



**GROWING
SUCCESSFUL
FUTURES**

NEWSLETTER

January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I trust that you and your family had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and hope that you are all pleased to back to school!

New faces

We would like to welcome **Miss Williams to Acorn Class** who has made a terrific start to the new term with the Nursery and Reception; I am sure you will join us in making her feel welcome. Miss Williams has also brought her ducks along with her and the children are enjoying getting to know them. We have also had new pupils starting at Barnby and we would like to welcome them along with their families too. **Mr Roberts** (a member of the CMAT P.E. Team) will be joining us on a Friday to take the children for their P.E. lessons and carrying out an after school fencing club.

Class topics

You should have all received a letter last week informing you of your child's topic for this term. If you or you know of anyone who has any exciting facts or stories to share relating to the topics please contact your child's class teacher who will interested to hear from you.

PE

Please note that earrings must be removed on PE days and long hair tied back. Children also require a pair of jogging bottoms and a tracksuit top as they will be outside for P.E.

P.E kits must be in school on a Monday and taken home on Friday for washing, ready to be returned on Monday morning. If your child has any of their kit missing or incorrect kit, a note will be written in their school diary informing parents/carers.

Winnie the Pooh lunch

On **Thursday 18th January** Mrs Hogg will be serving a special Winnie the Pooh lunch and we would like to invite your child to bring in a character from Winnie the Pooh to join them for lunch (please ensure this has your child's name on). The special lunch will consist of:

Winne's Honey Baked Sausages with Rabbit Roast Potatoes & Gopher Gravy
Or
Tigger's Veggie Toad-in-the-Hole with Rabbit Roast Potatoes & Gopher Gravy
With
Piglet's Peas & Christopher Robin's Carrots

Kanga Roo's Chocolate & Biscuit Fridge Cake

(Pick 'N' Mix and jacket potatoes will also be available)

Universal Free School Meals

Please be reminded that under the government's 'Universal Free School Meals Scheme', we are given funding to provide for all children in the following years a school dinner, free of charge to the parents and carers:-

- *Reception, Year 1 & Year 2*

The link between eating a hot meal during the school day to improved pupil attainment, behaviour and focus in the classroom is highly recognised, so we would encourage all parents to take up the opportunity of a school dinner if you can. These cost £2.30 per day.

We are very fortunate to have a kitchen at our school which provides your child with a healthy, varied and nutritious hot meal for your child. Your child is able to choose from a range of dishes, including:-

- *A hot main meal, or hot vegetarian meal (pre-order required)*
- *A jacket potato, with either cheese, tuna or beans and salad garnish (now served everyday)*
- *'Pick and Mix', with either, ham, cheese or tuna roll and a selection of savoury compliments and a choice of dessert (now served everyday)*
- *Homemade fresh bread and a selection of fresh salad*
- *A hot dessert, or selection of fresh fruit, cheese & biscuits or flavoured yoghurt*



Pupil Premium

Even if your child will qualify for a 'Universal Free School Meal', we recommend that you still apply for free school meals/pupil premium funding, if you are eligible, as your child may benefit from other areas, such as:-

- Learning support
- Additional educational resources
- Subsidised educational visits
- Subsidised residential trips
- Subsidised after school clubs

Please be assured that your application remains entirely confidential. Even your child will not be aware that they are in receipt of free school meals. You may be eligible to claim for free school meals for your child if you receive any of the following:

- *Income support*
- *Income based job seeker's allowance*
- *Income related employment and support allowance*
- *Guarantee element of state pension credit*
- *Child tax credit but not the working tax credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.00*
- *If you are supported under part VI of the immigration and asylum Act 1999*
- *Working tax credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week.*

To enquire if your child is eligible, call: **01473 260989** (Ipswich/Lowestoft and surrounding area).

Or go to the Suffolk County Council website at:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-transport-and-travel/apply-for-free-school-meals/#tab1>

Brightness Day

Our Junior Road Safety Officers have organised their annual Brightness Day on **Friday 26th January**. This is a day where they ask the children to come dressed as brightly as possible to school. A prize will be given to the most brightly dressed child in each class.

Chinese New Year

As a school we will be celebrating the Chinese New Year on **Thursday 8th February**. We would like the children to come into school dressed in the colours of the Chinese flag (yellow and red) or if they have any traditional Chinese costume to come in that. During the school day the children will take part in a variety of activities where they will learn about how the Chinese population will be celebrating the year of the Dog. Mrs Hogg will be serving a Chinese themed lunch on the day (details to follow).



