



Learning for Life

Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

Headteacher: Sue Spearman

Part of the
Templefields Multi-Academy Trust

18 January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

SAFER PARKING AT THE SCHOOL GATES

We are very fortunate at Fawbert and Barnard's to have a lovely Victorian building and beautiful grounds however, when the school was built there were no cars and this makes parking very difficult for parents and staff.

Our closest parking areas are residential streets in Chippingfield and East Park.

Unfortunately, in the last week of term and since coming back there have been several incidents of both damage to residents vehicles and parking across driveways. In addition to this parents are parking on the green areas. Imagine as a resident how frustrating you would feel if your car was on your driveway and you wanted to pop out to collect your child from school but couldn't because someone was parking over your drive, even if it was only for 5 minutes. Or worse still, if you left your car outside your house and find that someone had damaged it and driven off.

To try to help parents we are beginning an additional walking bus from 30th January. The walking bus will collect pupils from Wayre Street and then from the disused garage area in Chippingfield and walk on to school. Not only is this really healthy for the children to walk but hopefully it will decrease the congestion in Chippingfield and does mean you can drop your children off earlier or you are welcome to walk with them. It is also healthy and fun. (See our separate email about the new walking bus). Our Broadway Avenue walking bus now operates on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

There are disused garages in Chippingfield which can be used to park and walk to school; these are a few metres further on from the green as shown in the attached map. This year we are focusing on developing outdoor learning and learning about the environment (developing the wildlife area, recycling more, willow domes and providing drinking water in the playground) and you could support us with this by valuing the green areas in our local community.

We are also working with 3PR (www.schoolparking.org.uk) to provide alternative parking and they are currently liaising with Harlow District Council to find a suitable site. Once this is resolved we

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will be introducing Park and Stride which includes a parking permit for your vehicle and reward for your children if they use this way of getting to school. The local Councillor is also working on making changes to the road at the front of the school to help with the safety of the children by putting forward a proposal for railings. The cones will then be removed.

If you drive to school but can only change one journey into walking that would make a huge difference to the overall congestion. These changes make a real difference to the congestion around schools, making the school run less stressful and far safer for everyone.

We recently were successful in renewing the Healthy Schools Award and all these new initiatives will count towards obtaining the enhanced award which we are now aiming for. Research shows that children who walk or cycle to school are more receptive to learning at the start of the school day than those who travel to school by car.

Thank you for your support with this.

Yours sincerely

Sue Spearman
Headteacher