



Freethorpe Primary and Nursery School

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Wednesday 25th April 2018

Contents of this newsletter

- Attendance and punctuality
- Family Learning
- Friends of Freethorpe
- Break time snacks
- Dog's Trust
- Phone box
- Summer weather
- Golden Work and Presentation Certificates
- Year 6 level 2 cycling
- Dates

Currently our whole school attendance is

96%

Well done everyone, we have reached our target of 96%. Now let's see if we can do even better!

Welcome back to the summer term. I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and are looking forward to some warmer weather!

This is always a very busy term and one that flies by for the Year 6 pupils particularly as it is their final one at Primary school. There are lots of exciting opportunities for the children coming up over the next few months including the summer BBQ organised by Friends of Freethorpe, the cluster performance at Open venue in Norwich, sports day, Family Learning and many other events which I am sure everyone will thoroughly enjoy. We look forward to seeing many of you up at school over the coming weeks.

Attendance and Punctuality:

We have mentioned previously the importance of arriving at school on time so that the children are ready to learn and make the most of their time at school. At present registration stays open for 30 minutes which means that anyone arriving at school within that period of time is marked in. However, where children are repeatedly late it has a significant impact on their learning.

This half term we will be noting any pupils who are not in school for the start of the day – the children are brought in to class at 8:55 from the playground so they are ready to be registered at 9:00am. If the children are not in time to come into class from the playground with their teacher, they will need to come in to school via the office where we will be recoding the time at which they arrive. After half term we will be reducing the length of registration so that any child who arrives after it closes will be marked as late.

As summer term comes around we generally start to receive more requests for leave of absence. So that you are not disappointed if you request leave and it is not granted, we have included the part of the Attendance Policy below that outlines the circumstances in which leave of absence may be given:

In line with Government expectations **headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

- Service personnel returning from / scheduled to embark on a tour of duty abroad.
- Where a period of leave has been recommended as part of a parent's or child's rehabilitation from a medical or emotional issue. Evidence may be requested from qualified professionals, such as a doctor.
- Attendance at the wedding / funeral of a close family member.
- A short break as a family, due to the fact that employer commitments mean that this cannot be taken in **any** school holiday (including Half Terms) – evidence may be requested from an employer

Other times when permission could be given include:

- approved educational activities such as music exams
- religious observance
- or approved higher level sporting competitions (eg County or national representation).

The school **cannot** accept as an exceptional circumstance the fact that a holiday is cheaper during term time, or for birthday treats.

Applications for leave of absence will be looked at on a case by case basis.



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Friends of Freethorpe:

There will be a Friends of Freethorpe meeting on Thursday 3rd May at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and find out what the Friends have been up to, as well as contribute to discussions and preparations for the next events. This includes the school BBQ which is our big fundraiser in the summer term. We are always looking for as much support for the preparation a possible, as well as help on the day.



Family Learning:

We sent home a letter to all parents regarding the Family Learning sessions that will be starting on Thursday 3rd May at school. Initially they will have a Key Stage 1 focus but we will be offering further sessions for Key Stage 2 later this year. The sessions are open to Parents and Grandparents and the feedback we have had from previous Family Learning sessions has always been very positive so if you would like to sign up, please return the form to the office as soon as possible.

Break time snacks: Recently we have noticed that some children who use the KS2 tuck shop at morning break are spending increasingly large amounts of money on snacks. From next week we will be limiting the amount that one child can purchase to 1 drink and 1 food item only. Break time is only an hour before lunchtime and therefore this is a sufficient amount for the children to be consuming at this time of day.

90p will easily cover the cost of this, and in most instances will leave you with plenty of change. Whenever possible please send your child with small change rather than notes so they are not left with lots of change to look after for the day.

The Dog's Trust:

Last week we had a visit from the Dog's Trust. The children took part in an assembly and then there were workshops for many of them where they learnt about responsible dog ownership and staying safe around dogs.





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Freethorpe Telephone Box:

We have been working with the Parish Council to develop the telephone box in Freethorpe, with the idea that it becomes a mini hub in the village: a place to share information as well as becoming a book exchange.

