



Believe in yourself, Value others,
Be proud of your achievements,
Smile, Shine be Happy .

Newsletter Date
January 2015

Headteacher Newsletter

January 2015

Welcome back to the Spring Term 2015. I am pleased to say that we have had a wonderful start to this year and the children are working very hard although still a little tired from all of the festive family events so a few early nights I think this week.

Could I begin by saying that as a school we need to be locked for all children's safety at 8.50 so please ensure that pupils are in school as a huge amount of admin time was used last term recording, escorting and telephoning parents . This week we will be sending home further clarification on fines to be introduced for pupils arriving late to school following further guidance from Local Government.

As your child's Head Teacher it is important to myself and the school staff that your child enjoys coming to school and is enthusiastic about learning and develops their social skills. Please could you read the learning diary and add a comment on the parent section so that we also have your ongoing feedback about learning. To achieve high quality diaries that capture learning we will endeavour to spend as much time as we can with the children to complete them until they are independent and can be completed at home when they have time to reflect on their day's learning. The staff and I always meet and greet our families at the beginning and end of the day. We like to take time to get to know you all and gather feedback on the things you like or any suggestions you may have that will improve the school. Please also speak to your class parent representatives - a photograph of these will be on the external exit doors for your phase shortly. We are a kind, thoughtful school which prides itself on relentless hard work and commitment to the children who remain at the heart of everything we do. We try hard to include parents fully in all aspects of their child's education and also within the life of the school. If you think we could do anything better or have any suggestions please tell us as we will endeavour to listen and use as many as possible.

A BUSY JANUARY AHEAD ...

We start off this busy month with a training day for teachers and discussions on the new building project. We will be making a nice wall display of the plans shared at the parents public consultation evening in November 2014 when many of you attended but if you unable to come please have a look at the plans. Exciting times ahead! We held a wonderful assembly about Photography hosted by a well known national photographer in addition to this one of our parents has kindly offered as part of her own photography portfolio to take the pictures for the new prospectus this term.

This week all clubs resume - 33 in total ! A big 'Thank you' to all staff as they do this in their own time.

As part of their work with the blind dog charity Year 1's have been working hard to raise money and awareness for the blind dog charity and will have a special assembly this week from the charity to thank them for this work.

We will begin training in school this week for the Outstanding Teacher Programme for others schools within the Authority your child over the next ten weeks is likely to have a teacher visit their classroom to observe their normal teacher teaching them to develop their own practice.

This week we will also have a purple light treat afternoon for pupils who have demonstrated exemplar learning behaviours and parents will have been sent a letter if your child has been awarded this.

We continue our National Work in Norfolk and the school works hard not only on its own standards and achievement of all pupils but also supporting other schools within and beyond our own authority. This is a huge achievement and honour for the school and one that parents should be proud of.

Fantastic News we have been selected for a special award from the Secretary of State for our work with Pupil Premium children since 2010 and the prize of £1000 will be used to further develop this provision. In addition to this we will be entering a competition for schools to win a £100,000 overall prize which is linked to the work we are doing with pupils premium children. Please see more details if you are interested on the website under the tab Pupil Premium.

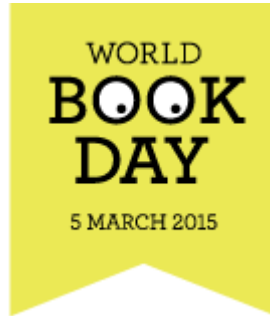


HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST FEW WEEKS

- Christmas Productions
- Christmas Family Crafts
- Christingle Services
- Santa Visit to school and Elf stalls
- Healthy Schools Bingo
- Sleeping Beauty Pantomime
- Woodgreen Animal Shelter visit
- Card competitions
- Theatre visit Hugless Dugless
- Children in Need Day
- Remembrance Service Day



WORLD BOOK DAY COMING SOON



World Book Day this year is on Thursday, 5th March. Look out for further information about activities, dressing

up and competitions we will be organising as a school for this national event!

Also take some time to look at the website as it is full of wonderful ideas all based around books!

<http://worldbookday.com/>

This site links to a list of books which can be purchased for just £1. Which you will agree is a great way to make use of your book token which will be sent home on the

HEADTEACHER JANUARY UPDATE CONTINUED ...

