

All Saints' C of E Primary School

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Inspire Challenge Succeed

5th September 2014

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year! I would like to give a warm welcome to all of our starters in Acorn Class and also to Chloe and Leo into Ash Class. Welcome also to Miss Duffety in Year Three and Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Dunn into Year One.

I would also like to congratulate Mrs Hickford for passing her assessment to become a Higher Level Teaching Assistant following a rigorous assessment process in the summer term. This is a great achievement!

DATES IN DIARIES

Parent Group Coffee morning 9am 8th September school hall – all parents are welcome to come along for a coffee and refreshments. Come along and find out how you can support the school and help to plan fundraising and social events for the new school year.

Parent Forum 9am 18th September school hall – at this informal meeting parents can hear about new school initiatives, including the new national curriculum. This is a great opportunity for you to find out more about plans for the future of the school as part of the School Organisation Review and to ask any questions you may have about specific areas of the school.

Phonics session for parents 23rd September 3.30pm – at this session parents of children in Acorn Class and Key Stage One can find out more about how we teach phonics, why it is so important for developing reading skills and how you can support your child at home. There is a crèche facility in the school hall to enable parents to attend this session.

Whole school Poetry day 1st October

Whole school Maths Problem Solving Day 13th October – The Parent Group have kindly funded this whole school problem solving day with the Happy Puzzle Company.

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Harvest Festival Enrichment Day 10th October – more details to follow

Harvest Festival celebration assembly 10th October – 2.30pm school hall – everyone welcome

Open Books session for parents 3pm 15th October – at this session parents have an opportunity to look through their child's work in their classrooms at the end of the school day. Your child will be able to talk about their work and what they have achieved.

Parents Evening 16th October 4.30- 7pm – more information will follow.

Parents Evening 20th October 3.30-5.30pm – more information to follow.

Parent Group Family Barn Dance 23rd October – more information on flyer from Parent Group

PD day 24th October – school closed

Half Term 27th October – 31st October

Individual school photographs 3rd November am

Big Sing Year four music event at Snape Maltings 28th November – more information to follow.

Christingle Service 2.30pm 1st December All Saints' Church

Whole school trip to the pantomime 5th December – more information to follow

Open Books session for parents 3pm 8th December

Christmas decoration morning 12th December – more information to follow.

Carol service 2.30pm All Saints' Church 19th December – more information to follow

Some of these dates may be subject to change but we will keep you updated each week.

NEW CURRICULUM

This year we will implement the new National Curriculum throughout Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. We have been working on the new plans over the past year and will send home the curriculum plan for your child's class at the start of next week. In addition to this we will publish the curriculum plans for each year group on the school website.

We hope that these plans will enable you to see what your child is learning and the key skills which we will teach each child for all subjects. It is hoped that you will support your child by helping them to research some of the key topics in order to support their learning.

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Along with each subject area we have included additional elements which we feel will enrich your child's education and prepare them for growing up and living in modern Britain. These include a focus on the 'World of Work' so that our children can understand why they need to develop a broad subject knowledge and the sorts of jobs that use these skills. We have detailed the enrichment activities which are planned for the year ahead which include visitors to school, school visits and enrichment days. We have also included a focus on SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) education for all year groups as we feel that each of these elements is important when developing each child's personal development.

SILVER CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

After much discussion and research of how to ensure that all children develop a positive attitude and a positive mindset to learning, we have decided to change the format of the Silver Celebration assemblies this year.

We feel that it is important to recognise and celebrate every child's achievements and for children to identify what they have learnt and improved as the year progresses. We will select at random two children from each class every fortnight who will be asked to select a piece of their work or a key success they have achieved to share with the school and their parents in assembly. This will encourage **all** of our children to recognise what they have achieved and have a pride in sharing this achievement with others. Every child will receive a special certificate for being able to share their successes.

The first Silver Celebration assembly will take place on Tuesday 30th September and invitations to parents of children sharing their work will be sent home in advance.

HOUSE POINTS

We have also been reviewing our 'house' system within school and as a staff we feel that it would be great if each 'house' could share a range of activities together as a team throughout the year, for example enrichment days and sports day. We believe that this will further develop the positive relationships between all children in school.

Following feedback from parents and children we have also decided to place siblings in the same team so that they can share experiences together at school, which we feel is important.

As we now have increased pupils numbers (120 this term) we have also decided to increase the number of houses to five – Peacocks, Greenfinches, Yellowhammers, Red Kites and Snowy Owls. Mrs Kemp will send a letter home detailing which 'house' your child belongs to and a reminder about how your child can earn house points for their team.

WATER BOTTLES

Many of you may have seen the new teaching and learning space which we have created in the Key Stage Two area and Little Acorn classroom. This has greatly improved this area and has created more space for our Year One children each afternoon. As part of this

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remodelling the water fountain has now been removed and so could we please remind parents that EVERY child should bring a labelled water bottle to school every day.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Each term we seem to gather a lot of school uniform in our lost property and often struggle to find the owners of each item as they are not labelled. Just a reminder that all items of clothing should be clearly labelled so that we can reunite lost or mislaid items to their rightful owner!

100% ATTENDANCE

As you are aware attendance is very important to our school and recent initiatives and penalties put in place by the local authority also indicate that this is a high priority within local and national Government. In the next week I will send home our revised attendance policy which will highlight yet again the reasons why it is important to ensure that your child attends school and the measures that we have in place to monitor this in order to improve levels of attendance throughout the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who worked with me last year to improve their child's attendance.

I would like to congratulate the following children for achieving 100% attendance in the last academic year. These children will receive an award a prize in assembly next week:

Rocky Clements
Freya Dunn
Isabella French
Cara Goode
Lucy Howe
Ella lane
Ned Palmer Randle
Tilly Price
Bethany Woodroof

UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS

This week marked the start of the entitlement for every child in Reception, Year One and Year Two to have a free school meal every day. On Thursday 101 children enjoyed a hot school lunch and today the numbers increased to 109! I understand from most parents that they wish their child to benefit from this new initiative and that they intend for their child to have a school lunch every day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Copping, our school cook, and her team for their hard work in preparing and serving such delicious school meals!

READING CHALLENGE

Well done to those children who took part in the Suffolk Library Reading challenge in the summer break. Please bring your certificate into school and Mrs Kemp will hold a presentation assembly to celebrate the achievements of the children who took part.

I hope that your child has enjoyed their first few days at school – it has been lovely to see them all again!

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Please do remember that if you have any concerns or queries that you can always pop in for a chat with your child's teacher or myself . If I am not available then I will always call you back or catch up with you at the end of the day.

Kindest Regards,

Clare Lamb
Headteacher

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