

#FountaindaleFamily News

Summer Term 2022-23

Return to school
Monday 4th
September 2023

It's been a busy and enjoyable year at Fountaindale this year. Just sat in the office with Chris, I cannot believe how much we have accomplished in such a short time. Our school feels a busy, vibrant school filled with laughter and learning at last! As with any school we have seen some staff changes this year some of whom have been with the school for a very long time in their careers – we continue to wish our leavers our very best for their future. Speaking of leavers, we have 8 very special students leaving us this year, mostly moving onto Portland. We really hope they embrace and enjoy their time at Portland as I know the staff there are very much ready to welcome our leavers.

There has been so many highlights this year, to write them all down in one newsletter each one meaningful to each of us in so many different ways. Our biggest pleasure is having been able to share them with you all.

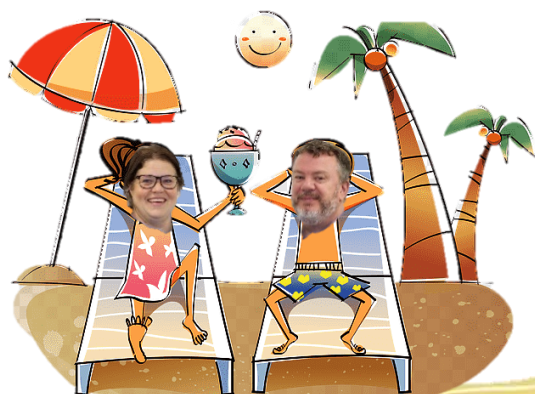
From the whole of #FountaindaleFamily could we wish you all a very happy summer break with your family and we will see you all in September.

Luci and Chris

PUT THIS
on YOUR
CALENDAR!

**Parents Coffee
Morning including
meet and greet the
class team. 19.9.2023
- 9.30 until 11.**

**Harvest Assembly
20.10.2023 – 2pm
until 3pm.**





We have spent a huge amount of time developing our new curriculum this year. As a result, we have a great curriculum that meets all our children's needs. You will remember the 'big ideas' day we hosted with Luci's 2 other schools- Abbey and Discovery. It was great for the children to have time exploring the big ideas and staff to ensure their big idea area was the best!

Our Pupil Parliament have been holding Luci and Chris to account this year...They have been involved with renaming the new classes away from Lower and Upper, buying more resources and organising the many house events we have had this year. They have also enjoyed working with the other schools Pupil Parliament's throughout the Nexus family.

Goodbyes...

We say a goodbye to Linda one of our Assistant Headteachers this year. We all wish you well in your new role Linda!

We also say goodbye to Clare in Post 16 who is moving on to a new role, Mazie who is taking up a post in the hospital and Chris G who is retiring at the end of this year.



The specialist rooms in our school are well used now. A staff favourite has been the food technology room due to Post 16 offering staff a café during the week. There has been nothing nicer than warm soup cooked for you on a cold day during the year. The Science lab is in full swing also. Students have enjoyed many chemical reactions taking place in there!





Look at what we have been up to in Lower 1...

We have baked and cooked a huge variety of dishes during our Food Technology sessions.



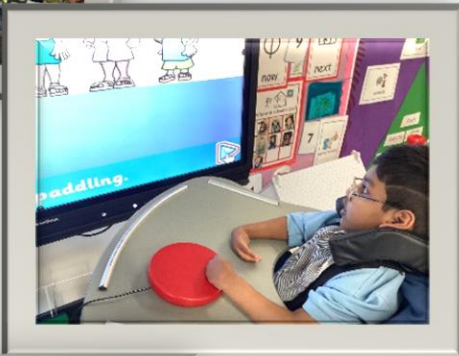
The Engage stage of our topic always provokes lots of thoughts and excitement.



We have learned lots during our Jolly Phonics sessions, especially when we take our learning outdoors.



Switch work and messy play/ creative work is always going on in Lower 1 and we love it!



Our Bushcraft trip to Portland College was so much fun and we got to try lots of new things.



Dressing up for various events and our weekly sensory room sessions are firm favourites for all in Lower 1.





What a great year we've had in Lower 2!

We began our year looking at Towers, Turrets and Tunnels. We had great fun building a big castle and sharing this at a kings and queens banquet with our families.

After an exciting Christmas and being twinkly stars in the production we began our next topic of Predators. We enjoyed our stories linked to this of Dear Zoo and The Tiger Who Came to Tea. We also really enjoyed our visit from White Post Farm and meeting lots of cute and strange creatures.

This last term we have been pirates and we found it very fun to make pirate boats to sit in. We also enjoyed dressing up for different types of weather we might face in different places around the world.

