

Newsletter

Friday 5th November 2021

Welcome back to school, I hope you had a restful half term. The children all seem to have enjoyed the activities and time away from school, and are showing their positive attitudes towards learning. I have observed snippets of teaching in all classes across this week, and am delighted to see the fantastic discussion that is taking place about learning. We are working with all the children on talking and answering questions in full sentences. We are working on this with all children including our youngest children in Attenborough Class they are using Stem sentences, this involves the children being given the beginning of the sentence to repeat and complete. We would value your support in this when talking with the children at home.

It has been lovely to see so many parents in person at the Parents Evenings this week, the teachers have really enjoyed sharing children's learning and how well they have settled, to a point where both were very late nights for all! If you did not manage to see your child's teacher, please do see Mrs Fowl and she can arrange one for you.

If you were dropping your children off on Thursday morning, you may have heard the fire alarm going off and all the children being taken out of school. This was the second time the children had heard the fire alarm this week; the first being a drill, the second however, not so. Fortunately, it was a technical fault and all is well, however, I am delighted to report that the staff and children are well practised and very good at following the procedures needed should there be a fire, or need for evacuation from the building.

I need to raise with you a concern regarding the safeguarding of children online. A number of the staff team have heard the children in discussions regarding 'Squid Games'. Squid Games is a netflix series targeted at adults, it has an 18 rating attached. Whilst I am sure that none of the children would have been watching it directly, I am aware that it is being referenced within a number of online games that some of our children do engage in, such as Fortnite and Roblox. Please, please be vigilant to this, as the content is not nice, and the conversations regarding these are concerning to us. Online safety and appropriate content will be covered with the children. There is also a pop up video on certain programmes on YouTube Kids that is making it through their parental controls entitled 'Evil Santa', again please be vigilant in what your children may be seeing.

Parking: I sent a letter regarding parking out on Tuesday, please can I reiterate the need to be considerate and respectful to our neighbours across the road, and make sure that their driveways remain clear during morning and afternoon drop offs. Also ensuring that you are parking safely if you chose to park on the road rather than at the car park available to you at the social club.



The weather has taken a turn over the half term, and the heating has been turned up. Please can I ask that you ensure your children are dressed appropriately for school, with layers. We are still opening windows at times to ensure plenty of ventilation in the fight against Covid. The children are also participating in learning outside, and going out to play and therefore need to be dressed for this, including long trousers and jumpers/ cardigans, tracksuits and hoodies for PE. This term children will also need their PE shorts as they are all participating in gymnastics. Please also ensure the children come to school with coats, and where needed hats and gloves, we like the children to go outside as much as possible at break and lunch, in order to let off steam and get some fresh air before commencing further learning.

Our Christian Value this term is Trust, we have been talking with the children about what makes someone trustworthy, and what it means to trust. In relation to this, we have been talking about how we keep safe, and ensuring that we have someone we can trust to talk to if we do not feel safe. Children in Einstein class are off on their residential to Norfolk Lakes next week, we are very thankful that you, their parents, trust us to take them on this type of trip, and participate in some more riskier activities. All precautions are put in place and the children will have a fantastic time. I will share some of this in the next newsletter.

This term is always a busy one and there are a number of events and fundraisers coming up. The first being in a few weeks, the Class Ambassadors are busy preparing advertising for the Children in Need Fancy Dress inspired by Strictly Come Dancing Day on Friday 19th November. Further fundraisers will be held across the year, to support the school and the village in its efforts to raise funds for a defibrillator.

We try to ensure that as many of these dates are put into the diary section of the newsletter, but please ensure you do keep an eye out for updates, and other letters, particularly on the run up to Christmas. There will not be a large production again this year, however, each class will hold an assembly to which parents will be invited, which will include a mini production/ skit/ poem/ singing etc. Details of other events are included within the diary section.

If you follow us on Twitter you will have seen Mrs Moore participating in the Daily Mile, this is in an effort to fundraise for Nelson's Journey. Nelson's Journey is a charity that supports children following the death of a loved one. They have in the past supported us in staff training so we can support our children effectively following this type of event. Mrs Moore is walking a mile a day for the month of November, if you would like to support Mrs Moore in her endeavour to raise funds for the charity please follow the links on Twitter, the school website to the Just Giving page, or drop a donation into the school office.

DIARY DATES

Swimming every Friday morning except 12.11.21, please can Year 5&6 children be in school by 8.45am. Last session on Friday 17.12.21

November

- 9th - Open morning for prospective parents – appointments bookable via the office
- 10th - KS2 Downham Cluster Cross Country (AM only)
- 10th to 12th - Norfolk Lakes (Year 5&6 residential) (children will leave early afternoon)
- 10th - No Badminton afterschool club
- 11th - No PE games afterschool club
- 19th - Reception parents' phonics morning – 9am (more details to follow)
 - Children In Need – Strictly Come Dancing style (more details to follow)
- 23rd - Open morning for prospective parents – appointments bookable via the office
 - Parent Forum meeting from 6pm (to be held in the school hall)
- 26th - Non-uniform day for raffle prizes (further information to follow)
- 30th - Norfolk Immunisation – Flu Nasal Vaccinations Catch up (Reception to Year 6)

December

- 2nd - Attenborough Class – Visit to Church Farm (information will be sent separately)
- 8th - Christingle (pupils only during school time)
- 9th - Year 6 & Reception Height/Weight/Vision screening
- 10th - Norfolk School Games – National Santa's Dash (information will be sent separately)
 - Christmas Jumper Day (more information to follow)
- 13th - Attenborough Class – Christmas Assembly (more information to follow)
- 14th - Seacole Class – Christmas Assembly (more information to follow)
- 15th - Einstein Class – Christmas Assembly (more information to follow)
- 16th - Whole School trip to Kings Lynn – Panto (more information to follow)
- 16th - Celebration assembly (pupils only during school time)
- 17th - Last swimming session for year 5 & 6
 - Last day of term

January 2022

- 4th - Return to school

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