



Newsletter

Friday 24th November 2017

Term Dates 2017/18

24th November
Flu Vaccinations

30th November
Sportshall Athletics for Y3/4 and
Y5/6

4th December
Reverend Elliott assembly

12th December
KS1 Party Day

14th December
KS2 Party Day

15th December
Pantomime trip

18th December
Day time performances of both
plays

19th December
Reception KS1 performance
(2pm and 6pm)

20th December
KS2 performance (2pm and
6pm)

21st December
Christmas Lunch
Carol Service at church
Christmas Jumper Day

22nd December
School closes for Christmas

8th January
School closed – Training Day

9th January
School reopens

Safeguarding Request

Safeguarding children is our biggest area of work within school, and we put in a huge amount of time and effort to ensure children are safe in school. Therefore we do have a couple of requests to help with this.

Firstly, if your child attends an after school club it is important that you let the school office know if they are **not** going to be attending that night. We remind the children in class where they are to go and staff complete registers in each club. If a child is absent and no message has been given, this means we have to spend time checking the site, and then ringing parents and other contacts to find out why they are not there. We will of course continue to do this because we need to find out exactly where the children are, but if you could do your part and let us know in advance then it saves a lot of time and concern.

Secondly, we have noticed an increase in parents coming into school in a morning, particularly down the Y2/3/4 corridor. Parents do not need to come into school with their children; a teacher opens the door when it is time to come in. If you need to speak to a teacher it needs to be before 8.45am. If this is not a good time, you can speak to the office or myself or make an appointment to see the teacher at the end of the day. We do not want adults coming into the school building without our knowledge. Please don't be offended – we welcome all parents into school but in a way that we can oversee it. This goes for after school clubs also – waiting outside until the club is finished or by the school office is the correct location, not coming into other areas of the school building.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Anti-Bullying Week

Last week was Anti-Bullying Week and yet again we saw some fantastic work across the school. The theme this year was 'All different, all equal'. Each year group spent time across the week celebrating the things that make us unique and how we have similarities between us that we didn't know and things that make us all a bit special.

This all combines with our work in RE, where over the course of the last 4 years we have studied in depth Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism and this year Islam. We are a 98% White British school and any work we can do to teach children more about different cultures and religions is hugely important and that we are all just that – different but equal. We will be publishing some of the work on our website very soon!

Friends of the School

The Friends of Hutton Cranswick School AGM happened over a week ago, with a newly elected Chair in the form of Emma Skipp. Emily Proudfoot is the Secretary (Karen Which has been fulfilling this role admirably for a long time!), with Kirstin Mearns as Vice Chair and Richard Swan as Treasurer. As a school we would like to thank the Friends' for their hard work over the year, providing a range of fantastic events and raising money along the way!

The money raised by the FOHCS last year will be paying for the whole school visit to the pantomime in Beverley in December. The remainder will be hopefully joining with our Fun Run money to purchase a whole range of playground markings and outdoor equipment for all children to enjoy.

As ever, if you would like to volunteer your time or any ideas you may have, it would be fantastic to hear from you.

Christmas is looming

Whilst I may find Halloween sweets getting replaced by Christmas chocolates far too early, by the time we get to November we do as a school start to think about Christmas productions. This year we will be changing the format for the first time in a few years.

Now that we have seven classes and an ever growing number of children, it is not possible for us to complete a whole school production in our hall. So this year Reception and KS1 will be putting together a nativity production and Y3-5 will be putting on a performance with a James Bond twist, 'Christmas is Forever'. This way we will be able to put on 3 performances of each play with enough tickets for immediate family. Any help you can provide in terms of learning lines and costumes will be gratefully received - we do not let these productions overtake our everyday learning – it is fun and enjoyable without being rehearsed to death!

Our Year 6 children will be producers, runners and technicians as usual, with their performance coming in the summer prior to leaving the school. It is an exciting time for all of the children, and we look forward to welcoming you into school to enjoy the finished production.

Attendance Letters

Any child who has an attendance record of 90% or below will be classed as a persistent absentee, as decreed by the DfE. Parents of children slipping below this will be invited in to meet with me and put an attendance action plan in place, and if any of the objectives fail to be met then the Educational Welfare Officer becomes involved and this leads to a further action plan. Failure here can result in court appearances and substantial fines.

I realise this sounds quite scary, but it is a system we have no choice but to follow. The system is there, and we are here to help and prevent anyone from having to go through that process. Later this term I will be sending a letter out to any parents of any child who has an attendance record of less than 93%. **Please do not worry about this letter, it is only to highlight to your attention and allow you to avoid getting to the 90% mark. Each day attended reduces the absence figure – by spring and summer it will no doubt be very different!**

If anyone is below 90% (unless significant illness has caused this), you may be invited in and we will put an action plan in place, and I have no doubt that it will be easily passed and we can move on.