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Evan Q, Katie S, Ryan C, Olivia S, Reuben B, Archie M, Ruby W, Keeley R, Antoni R, Sophie C, Willow M, Grace Auris M, Ben H, Xavier B, Gracie-Mae L, Jessika L, Alexis H, Connie G, Phoenix B, Sophie C, Muhammed H, Reubun D, Owain S, Vilius K, Daiton H, Evalyn S, Archie S, George C, Lottie C, Lily B, Louis C, Emily M, Elliot H, Sophia P, Lucy B, Mrs Paterson's Class, Mrs King's class, Ashdon S, Kianna M, Miss McLaughlin's class, Mrs Ferrara's class, Mrs Urciuoli's class

PUNCTUAL ATTENDANCE

Fatimah A, Markus E, Sofia F, Jason K, Cohen C-D, Cameron P, Joe W, Cameron W, Rhys J, Daniel J, Willow M, Kaycee S, Amber G, Ashleen H, Aisha S, Fenton B, Carson H, Lola D, Ellie W, Emily S, Darcy S, Emilis S, Mark D, Louie C, Rylan T, Trevor M, Esme F, Alicia B, Jude I, Kitana C, Evie N, Connor C, Henry R, Christopher G, Samuel B

This month the Reception and Year 6 children will have their health checks from the school nurses and a letter has already been shared with parents .

Exciting News! We will be taking Year 6 and Year 4 to the Harry Potter Studios which links to their work in English and will enhance and further develop their enthusiasm for books, reading and writing.

Parents are invited to the School Nurse Drop in session on Friday 23rd, so if you would like to talk to the school nurse about any medical issues or worries please come along.

Mrs Ferrara will be taking her maternity leave at the end of January which is the last of our five maternity leaves this year. We wish her all the best and will keep you all updated on the baby when it arrives. This term, Mrs Rizzo has working with this class alongside Mrs Ferrara in order to ensure a smooth transition and will continue until the end of this academic year with year 6.

New Southfields Baby News, Mrs Busby had her baby a beautiful baby boy called Ben . Mrs Ward and Mrs F Ayub have both visited school with their babies and are enjoying every minute of being mum's.

This Month the School Governors will meet to discuss the strategic work of the school and will continue to monitor and evaluate its success's and targets for the future.

At the end of the Month we will be meeting with Parent representatives to discuss how to further develop parent voice to support school improvement.

We have a huge amount organised already for the rest of this term and next please see dates in the newsletter for up and coming events as well as the school website for further details and information .



School Pool and Artwork on Water painted by pupils

INSIDE STORY—OUR SWIMMING POOL

As part of the building work a full assessment of the buildings and grounds was undertaken last year uncovering some huge issues surrounding the swimming pool wall and the drains under the school which now form part of the plans for new building work.

Some of you may have noticed the wall was knocked down very quickly and replaced with a new wooden high level fence due to recent changes to the guidance on wall structures.

However from a school point of view the pool itself is needing repair and one of the steel bars in the corner of the pool structure needs replacing and it is my hope that as a school we can work on fundraising and spend most of the schools capital money to ensure the children still have the outdoor pool they have loved for many years. This work will be very expensive but I know it will be well worth it as we hear the enjoyment as well as understand the importance of the life skill of swimming.

The Government has set the target of 25 meters for all pupils to achieve by the end of Year 6 and therefore as a school we are working on this from Reception to Year 6 with regular summer swimming and also swimming clubs. As you can appreciate it costs a huge amount of money to heat and run the pool but we feel this is an important and essential part of your children's education at Southfields, however, it is also essential parents feel the same and support the school in providing a pool by voicing your opinions in the many forums in school such as parent representatives, writing back to the Head in this newsletter box provided, at Curriculum evening or in the suggestion and comment boxes.

Thank you for your continued support.. Next inside story the school drains and the way school will accommodate completing this work -February Newsletter



BIRTHDAYS

Reanna A, Aimee C-D, Maria F, Katie N, Archie J, Rylan T, Henry T, Christian C, Jessica P, Grace R, Manpreet S, Jacob S-R, Benjamin S, Ceri T, Elizabeth D, Jakub P, James C, Yvana D, Bradley W, Freddy H, Sanjana P, Benjamin H, Amelia M, Olivia S, Saskia S, Kenzie B, Riley A, Callum F, Melisa N, Mia B, Robert G, Kieran H, Bradley L, Isabelle V, Taylor A, Farhan C, Samuel J, Marissa P, Giovanni B, Luke B, Jake G, Jakub G, Eliza A, Amelie C, Xavier B, Martyna L, Joshua P, Tamara C, Logan M, Sebastian C, Evalyn S.

Mathletics Winners

Jack P

Arianna P

Sophie C

Willow M

House Winners

KS1 Robins 1st

KS2 Robins 1st

SCHOOL MEALS

This year the Government made changes to legislation around Reception and Key Stage one meals. They asked that all schools produce hot meals for pupils who would like to have them resulting in nutritional meals for these pupils and support for parents by paying for these meals.

