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Langtoft Primary School

Newsletter #114

Term 1/Friday 15 September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back, everyone! 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 Bytheway's class have settled in very well. When I visited them this morning they were very proud that could remember all five sounds that they have learnt already. We wish the children and their families a happy and successful time at our school.

Whilst I have your attention, please can I remind you to return your 'Order Form' for the planned Calculation Workshop on Thursday 28 September for Y1 to Y6. A letter was sent home yesterday with the eldest child in each family as well as on ParentMail. If there is insufficient demand, we shall cancel this year's workshop.

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 on Wednesday 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.

REMINDER SAFETY IN THE PLAYGROUND

Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the 'school rules' we have in place to keep everyone safe on the playground before and after school:

- Children must not be on the school site without an adult until 8:45am. From this time there is a member of school staff on each playground so you may leave your child if you wish.
- Children should dismount scooters and bikes before coming through the gate and park them in the stands behind the staff car park. Pre-school children are asked to do the same but Mum or Dad looking after their 'vehicle' might be a better option!
- Once the bell has rang and your child has lined up, please leave the school site promptly so that we can secure the grounds for the day.



- Similarly, at the end of each day, please empty the playground so that it is clear that no child has been left behind and we can secure the site for children at PlayZone.
- No dogs on site.
- No cigarettes/e-cigarettes on site.
- Children attending our school know not to play on the playground equipment before and after school. Playing on it after school is allowed by pre-schoolers if they are fully supervised by an adult. The school will not accept responsibility for any accidents that may occur.

WELCOME BABY GRAVES

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Graves on the safe arrival of baby Martha last week. All are doing well and wish them plenty of sleep in the coming weeks!

NEW GOODBYE MRS BRITTEN AND MRS TWEEN

We wave a temporary goodbye to Mrs Britten as she prepares for the arrival of her baby due next week.

At the end of the month, we wave a permanent goodbye to Mrs Tween. Mrs Tween joined our school five years ago as a teaching assistant to deliver additional support to children who needed that little extra boost or help with their learning. She has gone on to become an asset to our school, impacting on the learning of tens of children over the years. As Mrs Tween prepares to take (early) retirement, we wish her and Mr Tween great health and happiness together.

NEW HELLO MISS BYTHEWAY, MRS WOGAN, MISS BOWMAN AND MISS TARRANT

We welcome four new members to the staff team. Miss Bytheway is our new Foundation Stage and Phase 1 Leader. She joins Mrs Hudson (back from maternity leave) and 30 boys and girls in our reception class. Mrs Wogan joins Mrs Vere in Y1, covering Mrs Graves' maternity leave for the year. Miss Bowman is in Y4 whilst Mrs Britten is on maternity leave. Miss Tarrant is a trainee teacher and is based in Y5 with Mrs Wells. We hope they enjoy their time at Langtoft.

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 Bytheway will be out of the classroom every Wednesday afternoon. The class are then supervised by Mrs Hudson and Mrs



Gaches.

- In Y1, Mrs Wogan 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. See section below about SENCo.
- In Y3 and Y4, Miss Porter and Miss Bowman 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, Mrs Strawbridge or Mrs Taylor, whenever possible.

NEW SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Pennell has been appointed as our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo). In order to fulfil this key role in our school, Mrs Pennell will be out of the classroom on Thursdays afternoons in Term 1 and all day on Thursdays from Term 2 (November). The class will be taught by Mrs Taylor, one of our regular supply teachers, on Thursdays.

NEW SPELLINGS

We shall be revising the way we ask the children to learn spellings this year. Please look out for a letter in Reading Records next week.

NEW MACMILLAN CAKE EVENT

On Friday 29 September, the staff will supporting this year's MacMillan coffee morning by donating home-baked cakes to sell to the children and their parents/carers after school. This year, we ask that parents/carers bring in a small amount of cakes to sell to the children at playtime. If your child wishes to bring in their spending money, the cakes will sell for 50p each. The remainder of the cakes will be sold after school so please bring in your 50ps at the end of the day. What a great excuse to try a cake your teacher or friend has made!



NEW KEY DATES



In an attempt to provide you with as much notice as possible for important events you will find at the end of this newsletter a comprehensive list that we hope you will find useful. Pin it to your notice board now!

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 on the day of the assembly. Video recordings are for private home use only and should not be shared with others or uploaded onto social media sites.

Class	Date
Y6	Friday 10 November
Y5	Thursday 3 May
Y4	Thursday 1 February
Y3	Thursday 1 March (World Book Day)
Y2	Thursday 30 November
Y1	Thursday 7 June in church at 9.30am
FS	Thursday 12 July

We look forward to welcoming you to our assemblies.

