Towers Times

Newsletter edition: 8

21st October 2021

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of our first half term of this academic year, we would like to thank our wonderful children and staff for all their hard work. The children have grown in confidence in the past few weeks and demonstrate our BUILD values in all that they do. We will be focusing on our Unity value after half term, so please look out for the yellow letters in your child's book bags. As we break up, it is a perfect time to stop for a moment and reflect on all that has been achieved since the school gates opened for the start of term. Whilst covid has not gone away – and we are always mindful of being as covid secure as we possibly can be – we have, at last, been able to enjoy a degree of 'normality' including lunchtime sessions with sports coaches that we know has proved very popular! They never cease to amaze us with their unerring positivity and joy – they are a credit to our community.

In school we have ended the term with an INSET day where staff have focussed on the curriculum, meeting in year groups and in subject teams, to ensure the Towers learning experience is the best it can be for our children.

Our thanks to FOTFA for organising the uniform sale this week! The sale raised welcome funds for school and provided a valuable and eco-friendly service to our community. We ask that children return dressed ready for the cooler weather, in full school uniform. Ear piercings from the summer should now be well and truly healed, so we now ask that you ensure that **earrings are removed for school**. We thank you for your support with this. School PE kits, and not football kits, must be worn on PE days, and It is not necessary for children to change out of PE kits if they attend before or after school clubs. School bags – either reading bags or rucksacks for the older children – must also be of school uniform.

With Halloween approaching and the possibility of children taking to the streets for Trick or Treat, can we please ask that your children are suitably dressed in brightly coloured clothes and are spoken to regarding the dangers of being out in the dark and stranger danger. Whilst, they will have a great time collecting sweets from neighbouring houses, please remind them about keeping safe.

With the holidays upon us, and hopefully some lazy sofa days ahead of us, it is a good time to be Online Safety savvy! Don't forget that you can use parental controls on devices, and keep an eye on what our children are accessing; sometimes materials may look suitable at a surface glance when presented as a game of a cartoon, for example, but when we look into things a little further there may be material that is not age appropriate. Such materials that are unsuitable for children frequently circulate outside of the platform it was originally available on. Keep in touch with what they are watching; why they are watching it; how it makes them feel; and what to do if they are worried or upset by anything they come across on-line. Below are some useful links to find some more information on parental control:
https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/netflix/ Parental Controls on Netflix
From LGfL:
https://safeblog.lgfl.net/2018/11/parents-scare-or-prepare

A reminder that swimming will resume on our first week back after the holidays, so Year 5 are to be pool ready for Monday 1st November, with Year 6 making a splash on Friday 5th November.

Have a lovely weekend!

Ms L J Blurton and Mrs C D Hurley – Head Teachers of Towers Infant and Towers Junior

TWITTER

Twitter is up and running, please check out our Twitter page @TowersFed

Junior & Secondary Applications

The deadline for secondary school applications is next **Sunday (31 October 2021).**
The deadline for Junior school applications is **15th January 2022.**
If you have not yet applied please visit the Local Authority website www.havering.gov.uk/admissions/
Any application received after the closing date will be considered as late and may result on your child not gaining a place at your preferred choice.

FOTFA

FoTFA are looking for parents / carers who can take on the roles of the 5 elected parent members covering the following roles:

- Chair - description attached
- Vice Chair – same as Chair role, who can stand in when necessary
- Treasurer – description attached
- Secretary – description attached
- Social Secretary - someone who can help with all the Social Media activities

Please get in touch via towersparentsa@yahoo.com for futher information on supporting FOTFA.