Over the past few years we have worked hard on the quality and range of meals we provide and have put in a huge amount of work through research and talking to parents and pupils before we designed a menu and provision to produce these meals.

Studies show that well-nourished children fare better at school. The plan's authors say that providing wholesome school meals, alongside good food education, is the best way to feed children. Their recommendation for free school meals (FSM) for all primary school children informed the government's introduction of [universal infant free school meals](#) from September 2014.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS GREEN KITCHEN MANAGER

Mrs Green has been Kitchen manager at Southfields for many years in fact although she would not like us to tell you she even fed some of your parents!

Mrs Green also teaches the children cookery which I think is great as my cooking skills are sadly lacking and the thought of feeding 500 scares me as Christmas dinner of 12 is plenty I don't know how she does it.

So I thought I would ask some of the questions you asked me....

How did you feel when I told you about the changes and the huge number of meals you would need to do ?

I was excited and worried as I knew we would need to change a lot.

How have you found the new dinner system?

I knew the old system wouldn't work and so I knew we had to change a lot of things and like everyone else change worries me although now I think that its working well and we have responded in a positive way and used this new initiative to change, improve and develop our meals.

So what are your thoughts about the new bout the new electronic system ?

I am relieved as it has taken hours and hours to sort the meals and forms and I am looking forward to a computer system that does it for you.

As the school grows do you think this system will continue to work?

Yes I think it was designed to work for larger numbers and I think that we can continue to develop the meals further with feedback from parents, children and staff.

MORE TO FIND OUT ABOUT MRS GREEN

Mrs Green has two daughters and lives locally. She loves speedway and supports this whole heartedly. She is part of the Healthy Schools Committee and likes helping organise all of the events that take place in school. She has been at the school for Years and the thing she likes to cook at home best is Beef Wellington.

In school she most likes cooking the variety of pies and least likes making the soups.

We asked her if she didn't like any foods and she said sausages.

The best holiday she ever went on was a cruise to the Caribbean and most liked eating the steaks in different sauces and the presentation of the food on the plate

...And she would most like to go on holiday to America skiing!

One of the highlights of being in school is watching the children laugh, giggle and have fun in the pool in the summer from the kitchens.

In the kitchens we have a team of five dinner staff who work hard with Karen to Produce the meals for the children and staff.

We have designed different areas to bring a range of food to the children and daily we have five different areas

1 A Carvery — which serves meat, pies, vegetarian substitutes for meat, vegetables , gravy and regularly Yorkshires

2 An International Curry and Noodle Bar— Serving food from around the world Mexican Chilli, Curries, Noodles, Sweet and Sour, Spaghetti Bolognese, Pasta dishes and rice.

3 Snack Bar — Serving Home made burgers, hotdogs, Pizza and Garlic bread, wedges and Salad

4 Hot Pots — Casseroles and hot pots, home made soups, hot bread and sausage rolls

5 Wraps and Snacks - Wraps with various hot fillings, late breakfast full English , Jacket potatoes.

All served with access to a central Salad Bar, Yoghurts, Fruit, Cheese and Biscuits/Grapes , Scones and Fruit Cakes, Milk shakes, Jelly and Mouse.

Currently we are working on milk urns.

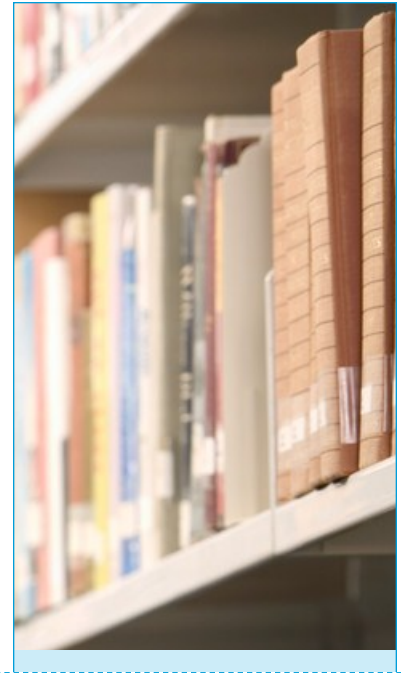
READING—THE MOST POWERFUL TOOL WE CAN GIVE TO OUR CHILD

As a Mum myself I sit here and think about my own child who is now grown up and think about all the hours we had together reading and the fun of learning new and interesting things. Behind everything we did together was reading in different contexts such as recipe books, construction, instructions, fiction and non-fiction books along with through maps and art.

Developing a love of reading is a gift for life. Once the children have the enthusiasm for learning in books they open doors into new worlds and new ways of seeing the world around them. As a school we have always invested a huge amount of money and time in reading and the school is a book rich environment.

