have a significantly positive impact on their final grades.

### **Easter Revision**

We are offering the opportunity for Year 11 students to attend Easter Revision sessions. Please look out for the letter with more information sent out by Mr Deria.

### **Saturday Revision**

The school will be open on Saturday mornings for quiet independent Year 11 study. Please see the letter sent out by Mr Deria or see our website for more information.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Charlotte Whelan  
Deputy Headteacher