



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

We hope you all had a good Christmas break and wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

EMERGENCY CLOSURE SYSTEM

Although we have been lucky so far with the weather this winter, we never know what is round the corner so here is a reminder of our emergency closure system:

If the school has to close due to bad weather it will always be announced on the local radio and on the school closures website:
www.schoolclosures.norfolk.gov.uk



SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Because of our day-to day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition and referral, not investigation or intervention. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.



ATTENDANCE

As you know our attendance figures are monitored closely by our Attendance Officer and any persistent absences are followed up. Persistent absence is when your child's attendance falls below 90% within a 12 week period, whether their absence is authorised or not. Currently, after just one term, we have 20 pupils who fall into this category which is too many. Our overall attendance rate rose from below the national average to in line with it last year and we want to make sure we maintain or improve this next year. We are very aware that children as young as ours are bound to get coughs and colds, sickness bugs and chicken pox, all of which require you to keep them off school until they are fully recovered, but please help us by making appointments before or after school, get a friend or relative to bring them to school if you are too ill to make the journey yourself, and if your child has to miss a day, please let us know before 9 am.

DIARY DATES



Please check the website calendar for dates of Parent /Teacher interviews, reading events, school trips etc which are taking place this term. We will always endeavour to send reminders by text and events are also on the monthly newsletters.

YEAR GROUP BLOGS

If you want to know what your child has been learning about each week, don't forget to read the blog for their year group on the website each week. You can find the blogs under the 'What's Happening' tab.

EDUCATION CITY

Just a reminder that all of you have home access to 'Education City' – an online resource that we use for mental maths, English and Science games.

If you have lost or forgotten your password, please ask your child's teacher and they will sort it out for you. This is an expensive resource and it is a shame if it is not well used.



Learning Knows No Bounds

NEW TEACHER

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Chloe Rayfield to our school as our new Y2 teacher. If you would like to meet her don't forget she will be in the mobile after school for the first few days of term.

P.E KIT AND SPARE CLOTHES

As usual, your child will need their PE kit and a set of spare clothes in school this term. Long hair should be tied back for PE and ear rings should be removed or covered with tape for health and safety reasons. Alternatively you could provide an elasticated head band which would cover your child's ears – this has proved a lot easier and cheaper than providing a roll of tape.

MENU CHANGE

The menu will be swapped on Thurs 19th and Fri 20th January.

This means that on Thursday there will be fish fingers and chips and on Friday there will be sausage and tomato pasta. The reason for this swap is that we have to complete a school census on the Thursday and the more children that have a school dinner that day, the more funding the school will receive – we know that fish fingers and chips is always a popular choice.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Each class will be doing a dragon dance workshop on Friday 27th January to celebrate Chinese New Year. We will also be having a Chinese New Year lunch on Thursday 26th January:

Hong Kong Style Sweet and Sour Chicken
(v) Veggie Strips in Sweet and Sour Sauce
Chinese Style Rice
(mixed peppers, spring onions)
Peas and Sweetcorn Medley

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Mandarins in Orange Jelly
Coconut Biscuit



Please return the attached slip by Monday 16th January if you would like to order a Chinese New Year dinner. Jacket potatoes and school packed lunches will still be available.

LIBRARY VAN

The mobile library van will be visiting school on the following dates:

WEDNESDAY 18TH JANUARY

WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY (this is half term but the library will still be outside the school between 9.45 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. if you wish to use it.

WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH

Please note that because of the limited amount of time that the van is at school, your child will only be able to use it if they have their library card with them.



SHARING BOOKS

We are really pleased that the new sharing books are going down so well with the children. We have now purchased some more challenging books for our most able readers so there is something to suit every child in our school. Don't forget that you can come in and choose a book with your child if you would like to and the books can be changed as often as you like. We just ask that your child looks after our books and puts them back in the right box in the library. As we have said before, it is so important for children to develop a love of books and this includes sharing stories and being read to, as well as learning to read independently.

LIBRARY REVAMP

Our library refurbishment plans are coming along nicely and it won't be long before we have a beautiful new environment for our children to enjoy their books. The library was emptied and painted over the holidays and the new furniture and shelving will arrive towards the end of January. In the meantime, all of the free reading and sharing books are still in the same boxes in the library for the children to help themselves from.

PUNCTUALITY

Currently we are very concerned with punctuality, particularly in Year 2. Just to remind you, our bell rings at 8.55 a.m. so that the children can line up, go in and sort their things and be ready to start work at 9 a.m. sharp. Between 9.00 and 9.10 in Reception, they are doing the lunch register, settling the children, and preparing them for assembly. In Y1 and Y2 the children are at their tables doing a planned maths or literacy challenge or activity as well as answering the lunch register. They go to assembly at 9.10 a.m and the day continues from there. If children are late, the whole day starts to go wrong as everything starts to run behind and precious learning time is lost. Although you may be thinking 'it's only 10 minutes', if you add it up, it's 50 minutes a week, approximately 10 hours a term, 30 hours a year.....

