



Freethorpe Primary and Nursery School

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Wednesday 12th September 2018

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- School photos
- Christmas Cards
- Guitar lessons
- Snacks and packed lunches
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We have had a fantastic start to term and I have been fortunate enough to spend a great deal of time with the children. I can already see the beginnings of lots of really inspiring learning and progress in all parts of school. Huge well done to our fabulous children for making such a good first impression and thank you to all of our children, staff, parents and community for making me feel so welcome right from the start. We have a lovely school community and I have really enjoyed becoming part of it. As I said in an earlier letter, you are always welcome to come and see me at school or contact me on the phone or by email if you need to.

Chris Aitken, Executive Headteacher...

We will be continuing to send out our school newsletter once a fortnight on a Wednesday. It will usually be sent to you via email. If you would like a paper copy in the future please let the office know and we can print one out for you. Copies are also displayed outside the school office and on the school website for you to look at. Throughout the year most contact that you receive from school will be via email. We will limit the number of paper letters sent home as much as possible. Generally those sent home in paper form require some sort of response from yourselves e.g. a reply slip. The new email system that we have for sending messages is not fully set up at present, hence the paper copy of the newsletter this week!

Contact Details:

We have changed to a new Management Information System within school and all details will be transferred over later this month. Once this happens we will ask you to double check that the contact details that we have for you are correct. However, in the meantime if you know that your contact numbers or addresses have changed please do let the office know – it is very important that we have more than one contact number on our record in case of emergencies. Many thanks.

School Photographs:

Tempest Photography will be in school on Friday 12th October. They will be taking individual and sibling photographs. If the siblings are all in school then we will make arrangements for the photos to be taken. However, if you have other children who are not in the school and would like them to be photographed with their brothers or sisters please bring them in to school first thing and we can arrange for photos to be taken of them together. If your child comes to nursery but is not in on Friday 12th October, they are also welcome to have their picture taken first thing if you bring them in to school.

Christmas Cards:

Every year each one of our classes and nursery make a Christmas card which we have professionally printed. We would like to ensure this year that the cards are on sale earlier to give you more opportunity to purchase and send your cards earlier in the festive season. Therefore, the school Christmas cards will be on sale this year from the beginning of November. We will be sending details out nearer the time so you will be able to place an order for the number of packs that you require.

Guitar lessons: The Rock & Pop foundation are now offering guitar lessons at school. Students get a chance to develop skills across a range of playing styles from rock and pop to classical. Working from the fully accredited syllabus enables students to not only learn skills on the instrument but also in music theory and performance skills. They will also get the opportunity to take Trinity Guildhall Rock & Pop exams.

Currently our whole school attendance is

92.4%

Please help us increase this to 96%+



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Lessons are available to students from Year 3 upwards, either in groups or on a one-to-one basis. Group guitar lessons are £7.90 per 20 minute lesson. For more information and to register your interest please visit www.rockandpopfoundation.com/enrol or pick up a form from the school office.'

Snacks and Lunches:

Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils receive a piece of fruit each day as part of the governments Free Fruit programme. As Key Stage 2 we have a school tuck shop which sells small snacks daily. However, KS2 pupils are able to bring a plain biscuit or piece of fruit for morning snack if they would rather.

Every day the children have the choice of bring their own packed lunch, or ordering a school packed lunch, a jacket potato, a main hot dinner or a vegetarian main hot dinner. If you would like to order a school dinner for your child please let the office know. School dinners cost £2.20 a day. This cost applies from Year 3 upwards as from this age the children no longer qualify for universal free school meals.

We have a number of children in school with nut allergies. In order to ensure that they do not come in to contact with nuts please can you refrain from including nuts in packed lunches or as snacks – this includes peanut butter. We really appreciate your support with this matter.

If you are sending your children in to school with grapes as a snack or part of a packed lunch please can you ensure that they are cut in half lengthwise so that they do not become a choking hazard. Many thanks.

School Garden:

This year each class will be have opportunities to work in the school garden. They will take it in turns, a half term at a time, to work with Mrs Rowlands to learn about the garden, plant and grow a wide range of produce as well as help with upkeep of the garden areas.