Throughout the year our most memorable moments always include a song. In Lower 2 we love to sing and dance. We have such a wide variety of favourite songs: the Hokey Pokey, Wind the Bobbin, The Greatest Showman, Can't Stop the Feeling and a huge range of nursery rhymes.

Communication has been a key thread through everything we have done this year and making sure the children can express their wants and needs. Throughout this year we feel they have all developed in confidence in their own ways to get what they need and we are so very proud of them all.

We have all really enjoyed our year in Lower 2! Have a lovely summer break everyone!



Lower 3



Our page for the newsletter this year is all about the celebrations we have enjoyed this year. It is so vital to celebrate our achievements in school, as well as events in the community, as it helps us to discover our identities and enjoy time with our friends and the adults who look after us.



In December we enjoyed celebrating Evie's birthday in school. Her mum and dad organised a talented artist to come into school and help the children create beautiful tiles. Evie enjoyed sharing her special day with her friends.



In the same month we also celebrated all the work we completed during the Autumn term by displaying it in the woods. All the classes said how fantastic the work was and how they enjoyed seeing it in a different and unusual setting.



World Book Day was also a highlight as it was great celebrating our love of reading in school.

We loved dressing up as our favourite book characters and getting certificates for completing the reading challenge by reading with our adults throughout the week.



More recently, we celebrated the King's coronation with a fantastic parade. Our theme was the RAF so we created model aeroplanes. We also dressed in red, white and blue and made crowns to wear during the day.



It has been an amazing year in Lower 3, filled with lots of laughter, learning and fun. As we transition into our new classes for next year, it is important that we remember all we have achieved and we celebrate all the progress we have made. Oprah Winfrey said it best: **"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate."**

Class L4



It has been a pleasure watching each and every pupil develop their confidence both socially and academically.

They have all tried their hardest in every aspect of the school day and have shown how resilient they can all be.



We had a great time sailing to treasure island in the boat that we built together 🚢

Lower 5 Memories Summer Term 2023



Developing our green fingers!



Making volcanic eruptions!



We went on a trip to Portland college café!



3rd Place in Fountaindale's Got Talent! (Chris didn't take the hint though!)



Race Unity Day – Ooo La La!! We learnt all about France.



Creating our own tropical Islands based on our class story book. We loved the messy Modroc!

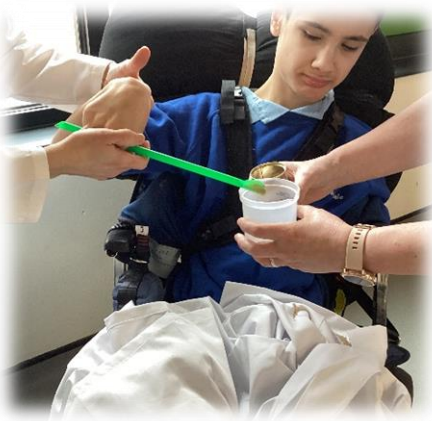


Fossil hunting on Careers day – we were Palaeontologists!



Creating our own fossils – it was a bit messy!

Class u1



We have had a fantastic year in Upper 1! We enjoyed our trip to Portland College to take part in bushcraft activities. We have had many special visitors, including the pantomime, table cricket and soft ball cricket sessions. We have really enjoyed our lessons from cooking, music and making different potions in science.

The best parts of our year in Upper 2



The best parts of the year in Upper 2 have to be the theme days. Celebrating different cultures in Race awareness day, joining in the Pride parade and of course celebrating the Kings Coronation.

We have had many different sensory experiences and some lovely walks in our beautiful woodland. Some of our pupils have represented school in sporting events, and sports coaches visiting school have always brought out the best of our pupils.

We have tried our hand at gardening, learned to play percussion instruments to music and had some AMAZING sessions with Molly with the Attention Autism bucket.

We have made great friendships, are looking forward to starting our new classes and wish Joe and Keegan well as they start their new journey at Portland College.

Well done to everyone in Upper 2 for a fabulous year!





Upper 3 - Look what a busy year we have had.



Being creative is very important to our development and fun!

Relaxation and interaction in the sensory room.



Exploring switches in ICT to make things happen.

Interacting with our friends using musical instruments.



Making and exploring our outdoor musical wall.

Swimming fun in our pool!



Exciting multi-sensory stories in a group.

Post 16 Newsletter Summer 2023



Here are some of our highlights of this school year!



Fountaindale Pride 2023- the whole school came together to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community.



We organised Fountaindale's Got Crumble as part of our BTEC work.



We all did lots of work experience around school.

