



Newsletter

Tuesday 19th December 2017

Term Dates 2017/18

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

9th February

School break up for half term

19th February

School re-opens

23rd March

School closes for Easter

9th April

School re-opens for the summer term

Christmas Productions

Thank you for your help in ranking ticket preference for the performances this year. We have already upped the numbers of performances and split into two different productions, so this way we have managed to keep the numbers to fire safe regulations. As the school increases in size we will need to continue to do it this way in order to fit everyone in.

As I have said in each performance, we haven't practised for several weeks in advance, we have only used the last 2 weeks to prepare. We put on productions to allow children the opportunity to perform to a crowd, to sing and to dance. I think this is important as this does allow different children the opportunity to perform. I think we are in a shrinking number of schools in which every child each year gets to perform on the stage.

I am sure you will enjoy the hard work that has gone into the performance, and I have no doubt you will leave feeling that little bit more Christmassy!

Finally, this week will see some tired and excited children, and we often see a sharp increase in falling out at the end of each term. If you could help by explaining everyone else is feeling the same and they may need to show more patience for each other that would be brilliant!

Christmas Jumpers and Carols

We will be inviting all children to come into school on Thursday 22nd in their Christmas jumpers. They are asked to bring in £1 for Dove House Hospice to support them in the honourable work they carry out throughout the year.

On the morning of the 22nd we will also be heading up to St Peter's Church in Hutton for our annual Christmas Carol singing. This will be at 9.30am, and you are invited to attend. Please be aware that there are around 50 seats located at the back of the church for you, the pews will all be used by the school.

Christmas Holiday

Just a reminder that Monday 8th January is a Teacher Training Day, so the school will not re-open until Tuesday 9th January 2018.

From all at school, we wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas break and start to 2018. Here's hoping 2018 will be a great year for all!

SNOW POLICY: IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Policy in Practice - What the school does to assist in the event of icy weather conditions

It is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes round the site and across the playground have been identified and will be gritted before giving access to the site, thereby minimising the risks to children parents and visitors.

In extreme cases, the Headteacher may decide that there is no option but to close the school if there is presented a severe health and safety risk. A severe Health and Safety Risk would be presented if insufficient staff could reach the school or indeed the health and safety of staff meant that they should leave early. In the event of severe weather, a decision to close the school for pupils will be made by 7.30am. The Head Teacher will contact Radio Humberside and Viking Radio to ask them to broadcast the information. Updates will be posted on the Twitter section of the school's website, and the school app.

Playground areas are gritted if practical before 8:30am and when not, by morning break. At playtimes a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the senior teacher on duty in conjunction with a member of the Senior Management Team. Children may not throw snowballs on the playgrounds. However if the field is covered by thick snow pupils may be allowed to play on the field in the snow, make a snowman and throw snowballs. Those not wishing to throw snow (or indeed be hit by snowballs) should stay on the playgrounds. The school believes that playing in and throwing snow is part of a child's life experiences, and as we have had so little in recent years, should be enjoyed!

Closing a school at short notice, including closing mid-way through a day, poses considerable difficulties for parents and will only be taken as a very last resort. A complete heating failure in the winter and/or a loss of the water supply would however result in the school having to close. Good communication is essential.

Parents/Carers are asked to be responsible and plan more time for their journey, suitable footwear for having to walk further, wrapping up to keep warm etc....parents should not expect to be able to park close to the school at these times! Parents and visitors are expected to use the gritted paths rather than walk across the snow and ice.

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. Before the end of 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.