This half term Orange and Green Class will be working in the garden on Tuesday. As the weather become wetter please can children bring wellies (and gloves if they have them) in to school on this day each week. We are also looking for donations of spare plants, compost, vegetable seeds or any other items you feel may be useful for us.

Class updates:

Nursery – Everyone has settled in very well and are looking forward to taking part in lots of fun projects coming up. The children and staff are also very excited about the work that is happening with their outside area. We are hoping that this will be completed in the next few days so we can get outside and explore! Further details about Nursery will be sent home in their separate newsletter.

Yellow Class –

We have enjoyed meeting many of you during our home visits and look forward to getting to know everyone over the term ahead. We have begun our PATHS scheme of work – Promoting Alternative Thinking strategies. We have enjoyed meeting Twiggle the Turtle this week and will be meeting other various characters in the form of puppets over the coming weeks.

Children in YR follow the EYFS Framework. The children will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**. Children begin to develop the **3 prime areas** which are:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development.

And the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design.

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities.



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Yellow Class like to be flexible with P.E. sessions so please ensure a named P.E. kit is in school throughout the week. Planned sessions however will be on Friday for both YR and Y1 and also on Mondays for Y1. A small plea form Yellow.... Please also name all clothing as the children do not always recognise their own clothing, or may have the same clothes as someone else, which can make identifying the correct owners very difficult.

From Mrs Davies

Green Class and Year 1 pupils in Yellow Class will follow the same curriculum (see below)

Our first topic will be all about ourselves and creating The Me Museum. We will then be looking at Changes within Living Memory and then moving on to thinking about significant people from the past. Children will learn about locational and directional information within Geography and we will also be learning about London. We have started the term by creating our own Me Museums and our Design and Technology will continue to be developed through the term by developing cookery skills. Within R.E we will be learning about Christianity and Hinduism. Children will learn a range of skills within their P.E sessions and within Art and Design pupils will have the opportunity to explore a variety of different mediums and create individual pieces of art work as well as contribute to collaborative pieces of art work. Children will continue to have PATHS sessions each week and we will be selecting a PATHS pupil of the day. In Green Class we will be awarding Proud Penguin each day to a pupil in the class. All pupils will have daily phonics and literacy sessions, along with daily numeracy sessions. Please do not hesitate to pop into class if you have any questions about what your child is learning about or require further advice on supporting your child's learning at home.

From Mrs Branch (Green Class) and Mrs Davies (Yellow Class)

Red Class:

In Red class we will be looking at the topic of the Romans. We will explore how they influenced our lives today as well as timeline of key events.

In maths we will continue to develop our key skills so we feel confident in using all four operations and also working on our times tables knowledge.

In English we will be looking at different styles of text and working on making our writing consistent, including improving our handwriting.

The children will generally have PE on a Monday and Thursday but it is useful to have PE kit in school all week as the sessions may change according to weather and timetable alterations.

We will also be awarding Proud Penguin each day to pupil in the class. You are welcome to pop in to class to see me if you have any questions about your child or their learning.

From Miss Webb

Orange Class:

Our topic for this term is Roman Britain. In our English lessons we will be reading Roman myths and writing our own versions. We will read a wide variety of instructions before writing our own instructions about how to become a gladiator champion. The picture book 'Escape from Pompeii' will form the basis of our narrative writing unit. The aspect of maths lessons that links with our topic is learning to read and write Roman numerals. In our history sessions we will consider the following questions: Why did the Roman Emperor Claudius leave hot sunny Italy to invade cold, wet Britain? The Roman invasion: have the books got it right? Should the Celts take on the Romans? Why did the Romans spend so much time building roads? And finally, What have the Romans ever done for us? In Art lessons we will be creating Roman Mosaics based on the myths we have read.

From Mrs Maunder

Blue Class:

Blue Class will be starting work on our topic of 'All About Me'. They will be looking at the local community, particularly Freethorpe Church as a starting point, and will be designing and making chairs that represent themselves. For literacy, they will be writing diary entries about



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a memorial event in their lives. P.E will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays generally, although it is best for the children to have their kit in school all week as this may change occasionally. Year 5 and 6 will be swimming at Thorpe St Andrew pool this term and when it is your child's turn to swim they will bring home a letter telling you this.