During the last few weeks we have been very lucky to have received lots of help to improve the condition of the phone box, making it ready to use. A big thank you must go to Moulton Garden Centre who provided the plants that have been put around the outside of the phone box. Ros, one of the school's neighbours, has worked hard helping with painting the box and Brian Winch who spent time putting up boards and shelves.



Summer Weather:

Last week we experienced some long awaited hot weather! I am ever hopeful that it will reappear in the not too distant future. During the summer term please can you send your child/ren with a water bottle, sun hat and apply sun screen before school (or send them with sun lotion in their bag if they can apply it themselves).

It is also important that children have a full change of clothes for all PE activities as they do get very warm during sessions.

Golden Work and Presentation Certificates:

This fortnight the following children have been awarded certificates in assembly:

Golden Work Certificates:

Grace Hacon
 Lee Antill
 Emma Hudson
 Jessica Backhouse
 Adam Edwards
 Kenzie Lang
 George Breeze
 Jennifer Crow
 Kiara Clark
 Kaitlyn Girling
 Bailey Larnder
 Faith MacDonald
 Freddie Fytche

Presentation Certificates:

Tariro Mutokonya
 Tatenda Mutokonya
 Mia Broom
 Samuel Elderkin
 Olivia Sanderson
 Kenzie Ciriboto
 Alfie Hanley





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Year 6 Cycling:

Letters regarding Year 6 Cycle training have been sent out this week. This is an opportunity to work with Norfolk County Council trainers to develop confidence with cycling on the roads in a safe manner. It is always very useful for pupils at this age as they are becoming increasingly independent and thinking about the move to high school in September. The initial session will look at the children's bikes to ensure that they are safe for road use and then they will have 2 morning sessions to complete the full training. Please complete and return the form to the office as soon as possible if you would like your child to take part.

Diary Dates: (updates have been highlighted)

Thursday 26 th April	KS1 Sportshall Challenge
Monday 30 th April	Flegg High visit to meet Yr 6 pupils moving to Flegg in September '18
Thursday 3 rd May	Family Learning sessions begin 1-3pm
Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs week: Monday - SPAG paper Tuesday – Reading paper Wednesday – Arithmetic and Maths Reasoning 1 paper Thursday – Maths Reasoning 2 paper
Friday 18 th May	Year 6 cycle check
Monday 21 st May	Year 6 level 2 cycling course taking place this week
Tuesday 22 nd May	Key Stage 2 football
Friday 25 th May	Purple and Blue class trip to Gressenhall
Tuesday 5 th – Wednesday 6 th June	Year 6 First Aid training
Thursday 7 th June	Year 6 Tea Party at Acle Academy, times tbc
Tuesday 12 th June	Technical rehearsal for Open Concert – during school day
Tuesday 12 th June	Cricket tournament
Wednesday 13 th June	Cricket tournament
Thursday 14 th June	Cluster Open Concert doors open at 6:30pm for 7pm start
Friday 15 th June	Trials in school for cluster athletics event at UEA
Monday 18 th June	Year 3/4 Cluster cricket tournament
Wednesday 20 th June	Year 5/6 Cluster cricket tournament
Friday 29 th June	Sports Day and family picnic
Monday 2 nd July	Year 6 attend Norfolk Children's book Festival at Norwich Cathedral and Norwich School
Monday 9 th July	In school transition day – meet new class teachers
Tuesday 10 th July	Year 6 Parents Information evening at Acle Academy
Thursday 12 th July	Yellow, Red and Green class Bewilderwood trip
Friday 13 th July	Choir performance at Freethorpe Methodist Chapel – evening
Tuesday 17 th and Wednesday 18 th July	Key Stage 2 Summer Production, including 2 evening performances at 7pm. The afternoon performance will be at 2pm on Wednesday
Friday 20 th July	Reports sent home
Monday 23 rd July	Year 6 Leavers trip to Pleasurewood Hills
Tuesday 24 th July	Leavers Assembly 10:30am

2017/18 Term dates:

Wednesday 28th March	3:30pm School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 16th April	8:45am School opens for Summer 1
Monday 7th	May Bank Holiday
Friday 25th May	3:30pm School closes for half term
Monday 4th June	8:45am School opens for Summer 2
Tuesday 24th July	3:30pm School closes for summer holidays