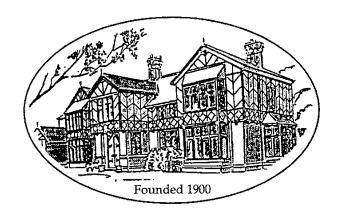
FAIRHOLME

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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15 September 2022

WELCOME BACK

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer break and is settling back into the new school year. There have been various developments over the summer which I would like to tell you about.

Staffing – Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to Mrs Jones as she has been struggling with increasing family commitments. She has worked tirelessly at Fairholme for the last 20 years and her dedication, enthusiasm and huge organisational skills have been much appreciated. We wish her well for the future. To avoid any confusion, the main point of contact for each form is as follows:

Kindergarten Miss Pett

Form I Mrs. Turner

Form II Mrs. Evans/Mrs. Gains

Form III Mrs. Gains
Form IV Mrs. Bult
Form V Mrs. Perkins

Form VI Mrs. Perkins/Mrs. Hall

Form VII Mrs. Hall

If you have any difficulties, please also do not hesitate to contact me by email or at the reception door.

School Website – We have a new School Website – due to launch tomorrow (at the same address www.fairholmeschool.com). It contains all our latest information and has a Parent and Child Login Area where you can access admissions information, school policies including our child protection and safeguarding policy and our complaints policy, back-issues of newsletters, spelling lists etc. For access to this, the username "parent" and password "learn3211" are required. If you require assistance finding anything on the website, please do not hesitate to ask.

School Learning Platform – Sadly, Edmodo is no longer available for our use. It has been an invaluable tool for a number of years particularly, of course, through the COVID lockdowns. Since that time, it has become our main form of communication with parents and has given everyone full access to our curriculum and has been used extensively both at home and at school. We have therefore sourced another learning platform 'Satchel One' which is a similar and probably rather better tool. Children will be bringing home their new usernames and passwords and will be able to continue to access all assignments at home and at school. Satchel One has a Noticeboard for events and announcements and a school timetable. I think we will all enjoy using this new tool and hope that the learning curve is an easy one! 'Satchel One' is already in use and will be run alongside 'Edmodo' for just one week in case of any difficulties. Parents can join 'Satchel One' as well as pupils and an email will be sent shortly to facilitate this. Messages to the teacher cannot be made from parent accounts but can still be made using the pupil account.

Spelling Program – Unfortunately our spelling program, 'Readiwriter' has also been retired and pupils are already getting used to our replacement – **'EdShed Spelling'**. Our challenging spelling lists remain unchanged. Using this new tool, children can practise spellings using a number of games and can gradually build up their skills during each week from the 'Easy' challenges to the 'Extreme' level ready for the weekly tests. Spelling Sentence homework (Forms IV to VII) can be completed using 'Missing Words'. I am currently trying to ascertain why some of our sentences seem not to be available and will keep you updated. For the time being, pupils should use 'Missing Words' for all sentences available and then write the other words out 3 times.

'Mathletics' and 'Reading Eggs' – We are continuing use of these software tools for maths and reading/comprehension practice. Children are set assignments on these programs each weekend and younger pupils use the software extensively in school for phonics and reading work. Usernames and passwords are being sent out this week for new users, and older children have their password cards stuck into their homework books. If you have any problem accessing any of the software, please do not hesitate to ask.

Open Days – Our next Open Days are set for Thursday, 20th and Friday, 21st Oct. If you have any friends, relatives or colleagues who might be interested in Fairholme for their children and would like to see Fairholme in action, please let them know these dates!

We have a number of other forthcoming events; dates and information will be available on 'Satchel One'. We look forward to working with you all this term.

Yours sincerely,

E Perkins, Principal

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