

Together the best that we can be!

Dates for the Diary

INSET DAYS 2017-18

20.10.17, 4.6.17, 25.6.17

15.9.17

Curriculum overviews sent home

18.9.17 Year 5 meeting 5pm

19.9.17 Year 4 meeting 5pm

21.9.17 Year 3 meeting 5pm

25.9.17 Year 6 meeting 5pm

26.9.17 Year 2 meeting 5pm

4.10.17

Year 4 Cadbury World Visit

5.10.17

Harvest Festival at church (children and staff only)

9.10.17

Parent Consultations 4-7pm in the KS1 and KS2 Halls

17.10.17

Year 5 visit to Perlethorpe

19.10.17

Children finish for half term holiday

20.10.17

INSET

30.10.17

Start back after half term holiday

30.11.17

Year 1 visit to Sudbury Hall

5.12.17

Foundation Nativity at school
9.45 am KS1 Hall



Our Christian value for this term is: Hope

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a lovely summer. It would have been great to have had more sunny days! The children have come back looking happy and with a positive attitude and I am sure it's going to be a great year. This newsletter will contain several reminders and dates which are important for the running of a safe and happy school.

This half term's Christian Value is 'Hope'

The Christian understanding of hope is much deeper than our everyday use of the word can be. We hope that it will not rain for the picnic, or that the car will start or that the plumber will come tomorrow.

Hope is a universal human phenomenon. People hope for peace in time of war; food in time of famine; justice in time of oppression. Where hope is lost there is despair and disintegration.

Hope generates energy and sustains people through difficult times.

New staff and children

Due to the increased numbers in Foundation 1 due to the extended 30 hours entitlement, we have appointed an F1 teacher for the second half of the week. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Catherine Hibbert who is an experienced Early Years Teacher. Mrs Sheila Pegg has decided to retire from her role as Teaching Assistant in KS1 and we thank her for her hard work whilst at the school. We are pleased to welcome (on a temporary basis) Miss Heather Vernon who will work full-time in KS1/ Foundation.

We would also like to welcome all our new starters in Foundation 1 and 2 who are settling in really well.

Lastly welcome to our other new families who have joined us. The children are Francesca M, Lillie M, Olivia M, Mollie M, Grace P, Ieuan P, Mia W, Joel R, Charlie M, Ava S-R, Lydia P, Eliza P, Dekota M and Phoebe N.

Projects in school

Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA and in particular Vikki Hart and Alyson Shreshta for the time and effort they spent on improving the KS2 playground. The hump is no longer a hump! Trees have been removed, the hump greatly reduced and a new surface has been applied. The next plan is to purchase some benches for this area and maybe eventually a canopy! The area is much improved being less muddy/dusty and will not only be better for the children but will help with the drainage on the playground. The wall has also been painted and some signs installed with elements of the school ethos on display. The garden area has also been extended and this will allow for more planting etc. The fence is due to be painted by some volunteers from Santander Bank, which has been arranged by Mrs Jane Willard (community governor). These volunteers are also going to rejuvenate the KS2 quad by weeding, digging over areas and painting the benching. I would like to thank them for their willingness to help. Major works have also taken place in the buildings with both KS1 and KS2 boilers being replaced. Water heaters have also been replaced. This work is ongoing but with no impact on the running of the school. The Local Authority has funded these works. The heating should therefore be far more efficient than previously and will in time hopefully be a cost saving to the school.



Weekly Newsletter

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Dates for the Diary

- 6.12.17**
Foundation Nativity at school
2.15 pm. KS1 hall
- 14.12.17**
Year 1/2 Nativity at school 2.30 pm
KS2 Hall
- 15.12.17**
Year 1/2 Nativity at school 2.15 pm
KS2 Hall
- 20.12.17**
Christmas Pantomime at school
- 22.12.17**
Finish for Christmas holiday
- 8.1.18**
Start back after Christmas holiday
- 15.1.18**
Young Voices concert for choir
Members
- 19.1.18**
Spring term curriculum overviews go
out
- 16.2.18**
Finish for half term holiday
- 26.2.18**
Start back after half term holiday
- 12.3.18**
Parent Consultations 4-7 pm in the
classrooms
- 14.3.18**
Parent Consultations 4-7pm in the
classrooms
- 27.3.18**
Year 3/4 Easter Service at church 10
am

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Year Group Meetings, overviews and visits

These will take place over the next few weeks. (Year 1 had their meeting before the holiday). These meetings are to share important information for the year and I would urge parents to attend these meetings. (Dates are in the Dates for Diary section pg. 1). Things do change from year to year so please go along and meet the teachers and find out what is happening and how you can support your child. Curriculum overviews will be sent home on 15th September.