From Mrs Newton

Purple Class:

The start of our year is focussing on our production of Romeo and Juliet which we will perform at the Norwich Playhouse. We will be learning about the life and times of Shakespeare as well as using the setting of our play (the American Wild West!) as inspiration for our writing. In Maths we will be practising times tables and calculations daily as well as looking at the formal strategies used to solve more complex calculations.

Part of our topic work is related to looking at the heritage we have around us – did you know that the Victorian Antony Salvin, who worked on the Tower of London and Norwich Castle, also worked on Freethorpe Church? We are interested in exploring the Vade Walpole family who had a huge influence within the village so if you have any interesting facts, connections or stories we would love to hear about them.

Purple Class will be doing PE on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. The children will also be swimming at different points during this term – you will receive a letter in advance of when your child starts swimming.

If you have any questions or would like to pop in and see us it is always lovely to chat with you.

From Mrs Houghton and Mrs Kohler

Computing:

The term starts with lessons looking at Online Safety, in particular privacy / security / online reputation and online relationships.

Pupils will be introduced to j2e - the school's Virtual Learning Environment and some of the 'programs' it contains.

The first half of the term is about Control and Coding, where pupils learn to write algorithms of increasing complexity.

The second half of the term is a creative unit. In this pupils explore how technology can be used to make music, manipulate photos, create animations and other film-making techniques.

Science:

Key Stage 2 Science this term is a chemistry unit called Particle Theory. The unit headings are:

- Introduction - atoms, molecules, solids, liquids and gases
- Simple chemical reactions - acids and metals
- Simple chemical reactions - temperature
- Simple chemical reactions - speed and rate of reactions
- Simple chemical reactions - change in mass

The lessons are very practically based and this term the focus is on recording data.

From Mrs Hooper

Open Classrooms:

At the end of each half term we will be holding our "Open Classroom" sessions. Parents and carers are invited from 3:10pm to 3:30pm to spend time in the classrooms and see what the children have been learning during the half term. The children always love being able to show off what they have been working on and I am sure you will enjoy sharing this excitement with them.



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Diary Dates: (updates will be highlighted)

Friday 14 th September	Freethorpe's Got Talent – activity in school for pupils
Tues 25 th /Weds 26 th September	Year 1 Step on Pedestrian Training within school
Tuesday 25 th September	Year 6 Shakespeare rehearsal at Norwich Playhouse, returning to school 4:30pm
Friday 28 th September	Year 6 visit to Acle Academy
Monday 8 th October	Year 6 D&T transition day at Acle Academy
Friday 12 th October	Cluster Cross Country event
Friday 12 th October	Open Classrooms from 3:10pm – 3:30pm
Tuesday 16 th October	Parents Evening 4 -7:30pm
Wednesday 17 th October	Parents Evening 4 – 5:30pm
Wednesday 31 st October	Year 6 performance of Romeo and Juliet at Norwich Playhouse 7pm
Friday 16 th November	Year 6 English Transition day at Acle Academy
Friday 7 th December	Open Classrooms from 3:10pm to 3:30pm
Monday 10 th December	Nativity – Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2, 2pm
Tuesday 11 th December	Nativity – Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2, 2pm
Wednesday 13 th December	KS2 Christmas Concert at Halvergate Church tbc

2018/19 Term dates:

Thursday 6 th September	Pupils return to school
Thursday 18 th October	First day of half term break
Monday 29 th October	Pupils return to school
Wednesday 19 th December	First day of Christmas holiday
Thursday 3 rd January	Pupils return to school
Saturday 16 th February	First day of half term break
Monday 25 th February	Pupils return to school
Saturday 6 th April	First day of Easter holiday
Tuesday 23 rd April	Pupils return to school
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Saturday 25 th May	First day of half term break
Monday 3 rd June	Pupils return to school
Wednesday 24 th July	3:30 School closes for summer holiday