World Book Day

Like previous years we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 1st March**. Children will have the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favorite book character, so get your thinking caps on for costumes!

Home School Learning

Home school learning is a fun way to involve parents and carers with their child's learning and get to know what is going on in school. Each year group (**YR-4**) will be given a list of possible activities to do during each half term, by their teacher. Choose the activities that you would like and the projects will be due in at the end of the half term and parents invited into school for a "sharing" afternoon. This is when the pupils have a chance to talk about their home/school projects with others and therefore embed their learning. It is also a good opportunity for parents to spend some time in school too. Parents and carers are invited to attend a meeting on **Wednesday 21st February** at **2.30pm** where the teachers will explain more.

SATS Meeting

Mrs Clements and Mr Vaughan would like to invite parents and carers of **Year 2 and 6** pupils to a short meeting on **Wednesday 21st February at 3.15pm**. During the meeting they will inform you how SATS work and how the school will be supporting your child. If you are unable to make the meeting please inform your child's teacher who will arrange another time to speak to you.

School Uniform

We are still experiencing a lot of lost property so if we could ask that all uniform is named, including trainers. Any lost property that has not been claimed at the end of each term will be recycled as we have not got the space to store it.

Attendance

Please remember the importance of attendance and a prompt start to the school day. Two whistles will be blown by a member of staff on duty, the first indicates for the children to line up and the second for parents to leave the playground so that the children can then be lead into school by their class teacher.

All children need to be encouraged to be independent and should be able to carry all of their belongings into school by themselves; this is a life-skill which teaches children to take responsibility. No parents should be entering the school before the start of school. Should you wish to speak a member of staff, please either speak to the teacher on duty or after your child has been lead into school, walk round and enter through the front door and Mrs Bunn will either pass a message onto the teacher or arrange for an appointment to be made if needed.

Parents are reminded to use the **Parent Postbox** in the playground for dinner monies and Parent Voice Forms, etc and **should only come into school if it is of the utmost importance.**



We are a 'Listening School'

We will continue to work hard communicating any relevant information to you. As a reminder, the 'Parent Post Box' is there for you to use in feeding back to us. 'Parent Voice' forms can be found in the school foyer and in the policy section of the school website.

Parking

We would like to remind parents and carers to be mindful when parking to bring or collect their child from school. Once again we have had reports of people parking in Wiggs Acre which is obstructing resident's driveways.

Clubs

Once again all our after school clubs are very successful this term and it is great that families are making the most out of our ESCape Club. Places are always available at the ESCape club and a weekly commitment is not necessary. However, a booking form should be completed and payment should be made to the school office. The sessions are as follows: 3pm – 4pm with Miss Sexton (£2) 4pm -5pm with Mrs Dann (£2 drink and snack supplied) and 5pm – 6pm with Mrs Dann (£3 light tea supplied). Breakfast club is also available daily from **8am** with Mrs Davidson (£2.50). Please can we ask that if you require breakfast club at short notice that a message is sent to either Mrs Davidson on the PTFA Facebook page or Mrs Bunn via email.

And finally

We will keep you updated about improvements planned to the reception area and library, which should begin in the near future.

Where together excellence and pupils thrive.

Kind regards,

Mrs Williams
Interim Executive Head





Dates for your Diaries

DATE	EVENT	CLASS	TIME
Tuesday 16 th January	TKF Karate taster session	Whole School	P.M
Thursday 18 th January	Winnie the Pooh lunch	Whole School	12.00pm
Friday 26 th January	Brightness Day	Whole School	All Day
Wednesday 7 th February	Pupil Parliament	School Council	All Day
Thursday 8 th February	Chinese New Year	Whole School	All Day
Friday 9th February	LAST DAY OF HALF TERM		
Monday 12 th February	START OF HALF TERM HOLIDAYS		
Monday 19th February	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL		
Wednesday 21 st February	Home School Learning Meeting	Acorn, Oak & Willow Class Parents/Carers	2.30pm – 3.00pm
	SATS Meeting	Year 2 & 6 Parents/Carers	3.15pm
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day	Whole School	All Day
Thursday 29th March	LAST DAY OF TERM		
Friday 30 th March	START OF EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Monday 16th April	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL		