Several parents last year suggested that it would be useful if they could know some of the expected voluntary contributions for the year so these could be planned for. Therefore if you have not already received this letter, these will go out over the next few days.

School dress code

The required school wear is simple and available at major stores. It consists of the following:

1. Navy blue jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan
2. White shirt/blouse/t-shirt
3. Grey trousers/skirt
4. Summer dresses in the appropriate school colours.
5. Sensible footwear (no trainers) preferably black or grey.

Children may wear sandals in the summer.

Alternatively sweatshirts, polo-shirts and cardigans with an embroidered school logo are available through the PTA (order form available from the school office or school website). Jogging pants can also be purchased. We would stress the need for simple clothes and shoes at first, as children are encouraged to be independent in their dressing as soon as they enter school.

Children should bring a waterproof coat with a hood during the colder months as they may still go out for break times if it is raining lightly. During the summer months, we would advise that your child bring a hat to school to protect them from the sun. You may also wish to send your child with sun cream which they will need to apply themselves.

Children should have separate outdoor and indoor PE shoes - trainers for outdoors (with a bag in case they get muddy) and clean soled shoes, preferable plimsolls for the hall. Children will need blue or black shorts and a white top for P.E. lessons (plain tops).

Long hair will need to be tied up for PE sessions and therefore children with long hair should ensure that they have a bobble in their PE kit (otherwise they will be asked to use an elastic band).

We do ask that all items of clothing and footwear are clearly marked with your child's name. If children come to school in boots/wellingtons, they will need a change of shoes to wear during the day. For Health and Safety reasons we do discourage the wearing of jewellery in school. A watch may be worn and girls may wear stud earrings. Children are requested to not wear earrings on P.E. days or they will need to be covered (parents are responsible for providing medical tape for the children to cover the earrings themselves).



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- 28.3.18**
Year 3/4 Easter Service at church
- 29.3.18**
Finish for Easter holiday
- 16.4.18**
Start back after Easter holiday
- 27.14.18**
Summer term curriculum overviews go out
- 7.5.18**
Bank Holiday- school closed
- 25.5.18**
Finish for half term holiday
- 4.6.18**
INSET
- During May Year 2 will do the KS1 SATS**
- 5.6.18**
Start back after half term holiday
- 10.6.18**
Year 6 Residential to Caythorpe
- W/C 11.6.18**
Year 1 Phonics Test
- 12.6.18**
Year 2/KS2 Sport's Day 2pm on KS2 field
- 14.6.18**
F2 and Year 1 Sport's Day on KS2 field
- 19.6.18**
Reserve Year2/KS2 Sport's Day 2pm
- 21.6.18**
Reserve F2 and Year 1 Sport's Day

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Shaved hairstyles and colours are not considered suitable for school. It would also be appreciated if gelling was kept to a minimum. Nail varnish should not be worn to school as it is considered unsuitable. Transfers are also considered to be unsuitable. Wristbands of any type are not allowed to be worn in school for health and safety reasons.

Mornings and after school

If you need to share information or ask a question we would rather this be done after school as the class teacher needs to start teaching at 9am. If you urgently need to speak to a member of staff in the morning then please could this be a Teaching Assistant or a member of the office staff. If you need to see the teacher and cannot come after school then we would ask you to make an appointment at a convenient time. Also due to the school being open plan, we would appreciate it if parents do not come into school before the end of the day as this can be disruptive for the teachers and children. We do understand if a younger child needs the toilet but we would then ask for you to return outside to wait.

Please can I remind parents; that children should not be on either playground unsupervised before 8.40 am. There are no staff on duty until this time and therefore this would be putting your child at risk.

This Year's Improvement Plan

Our results in 2017 for Year 6 children were above the National Average in Reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. The results for writing was in line with the National Average. The progress in reading was good from the children's starting points and very good in maths. Reading and Maths were on last year's improvement plan and therefore we are pleased with these outcomes. However progress in writing was slightly below the National Average. Therefore the main focus of this year's Improvement Plan will be writing.

Dates for Diary Cont.

- 25.6.18**
INSET
- 2.7.18**
Possible transition week
- 13/14.7.18**
Year 4 Residential to Castleton
- 13.7.18**
Reports go home
- 25.6.18**
Year 6 Leaver's Service at St. Peter's Church 1.30 pm
- 25.7.18**
Finish for Summer holiday

Mobile phones

We appreciate some children need to have a phone with them. However please consider whether it is vital as last year managing the collection and distribution of phones resulted in a delay to the start and end of the day. If your child does need a phone they **MUST** be labelled and handed in to the office. We ask that children do not use them at all once on the school premises.

Thank you.

H Thomas