



NEWSLETTER



Friday 4th September 2026

Monday	P.E. day Fox Class P.E. day Owl Class
Tuesday	P.E. day Squirrel Class Stay and Play for new Reception children: 1.30-2.30 pm
Wednesday	Forest School afternoon: Fox Class P.E. day Owl Class
Thursday	P.E. day Squirrel Class New YR start at 9 to 11.45
Friday	New YR: 8.35-11.45

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school over the past two days. The children have returned looking incredibly smart in their uniforms and have quickly settled back into school life with enthusiasm and positivity.

We hope that all of our families had a restful and enjoyable summer break and were able to make the most of the holiday time together.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new pupils, Mikey, Sophia in Owl Class and Ella in Fox Class. We are delighted that they have joined our school community and look forward to getting to know them well.

Mrs Matthews, Mrs Horrex and Mr Pullan all started this week too as did Mr Pinder who is providing a longer term supply cover in Owl Class.

We look forward to a year filled with learning, friendship, opportunities and success for all our children.

Staff Training Days and reminders from the team

Our staff training days were both productive and valuable. All partnership staff took part in essential safeguarding training to ensure we continue to play our part in working alongside other agencies to keep children safe.

We also reviewed updated policies and completed training in allergy awareness and the use of adrenaline auto-injectors.

It was lovely to welcome a few families into school on Wednesday for a pre-term "check-in" before the children returned on Thursday.

Our teaching assistants also benefited from excellent training from the Virtual School, focusing on therapeutic approaches to play.

Wrap Round Care

Our new wraparound care provision is off to a fantastic start, and it has been lovely to meet the two ladies running the club.

A huge amount of work by both the school and Active8Minds went into establishing this provision for September. To ensure it remains viable, we need families to make use of it. Unfortunately, the partnership school lost its wraparound provision in July due to low uptake, so it really is a case of "use it or lose it."

If you work, are considering increasing your hours, or need additional childcare support, please do consider using the club. The team are wonderful, and your support will help keep this valuable service available for our school community.

A Summer Lesson in Technology

It is fair to say that technology and I did not have the smoothest relationship this summer!

While I was busy sending communications about lunches, staffing and a variety of other matters, ParentMail updated its format. Unfortunately, I failed to tick a very small box that enables messages to be delivered via both email and the ParentMail app.

As a result, some families may have received certain communications while others may not have. Please accept my sincere apologies for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

Hot Lunches

As you know, the majority of West Sussex schools have recently moved to a new hot lunch provider, with Apetito supplying the meals and ISS managing delivery and logistics.

They also had challenges with technology with school and service provider information systems not talking to one another. Thankfully this has now been smoothed out and fingers crossed we should be up and running.

Thank you for your patience while the new system has been introduced. Any change takes time to bed in fully, but on a positive note, the food being served looked to be of a very good standard.

On our INSET day, the staff team discussed what reminders they felt were important for the start of the year. Please see the guidance below.

Smart Watches

Smart watches, or watches that can be used for games, messaging or communication, should not be brought into school.

Mobile Phones

Unless your child walks home independently, mobile phones should not be brought to school. Any phones brought into school must be switched off before being handed to Miss Roberts for safekeeping, to avoid calls, chimes and notifications during the school day.

Hair Accessories

Hair accessories should be simple and not include items such as ears, crowns or other large decorative additions. Long hair should be tied back where possible to help reduce the spread of head lice.

Painting Aprons

If your child would like to bring in an old shirt to use as a painting apron, please name it clearly and send it into school to be kept on their peg.

Toys and Personal Items

Children should not bring toys, trading cards, fidget toys or other personal items into school unless specifically requested or agreed by their class teacher.

Please Note

To help maintain a safe and focused learning environment, any watches, jewellery, toys or hair accessories that do not meet our school expectations will be collected and returned to parents at the end of the day.

PE Days

 Check the Calendar above to see your child's usual PE day.

 Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on PE days, as they will not be changing in school.

School Uniform Reminder

✓ Grey skirts, pinafores and trousers should be worn as part of our school uniform and do not need to have a school logo.

✓ School jumpers, cardigans and fleeces must have the school logo.

✓ PE T-shirts should also have the school logo.

✓ School polo shirts are white.

 Please ensure all uniform and PE kit items are clearly named.

 To help keep costs down, supermarket grey skirts, pinafores and trousers are absolutely fine and do not need to be purchased from our uniform supplier.

Year Ahead Dates Sent Out

- ✓ Digital copy shared
- ✓ Paper copy sent home today

Meet the Teacher Event

 Currently being reviewed in terms of how we are able to facilitate this with part time staff and staff meetings etc. However, the teachers are always available at the end of days to briefly catch up or make an appointment.

Class Email Addresses

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Owl Class |  Owl@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk |
|  Fox Class |  Fox@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk |
|  Squirrel Class |  Squirrel@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk |

Who Should I Contact?

School Office

Please contact the school office for any administrative enquiries, including attendance, appointments, payments, clubs and general school information.  Office@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk

Class Teacher

Your child's class teacher should be your first point of contact for any questions or concerns relating to your child's learning, wellbeing or classroom experiences. **(Class emails)**

Headteacher

Please contact the Headteacher if you have a concern that has not been resolved through the class teacher, wish to discuss a safeguarding matter, or need to make the school aware of a significant family circumstance that may affect your child at school.  Head@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk

Working Together

We are committed to working in partnership with families and will always do our best to ensure that any concerns communicated through the correct channels, are addressed promptly and appropriately.

Please Ask

- We will always do our best to listen, explain and support.
- If you are unsure about something, please ask.
- We ask that all communication remains respectful and constructive.
- It is always better to seek clarification than to worry or make assumptions.
- We encourage questions to be asked with curiosity rather than judgement, helping us work together to understand situations and find the best way forward for every child.

- We are happy to communicate by email where a question can be answered or a situation can be resolved quickly and easily.
- If a matter is more complex, sensitive or requires discussion, we may invite you to a face-to-face meeting or telephone call.
- We aim to keep families informed and share information as soon as possible. However, there may be times when we can only share limited information initially while matters are discussed and agreed by the wider school team.
- If the tone of correspondence is inappropriate, accusatory or unhelpful, we will not continue the discussion by email and instead arrange a meeting so that the matter can be addressed more effectively and positively.

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to welcoming our new reception children to Boxgrove next week.

Mrs Smyth and the Boxgrove Team