



We are so pleased to be able to share our first newsletter of the Autumn Term with you! It has been wonderful to have a full school again this week and what a fantastic week it has been!

A huge welcome back to our Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children – they have settled into their new classes brilliantly! It has been lovely to see the positive start they have all made to the year.

We are also really proud of all of our new Year 3 children – they have made an excellent start to the year and have shown great maturity, positivity and resilience. The staff have all been really impressed by the way they have approached the transition into life at Freeman's and we are so pleased to welcome them to our school at last!

We would also like to welcome Miss Davis, Miss Cunningham, Ms Ferens, Mrs Saunders and Mrs Lyon to Freeman's as part of our staff team. Ms Ferens, Miss Davis and Mrs Saunders will be supporting learning in Year 3, Miss Cunningham will be supporting in Year 5 and Mrs Lyon will be teaching Spanish and Music across the school. Welcome!

It has been lovely to talk to so many of you before and after school and we really do appreciate your patience and support in helping us to implement our new arrangements for drop offs and pick ups. Several parents have given us helpful feedback about the arrangements at the start and end of the day, and we will continue to review our arrangements to try to ensure that these times are as safe as is possible for our school community.

Attendance Information: What to do if...

Coronavirus related absences quick reference guide – 6th August 2020

What to do if...	Action needed	Code	Return to school when...
...my child has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate Get a test Inform school immediately about test result 	Code X	...the test comes back negative.
...my child tests positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate for at least 10 days Inform school immediately about test result 	Code I	...they feel better. They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
...somebody in my household has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate Household member to get a test Inform school immediately about test result 	Code X	...the household member test is negative.
...somebody in my household has tested positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate for 14 days 	Code X	...the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation
... NHS test and trace have identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate for 14 days 	Code X	...the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation
...we/my child travelled and has to self-isolate a part of a period of quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Provide information to school as per attendance policy <p><u>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily 	Code X	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-isolate for 14 days Do not come to school Contact school as agreed with the school Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	Code X	...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again.

Daily Mile!

We have been really thrilled to see the staff and children using our new Daily Mile track – we are looking forward to seeing fitness levels improve over the coming term!



Lunchtime - R&D Coaching



At lunchtimes, children have been really enjoying a range of sporting activities that are being led by the coaches from R&D Coaching.

The children have had the opportunity to have a go at activities such as archery, football and dodgeball – it has been wonderful to see the children having such great fun!



We are delighted with our new History Timeline that has been put up on the wall in the playground! We think it will really help our children to start to understand the sequence of historical periods over time. Do have a look when you next visit the playground.

We have also purchased a range of different maps that will be going up in the playground – keep a look out for them arriving soon! A big thank you to the Friends of Freeman's School for the funding to purchase these excellent resources. Please contact the school office if you would like to be involved in organizing events and activities to raise much needed funds for the school.

Meet the staff: Freeman's SENDCO

My name is Joanne Taylor and I am the SENDCO at Freeman's. For the past 12 years I have been a Special School teacher both in Bedford and in Leicestershire. At Freeman's my responsibility is to give support to families and pupils with SEND, both inside and outside the classroom.

Your children will see me around school; I might be observing lessons, supporting pupils in lessons or supporting our staff in school to help make school as happy, engaging and supportive as possible, for all our pupils who have additional needs.

This half term I will be contacting parents of pupils that are on our SEN register to introduce myself. The teachers and support staff will be busy working on pupils IEPs (Individual Education Plans) and the targets from these will be shared with you as soon as they are complete

Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any concerns or questions about your child. My email address is joanne.taylor@freemansendowed.org

Reading Books

We hope that you have had a chance to look at the new 6 weekly Reading Record which your child should have brought home this week. It gives you lots of tips on how to use the VIPERS method to help develop your child's comprehension.

In the coming weeks, your child should be bringing home a reading book that is just above their reading level determined by the Accelerated Reading system that the school uses. Even though your child may be able to read the words confidently, it is really important that the adults listening to them, question them using the prompts in the Reading Record to develop understanding.

They will also be able to bring home a library book that is a free choice, hopefully instilling a love of reading. We thank you, in advance, for your support.

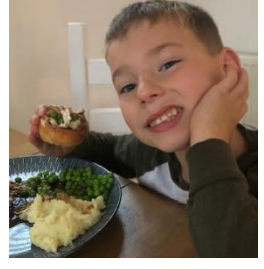
Justine Berkshire, English Lead



This week, Harry from Year 3 was lucky enough to be able to dig a potato from the school garden!

Harry took the potato home and washed it, peeled it, cooked it, mashed it and then ate it!

Harry we are so proud of you and your dinner looks delicious!!!



Diary Dates

9th October – Whole School Flu Vaccinations

W/C 19th October – Parent Consultation (Via telephone) will take place during this week. Times for appointments will be sent home at the beginning of October.

23rd October – School Closes at 3.20pm, half term

2nd November – School open to pupils

Parking

Please could we remind all parents to park considerately when picking up or dropping off children at school.



Please could parents and carers remember that we do not allow dogs on the school site unless they are Guide Dogs.

Thank you for your support.



Bicycles – Cycle helmets should be worn if cycling to school.

Our new cycle rack will be installed by Westfield Road gate. Please dismount when on school premises and walk your bike through the playground, if entering from Brickhill Road.