NEW PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

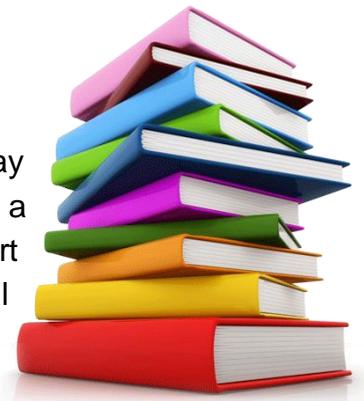
We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join our Governing Body. The term is for four years. Application forms will be sent out to all parents next Friday with a return date of **9.00am Friday 6 October**. If we receive more than one application, an election will be held.

NEW LOST PROPERTY

We do not have a store of lost property in school. Items left on the playground or found in the corridors, for example, are returned to the child whose name is inside the item. **It is therefore essential that are items of clothing and kit that your child brings to school is named clearly.** Items of lost clothing are not kept in the office and unnamed and unclaimed items are disposed of at the end of each week.

NEW SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will take place after school on Thursday 5, Friday 6 and Monday 9 October. Shortly your child(ren) will receive a leaflet outlining what books are on sale during the fair. Please support our school if you can by visiting the fair as the commission we earn will help to buy new reading books across the school.



REMINDER LETTERS HOME

We try hard to maintain frequent and clear communication between home and school. We do this by sending out emails using ParentMail. A newsletter is sent out on the first Friday of each month. This is the main way in which we let you know what is going on in school. Parents of children in the Foundation Stage and in Y1 receive an additional newsletter. We also try to limit sending home letters (for school visits, for example) until a Friday as well. Letters are listed on our website in the hope that no family will miss out on important news.



REMINDER SWIMMING LESSONS

Yesterday, our Y3/4 children went on their first school swimming lesson. The lessons will continue until Thursday 19 October, a total of six weeks. Y5/6 will attend their lessons next term, from Thursday 2 November to Thursday 7 December, a total of six weeks, too. Please help your child to remember to bring in their swimming kit on these dates. Thank you.

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/carers 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 will shortly receive a Fixed Penalty Notice Warning letter which will be valid for the whole of this academic year.
- **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.**

Yours faithfully

Mr J McCullough
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Academic Year 2017/2018

Foundation Stage children full time	from Monday 18 September
Staff-run after school clubs commence	from Monday 18 September
Y3 visit to Flag Fen, Peterborough	Tuesday 19 September
<i>Lincolnshire Free Press</i> to take Foundation Stage class photograph	Wednesday 20 September
KS2 Cross Country competition	Wednesday 27 September
Foundation Stage Parents' Workshop	Thursday 28 September, 3.30pm or 6.00pm
Calculation Workshop for Y1-6 TO BE CONFIRMED 6	Thursday 28 September, 3.30pm and 5.30pm
Macmillan Cake Event	Friday 29 September
Scholastic Book Fair	Thursday 5 – Monday 9 October
Y6 Kingswood Residential	Monday 9 – Friday 13 October
Individual photographs	Monday 16 October
KS1 Harvest Festival in hall	Thursday 19 October at 9.15am
KS2 Harvest Festival in hall	Thursday 19 October at 2.15pm
Open Day (1 of 2)	Wednesday 1 November at 9.30am
Y5/6 swimming lessons start	Thursday 2 November (1 of 6)
Y6 Class Assembly	Friday 10 November at 9.15am
Parent Consultations	Monday 6 – Thursday 9 November
Open Day (2 of 2)	Wednesday 8 November at 9.30am
Foundation Stage Parents' Workshop (Reading Part 2)	Thursday 9 November, 9.00am or 6.30pm
Y6 Remembrance Service at church	Friday 10 November
Staff-run after school clubs finish	Friday 18 November
Children in Need Day	Friday 18 November
Y2 Class Assembly	Thursday 30 November, 9.15am
FS/KS1 Christmas Production	Tuesday 12 December, 1.30pm Wednesday 13 December, 9.30am
KS2 Carol Service in church	Thursday 14 December, 10.00am
Christmas Jumper Day (Wear your woollies!)	Friday 15 December
'Theatre Productions' pantomime in school	Monday 18 December, am

Christmas class parties	Monday 18 December, pm
Sports Day	Thursday 24 May 2018

TERM DATES

Academic Year 2017/2018

Term 1 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

Academic Year 2018/2019

Term 1 **Staff Training Day: Monday 3 September 2018**

School opens: Tuesday 4 September 2018

Term ends: Friday 19 October 2018

Term 2 **Staff Training Day: Monday 29 October 2018**

School opens: Tuesday 30 October 2018

Term ends: Wednesday 19 December 2018

Term 3 Staff Training Days: Thursday 3 and Friday 4 January 2019

School opens: Monday 7 January 2019

Term ends: Friday 15 February 2019

Term 4 School opens: Monday 25 February 2019

Term ends: Friday 5 April 2019

Term 5 **Bank holiday: Monday 22 April 2019**

School opens: Tuesday 23 April 2019

Bank Holiday: Monday 6 May 2019

Term ends: Friday 24 May 2019

Term 6 School opens: Monday 3 June 2019

Term ends: Friday 19 July 2019