This term we will celebrate World Book Day and I wondered if anyone would like to come and read to the children—maybe their own favourite book from you were young or a book you love to read now to your child. We are especially interested in Males reading, as many of the children have said they read mostly with Mums and we would like to improve our boys attitudes and achievement in reading further as one of our targets and we think this might help to inspire them.

Reading is Fundamental. In fact, it is one of the most important ingredients to becoming all that you can be. Reading develops your brain, provides a window into the world around you and helps you do better in all school subjects.



Parents please help us to give your child the gift of reading and a love to books.

THE GIFT OF READING

Most importantly, reading can not only help you become a better student, but a better person. You can learn from the brightest people whenever and wherever you choose.

- 800 million people around the world cannot read or write
- Many families (and some schools) have no books for children to read

If you are already a reader, helping others to read is an amazing gift that you can give.

Any Parents who think they could help the school with reading practice would be

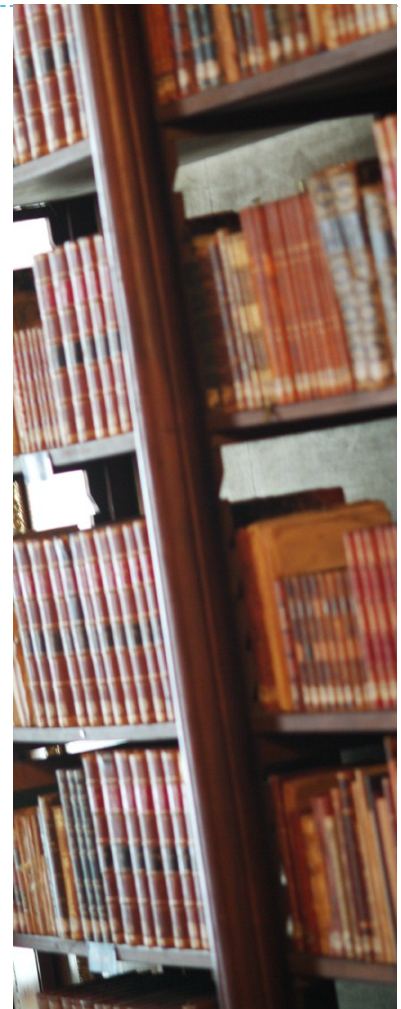
such a help please see Mrs Bennett or Mrs Martin.

Here are some inspiring quotations that bring to life the power of reading and how it can make you a better person:

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.”— Rd. Seuss,

“There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island.” — Walt Disney

“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.” — Richard Steele”



PARENT BOX FOR COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

Please add your comments here for the Headteacher or if your comments are private please return in an envelop marked 'Headteacher comment return'

KS2 data (With Mena Removed and below Raise 2014 unvalidated)

GHASP

Level 4 91% Level 5 82 %
Level 6 4 % (School with
Mena removed)

Level 4c- 87% Level 4b -83%
Level 5 -79% Level 6- 4 %

Reading

Level 4 96 % Level 5 69%
(School with Mena removed)

Level 4c- 94% Level 4b -89%
Level 5 -66% Level 6- 0 %

Writing

Level 4 93% Level 5 36 %
(School with Mena removed)

Level 4c- 91% Level 5 -36%
Level 6- 0 %

Mathematics

Level 4 96% Level 5 44 %
Level 6 18 % (School with
Mena removed)

Level 4c- 96% Level 4b -91%
Level 5 -43% Level 6- 17%

KS1 Year 2 school and Raise 2014 – Unvalidated

Reading L1 100% L2c+
89% L2b+ 84% L2a+65 L3
40%

Writing L1 96% L2c+
87% L2b+ 76% L2a+49 L3
37% (27%)

Mathematics L1 100% L2+
98% L2b 85% L2a+60
L3 40%

Year 1 Phonics (School calculated and Raise 2014)

75 % school compared to 74%
National

Please could I take a little time to also explain the school's weather closures;

We will parentmail in the first instance, update the school website or parents can listen to '**Heart FM**' on **102.7** where all of the Peterborough school closure announcements will be made, this can also be found on their web site www.heartpeterborough.co.uk/. Posters will also be put on the external gates by the caretaker.

We try not to close the school as we are very aware that child care arrangements can be very difficult at short notice and unless the weather is very severe the school will endeavour to stay open. (Also I love playing in the snow with the children!) This is also very dependent on staff being able to arrive at school as we have many staff who drive as long as an hour to reach school.

Please could they bring **extra clothes** if it snows (Warm jumpers, wellies, socks and trousers or snow gear if you have any, warm hats and gloves oh and a carrot (for the snow man's nose...we always run out!) two lots if they love being outside and then they will have a change if they get wet.