



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to March and a very short half term! A huge thank you to the Friends and everyone who contributed to the cake sales at the end of last half term – next stop Book Fairs and Discos! We love to see the enjoyment these events bring and the money raised all comes straight back to the children. We have a busy few weeks ahead, as always, please read on to find out more.

Ms Jordan

Questionnaires



Thank you to all those families who responded to our recent questionnaire on the topics of Attendance and Behaviour outside of school. You can find a summary of the responses with notes, suggestions or next steps sent with this bulletin. This information will be used by school leaders to guide our practice.

Year 2 Sleepover - Postponed




An improvement to our fire detection systems has recently been recommended. Although any risk to our schools or those inside is very low, I have made the unfortunate decision to postpone the Year 2 sleepover that was originally planned for March, until the improvement can be made. I am sorry for any disappointment caused.

Festivals of the Spoken Word



Playing with words is fun! From saying their first words at around a year old, to 2,500 words by age 5 and over 50,000 words by the time they start high school, learning words is a big part of a child's development. Learning, understanding and using new vocabulary is part of every lesson in our schools, from phonemes to fronted adverbials, frogspawn to food chains and physical features to rock formations! It is so important for children to learn, understand and use as many words as possible. Confidence with words opens up worlds of opportunities, for now and the future. Being able to speak in front of others is a life skill and the more eloquently you can do that, the better. And it's not just confidence - children with a poor vocabulary at age 5 are 4 times more likely to struggle with reading into adulthood and 3 times more likely to experience mental health issues. We want all our children to become wizards of words, to wonder and to wow – so please, come and see our children as they perform a variety of class, group, paired and solo pieces. All children will receive a participation certificate and those who choose to present beyond the whole class piece will receive either a commended or highly commended certificate in recognition of their elocution and delivery. Reception will perform at the Infant school, Years 1-6 will perform at the Junior school, maximum of 2 guests per family. Please find dates below.

A Spotlight on Common Childhood Illnesses



Children are very likely to feel poorly at some points in their lives as their immune systems develop. Children can be immunised against some childhood illnesses, but for others, your knowledge will be the best defence. Just One Norfolk has an excellent section on childhood illness including how to support with conditions such as constipation, how to respond to rashes or temperatures, and how to spot more serious illnesses. Take a look here: [Childhood Illnesses \(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](https://justonenorfolk.nhs.uk) Good hygiene and drinking plenty of water are two ways in which school can help children stay healthy – please make sure your child has a water bottle in school each day. If your child is poorly, please remember to call the office at the beginning of each day. This ensures we know your child is safe but also allows us to track any illnesses that might be reportable. If your child is too poorly to be at school, we will not set work for them to complete at home. Absence due to illness is normally authorised.

Parent Forum



You are warmly invited to join school leaders at 2.15pm on Monday 25th March as part of our annual review cycle. We would like to hear your views on two items:

Contributions to trips/events – a contribution for each trip in turn or one annual contribution to cover all events across the year?

Working together with families – what do you feel strongly about that could make our schools even better for your child and family?

Safeguarding Prejudice Related Incidents



Every child should feel safe and protected within our community. Actions or words that can cause physical or mental harm are taken very seriously in our schools. All incidents of discriminatory behaviour are logged and reported (this includes against race, gender, disability, sexual orientation or family circumstance). We will always inform families of any incidents so we can work together to teach our children about the value of everyone.

For more information or support go to:
[Parents' Resources - Educate Against Hate](#)
[Talking to children about racism | NSPCC](#)
[Safeguarding LGBTQ+ children and young people | NSPCC Learning](#)
[Gender identity | NSPCC](#)
[Hidden Disabilities | Childline](#)

Attendance



It is a very close race! At the Infant school, boys have slightly better attendance than girls, with Year 2 overall in the lead. At the Juniors, the girls have the edge with Year 5 overall in the lead!

General Reminders



- Please park considerately to our neighbours and safely for our whole community. Do not park in Elizabeth Close.
- All children should have their own, named, water bottle in school everyday
- Please name all your child's items.
- Please let us know if your details or circumstances have changed over the holiday.
- Our schools are nut-free zones. Please do not include any items containing nuts in packed lunches. Special diets can be catered for by the kitchen.

Safety Reminders



- Only certain members of staff are allowed to let visitors into the school
- If you come into school you will be asked to sign in and out at the office
- Unless otherwise informed, push chairs should normally be left outside school in the buggy park or in the entrance
- Children should not be on the play equipment or on the playground on their own bikes/scooters before or after school

Thank you

Key Dates for this Half Term

Please note a full list of key dates for the year was sent in July and is available on our website.

February

Y4 Multiplication Tables Check meeting for parents/carers – Thursday 29th

March

Walk to School Week – Monday 4th - Friday 8th

Festival of the Spoken Word – Tuesday 5th YR, Wednesday 6th Y1&2, Thursday 7th Y3&4, Friday 8th Y5&6

Book Fair – Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th

World Book Day – Thursday 7th

Sports Relief – Friday 15th

Friends Disco – Juniors Friday 15th, Infants Friday 22nd

Cricket taster day- WV - 13th & SIS - 19th

School Closed for Easter – Thursday 28th, Reopens 15th April

