

Langtoft Primary School

Newsletter #104

Term 1/Friday 9 September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back, everyone! We have 210 pupils on roll: six more than this time last year. On behalf of the staff and governors, I welcome all of our families - new and old - to the start of a new school year. I especially welcome the 30 children that make up our Foundation Stage class. The boys and girls in Miss Henson's class have settled in very well. I wish the children and their families a happy and successful time at our school.

NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS



Excitement builds as the children in Y2 to Y6 present themselves as candidates for the School Council. This year's election took place this morning and the results are to be announced in assembly as soon as I have finished writing this letter! The election was conducted like 'the real thing' with children being issued with a ballot paper that they posted in a ballot box. Good luck to all our candidates.

NEW GOODBYE, MRS HUDSON

We say 'Goodbye for now' next week to Mrs Hudson, the teaching assistant in the Foundation Stage class as she goes off to prepare for the arrival of Baby Hudson #2. We wish Mrs Hudson and her family every happiness and good health for the future.

NEW HELLO, MISS PORTER, MR DOLBY, MRS TAYLOR, MRS BUSSEY, MRS SCOATS AND MRS PUOPOLO

Not only do we welcome so many new children to our school this term but we also welcome many new adult faces, too.

- Miss Porter joins the team as a Class Teacher. This year she is leading learning in Y3.
- Mr Dolby joins our school as Deputy Headteacher. Branded 'the man teacher' by some, he is enjoying teaching our Y6 class.
- Mrs Taylor joins our team of supply teachers and this year has a regular teaching commitment in Y3 alongside Miss Porter.
- Mrs Bussey joins Miss Henson in the Foundation Stage class as a teaching assistant whilst Mrs Hudson enjoys maternity leave.

- Mrs Scoats and Mrs Puopolo join the team of Midday Supervisory Assistants who care for the children at lunch time. Mrs Puopolo has also joined the team of site staff as a cleaner.

Please join me in welcoming each one to the team and wishing them a long and happy association with our school.

NEW PANTOMIME VISIT

On Tuesday 13 December, children in Y2 to Y6 are invited to watch the *Beauty and the Beast* pantomime at The South Holland Centre, Spalding. The performance will take start at 1.15pm and so we have arranged with The Farm Kitchen to deliver cooked meals earlier than usual to accommodate our afternoon visit. Today, a letter has been sent out to parents/carers with further details including a payment request for £11.00 with a strict deadline of **Friday 16 September**. This way we can secure the 'early bird' offer of free ice-cream.

NEW PARENTMAIL PMX



There are still about a third of parents/carers who have not yet registered with our new Parentmail PMX system, which upgraded from Parentmail2 in July. After quite a few 'teething' issues with the upgrade, we should now be up and running! For your convenience, **please download the Parentmail PMX app** onto your device for easy access to our communication.

If you have been unable to successfully register, please contact a member of the school office, who will endeavour to solve your issue.

NEW MACMILLAN CAKE EVENT

On Friday 30 September, the staff of our school will be donating home-baked cakes to sell to the children and their parents/carers after school. Please donate a generous amount per slice of cake for this worthy cause. This is a great excuse to try a cake your teacher has made!

REMINDER SWIMMING LESSONS

Year 3 and 4 children will have their lessons from Thursday 15 September to Thursday 20 October, a total of six weeks. Year 5 and 6 will attend their lessons next term, from Thursday 3 November to Thursday 8 December: a total of six weeks too.

Payment deadlines are on the original letter which was re-communicated via Parentmail PMX again today. Please ensure your child remembers to bring in their swimming kit on these dates. Thank you.

NEW CLASS ASSEMBLIES

I have pleasure in sharing with you the date of your child's Class Assembly this school year. A Class Assembly is a lovely way for the children to share with you their latest learning so we hope that you will be able to attend.

- Each Class Assembly takes place in the school hall and starts at 9:15am (unless otherwise stated).
- Sadly we have to limit the number of guests per child to two.
- If you wish to video record your child, you must seek permission for this from the school office. Video recordings are for private home use only and should not be shared with others or uploaded onto social media sites.

Class	Date
Y2	Thursday 3 November
Y3	Thursday 1 December
Y5	Thursday 2 February
Y6	Thursday 2 March
Y4	Thursday 4 May
Y1	Thursday 8 June in church at 9.30am
FS	Thursday 13 July

We look forward to welcoming you to our assemblies.

NEW KEY DATES

In an attempt to provide you with as much notice as possible for important, we have set in advance dates for such events up to the end of December. At the end of this newsletter is a comprehensive list that we hope you will find useful. Pin it to your notice board now!

REMINDER TEACHERS OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Class teachers are entitled to the equivalent of 10% of their weekly teaching time out of the classroom. This is to allow them to undertake planning, preparation and assessment tasks – often referred to as PPA. This has been regular practice for many years now but I should like to outline to you how this will work for your child's class.

- Miss Henson will be out of the classroom every Wednesday afternoon. The class are then supervised by Mrs Bussey and Mrs Gaches. The same arrangements occur on Thursday afternoons when Miss Henson carries out her role as the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo).



