

Newsletter

11th March 2022

We were very excited to have received a visit last week from two of our Trustees from our Academy Trust; Wendy Garrard and Helen Jackson came to see the school following the merge of Runcton Holme and Wormegay. They were very pleased to see the changes that had taken place and were extremely complementary about the children's behaviour and attitudes towards their learning, and particularly how all are enacting the vision and ethos of the school set out at the beginning of the year. Some of our other Trustees will be attending the opening of the school at the end of the month, we look forward to also sharing with them all that we do.

Last Thursday saw an array of different characters walk through the gates of the school, and what a wide range of characters. Thank you for supporting your children to participate in this event. Throughout the day, the children heard stories read by many of the staff members. They also became cartographers, designing their own maps of places in which a story could be set, and then used these maps to write their stories. Mrs Moore opened the day by discussing the library with the children, and it was officially opened! The children will have more regular opportunities to access the books in the library, and lunchtime/ after school openings are on the horizon. The children also heard about the new One Hundred Reads initiative, I am delighted to have seen a number of cards with stickers/ stamps on it, many children are on their way to being able to choose a book. Please support your children with their reading at home.

The children in EYFS have started a new area of learning this half term, many different fragrances could be smelt when visiting Attenborough's classroom, particularly from the different herbs. The children have been adding them to their playdough, exploring the different parts of the plants as they did. They are also keenly observing how cress grows, having covered the tuff spot with cress seeds. The children are very active in looking after it, and can see changes in it every day!



Our younger children have this year learnt to read using a different phonics programme, we currently use a programme called SoundsWrite. All our teaching staff, and many of our TAs are now trained in this particularly programme: both how to deliver it and support the children using its methods in not only Reading and Writing, but also in other areas of the curriculum. Many of you with children in the lower years of the school will have seen some of the books that support the programme being brought home by your children to read with them. SoundsWrite have recorded a free course,

consisting of two videos that shares with parents how the programme supports phonic development, leading to early reading and writing. It can be found at: <https://www.udemy.com/course/help-your-child-to-read-and-write/>

Please do take a look, as this can really enhance the support that you can give your child when listening to them read at home, or helping with written homework. The next Parent Forum is being led by Mrs Moore, on the 30th March at 6pm, where she will be sharing more about the school's approach to Phonics and Reading. Please do try and come along!

Rehearsals are well underway in Key Stage Two, with Einstein class practising for the Dance Festival at the end of the month. Please remember that if you wish to purchase tickets to attend this event, these are available directly from the Corn Exchange. Both classes have also resumed their singing practices ready for Young Voices at the end of April. Singing and dancing will also be featuring in the opening of the school, please do let Mrs Fowl know if you are able to attend, this will help us greatly with gauging numbers.

I am sure you will have seen the recent letter sent out regarding the Friends Committee, we really do need your help with this, being mid budget setting for next academic year, it is going to be vital for the school to raise funds if we are to continue the added extras that we have provided the children with over the past years. You will have seen that we are planning to host an Easter Bingo, please do come and support, and if you can help with any of the jobs listed on the letter sent out then please let Mrs Fowl know. Mrs Waterson will be advertising another Friends meeting in the next few weeks for after Easter, please, please do attend, the more people we have, the less commitment each person needs to make.



REMINDERS

Dinners/Breakfast Club – Invoices will continue to be sent home on a fortnightly basis. If you have any concerns, please do come and see us.

Swimming - Children in Year Three and Four will continue to go swimming every Friday morning. Please can children arrive promptly as they leave as soon as the register has been completed.



Parking - Please can we remind you 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 choose to park on the road rather than at the car park available to you at the social club. Thank you those of you who have engaged in the Safer Schools, and are continuing to both park and drive carefully outside our school.

DIARY DATES

Swimming every Friday morning, Year 3&4 children need to be in school by 8.45am.

After school clubs commence from Monday 21st February until Thursday 31st March 2022

There will be no clubs on Wednesday 30th March 2022 due to the official opening.

March 2022

- 18th - Red Nose Day – wear something red for a £1.00 and 50p if your child would like to do the quiz.
- 22nd - Dance Festival Yr 5 & 6 – Kings Lynn Corn Exchange
Family Easter Bingo (in the school hall), doors open from 6.30pm – all welcome
- 25th - Downham Market Tri-Golf hosted by Holy Cross CofE Primary
OMNES Games (Kurling)
- 29th - SSP Netball Festival Yr 3 & 4
- 30th - Official School Opening 2.45pm (no after-school clubs)
Parent Forum 6pm
- 31st - Celebration Assembly

April

- 1st - Last day of term
- 20th - Return to school
- w/c 25th Parents Evenings
- 29th - Young Voices

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