We enjoyed a forest school session.



During careers day we met a former Fountaindale pupil Zoe who inspired us all to follow our dreams!



We had lots of fun creating art together for Arts Week.



We dressed up for Coronation day celebrations.

Fountaindale Swimming 2023.



In swimming we have been focused on water safety and water confidence. Water confidence is paramount to students' development this will help with the ability to confidently move in the water, promote buoyancy and swimming techniques. My aim is for students to love the water and have a knowledge of how to do so safely. To be safe in and around water is a vital valuable life skill for everyone whilst fostering physical and mental well-being. It's a pleasure for myself to be part of Fountaindale students swimming journeys. I am extremely proud of each and every student I have work with. The pool has been full of laughter, smiles and determination.

In keeping with our commitment to promote healthy and active lifestyles we are planning to do a sponsored swimathon giving students the opportunity to raise funds for their school. Plans for this will be happening over the holidays. More details and sponsorship agreements will be sent home with students in September.



Teaching students with SEN is my absolute passion. I have worked at Fountaindale for 15 years and been a qualified swim teacher/swim TA for 7 years. I started this journey because my own son needed a little more support in the water and during that time, I was approached by a mum who just wanted her son to be safe and confident and she didn't believe her child would receive any badges along his journey.

To me every child should be able to have the opportunity to learn to swim, be safe, be confident and most importantly receive recognition for their achievements.

I know it's not been an easy year for the pool but we are all learning lots and the pool likes to give us a few hurdles to jump along the way, but I am not afraid of a challenge! I cannot wait to be back in the pool in September helping our students develop a lifelong love affinity for swimming and aquatic activities. If you have any queries or concerns at all please do not hesitate to contact. Have a fabulous summer holiday!

Nadine 😊

Memories from 2022 23



Fountaindale School
an academy within Nexus MAT
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Website: www.fountaindalschool.org
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Lucy Winkler (lucy.winkler@fountaindale.org)
Head of School: Mr Chris Evans (chris.evans@fountaindale.org)

Fountaindale SEND Toddler Group
Does your child have special educational needs or disabilities? Come and join us for our SEND toddler group on the second and last Friday of each month.
10 – 11:30
Tea and coffee supplied

Friends Toys Stories
Soft play Messy play Songs

Starting on 10th March 2023
*Please note, groups will not run during school holidays.

Curriculum Day March 24th 2023





Fountaindale

A SPECIAL SCHOOL

2023-24 Key Dates

Autumn Events for families to attend or prepare for...

Sponsored Swim September

19.9.23 Family Coffee Morning 9.30-11

4.10.23 Space day dress up house event.

10.10.23 World Mental Health Day – spoil a family day (ticketed event)

20.10.23 Harvest Assembly 2-3pm families invited.

Half term 23.10.23 - 5.11.23

14.11.23 Family coffee morning 9.30-11

24.11.23 Children in need dress up day

30.11.23 Parents/ carers evening (appointments via phone, teams or in person) 4-6pm

2.12.23 Christmas Fair 10-1

13.12.23 Christmas performance pm

15.12.23 Christmas jumper day dress up.

19.12.23 Christmas dinner for pupils

20.12.23 Christmas party dress up.

20.12.23 Break up for Christmas holiday



Spring Events for families to attend or prepare for...

4.1.24 Return to school.

23.1.24 Family coffee morning 9.30-11

29.1.24 National Storytelling week home house challenge

8.2.24 Chinese new year house event Families to join in pm

19.2.24 Return to school

9.2.24 INSET day / break up for half term

5.3.24 Family coffee morning 9.30-11

15.3.24 Red Nose Day dress up

26.3.24 Family Easter Egg House hunt pm

29.3.24 Bank Holiday

Summer Events for families to attend or prepare for...

15.4.24 Return to school.

22.4.24 Earth Day Community Event families invited.

3.5.24 INSET day

8.5.24 Family coffee morning 9.30-11

17.5.24 Big Ideas Dress up day

27.5.24 Half term holiday

3.6.24 INSET day

4.6.24 return to school

20.6.24 Family Coffee morning 9.30-11

26.6.24 Sports Day pm

11.7.24 Parents/ carers evening (appointments via phone, teams or in person) 4-6pm

12.7.24 Fountaindale's got talent families invited pm

18.7.24 Meet the new class team visits for families tbc.

25.7.24 Leavers Prom dress up day

26.7.24 Leavers assembly – Leavers families invited pm

26.7.24 Break up for the Summer term



Dates were correct as of Sept 2023. However due to situations and conditions beyond our control some dates made need to be changed or cancelled.