- In Y1, Mrs Graves and Mrs Vere take their PPA time during the days when they are not teaching and so there is no need for an additional adult.
- Mrs Pennell in Y2 will be out of the classroom on Wednesday afternoons when Miss Timms, our Higher Level Teaching Assistant, will be teaching the class.
- In Y3 and Y4, Miss Porter and Mrs Britten carry out PPA on Tuesday afternoons when Mrs Oakley and Miss Timms take the class for an hour of P.E. and an hour of topic. Mrs Oakley is a qualified sports coach.
- In Y5, Mrs Musgrove – a music specialist - teaches the class on Friday afternoons when Mrs Wells has PPA time.
- Mr Dolby, our Deputy Headteacher, is out of the classroom on Friday mornings when he works as part of the Leadership Team, monitoring the quality of teaching and learning in our school. His PPA slot is – usually – on Wednesday afternoons when the class are taught by me!

On the rare occasions that teachers are absent due to illness or are attending training courses, the class will be taught by myself or by our regular supply teachers whenever possible.

REMINDER REQUESTING A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- **A request for a leave of absence will only be authorised by the Headteacher in exceptional circumstances.**
- Requests must be made by parents who have a legal responsibility in writing to the Headteacher by completing a form available from the office.
- A request to attend an appointment with a medical professional at a clinic must be supported with a copy of the letter detailing the appointment as sent by the hospital.
- **PARENTS REMOVING CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL TO GO ON HOLIDAY ARE DOING SO WITHOUT AUTHORISATION AND ARE SUBJECT TO A FIXED PENALTY NOTICE (FINE) OF £60 PER PARENT PER CHILD.**

AND FINALLY...

The children in Y2 to Y6 enjoyed the first of a series of dance classes with Danielle Allen from I Can Dance. Dani has also offered to run an after-school club. A flyer for this went home earlier this week. Look out today for a letter about after-school clubs offered by staff. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis so don't delay. Early next week are fliers for Kick-Off Soccer on Fridays and FDS Multi-skills on Mondays. These are privately run clubs and payment is settled between the organisers and parents.

Yours faithfully

Mr J McCullough
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Academic Year 2016/2017

Foundation Stage children until 2pm (2 weeks) :	from Monday 12 September
iCanDance after school club commences :	Wednesday 14 September (1/6)
Y3 and 4 Swimming lessons start :	Thursday 15 September (1/6)
F.O.L.S. AGM in hall :	Thursday 15 September at 6.00pm
Foundation Stage parents meetings (Reading/WOW):	Thursday 15 September, 9.00am or 6.30pm
Kick Off Soccer after school club commences :	Friday 16 September (1/6)
Bourne Grammar School Verbal 11+ test :	Saturday 17 September
Staff-run after school clubs commence :	Week commencing Monday 19 September (1/8)
FDS Multiskills after school club commences :	Monday 19 September
Bourne Grammar School Non-Verbal 11 test :	Saturday 24 September
Foundation Stage parents meetings (EY/Maths):	Thursday 29 September, 3.30pm or 6.00pm
The Deeping School Open Evening (for Y4/5) :	Thursday 29 September, 5.30 – 8.30pm
Macmillan Cake Event at school (cake for sale):	Friday 30 September from 3.00pm
Scifest in school :	Monday 3 – Friday 7 October
Scholastic Book Fair :	Thursday 6 – Monday 10 October from 3.15pm
Y6 Kingswood Residential :	Monday 10 – Friday 14 October
Tempest Individual Photographs :	Monday 17 October
KS1 Harvest Festival in hall :	Thursday 20 October at 9.15am
KS2 Harvest Festival in hall :	Thursday 20 October at 2.15pm
F.O.L.S. Halloween Disco :	Thursday 20 October; FS/KS1 6.00 – 7.00pm, KS2 7.15 – 8.15pm
Open Day (1/2) :	Tuesday 1 November at 9.15am
Year 2 Class Assembly :	Thursday 3 November at 9.15am
Y5 and 6 Swimming lessons start :	Thursday 3 November (1/6)
Open Day (2/2) :	Wednesday 9 November at 9.15am
Foundation Stage parents meetings (Reading pt2):	Thursday 10 November, 9.00am or 6.30pm

TERM DATES

Academic Year 2016/2017

Term 1 Term ends: Friday 21 October 2016

Term 2 Staff Training Day: Monday 31 October 2016

School opens: Tuesday 1 November 2016
Term ends: Tuesday 20 December 2016

Term 3 Staff Training Day: Tuesday 3 January 2017

School opens: Wednesday 4 January 2017
Term ends: Friday 10 February 2017

Term 4 School opens: Monday 20 February 2017
Term ends: Friday 31 March 2017

Term 5 School opens: Tuesday 18 April 2017
Bank Holiday: Monday 1 May 2017
Term ends: Friday 26 May 2017

Term 6 School opens: Monday 5 June 2017
Term ends: Wednesday 19 July 2017

Academic Year 2017/2018

Term 1 Staff Training Days:
Friday 1 and Monday 4 September 2017

School opens: Tuesday 5 September 2017
Term ends: Friday 20 October 2017

Term 2 Staff Training Day: Monday 30 October 2017

School opens: Tuesday 31 October 2017
Term ends: Tuesday 19 December 2017

Term 3 Staff Training Day: Tuesday 2 January 2018

School opens: Wednesday 3 January 2018
Term ends: Friday 9 February 2018

Term 4 School opens: Monday 19 February 2018
Term ends: Wednesday 28 March 2018
Staff Training Day: Thursday 29 March 2018

Term 5 School opens: Monday 16 April 2018
Term ends: Friday 25 May 2018

Bank Holiday: Monday 7 May 2018

Term 6 School opens: Monday 4 June 2018
Term ends: Friday 20 July 2018