



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

8th March 2018

A note from Mr England

We have an incredibly busy few weeks coming up before we break up for the Easter holidays and **I apologise for an extremely long newsletter but there is a large amount of important information I have to pass on to you.** As you will see when you read the newsletter, we have taken the decision to postpone our Sports Relief activities - the recent bad weather and rain we have had since has left the field totally unsuitable for us to try walking a mile on it every day. We will reschedule the week for after Easter when the weather is better. Sorry for any inconvenience caused - please hang onto sponsor forms. Family Achievement Assembly will still take place at 3pm next Friday though. All welcome!

On Monday and Tuesday next week we have 'Parents' Evenings'. Please do get in touch if you are unable to attend - we would like to see everyone. Our special Easter art project with local artist, Rob Gobel, is nearing completion. It will be installed in Church in time for our Easter Service and it will be on display in Church during the holidays. Our Easter Fair takes place on Wednesday 21st - further details attached - **next Thursday (15th March) we are having a non-uniform day, in return for an Easter Egg for the Easter Fair Egg tombola.**

Elsewhere in the newsletter is some important information about attendance, punctuality and term-time holidays/absence from school, as well as information on free school meals. As always, please get in touch if you require any further information.

S England

Clubs - Wk. beg. Monday 12th March

Monday - Create Club, 3.30pm-4.30pm (will be in the ICT room because of parents' evening)

Tuesday -

Fame Academy, 3.30pm - 4.15pm - in the hall (Mrs Fawcett will take Fame Academy because of parents evenings' but it is still on!)

No booster club this week

Wednesday - Computer Club, 3.30pm - 4.15pm

Thursday -

Multi-Skills—lunchtime

GoalSports Football, 3.30pm - 4.30/5.30pm

Spring Term Diary Dates so far...

Monday 12th March - Sport Relief week (Postponed)

Monday 12th March/Tuesday 13th March – Parents' evenings

Wednesday 14th March - Year 5 Children Mambo Jambo performance at Nafferton School

Friday 16th March – Class photos - 9.00am, Class 1 'Stay & Play' 9.00am

Family Achievement Assembly 3.00pm

Wednesday 21st March – Easter Fair 2.00pm

Friday 23rd March – Easter Service 2pm, Break up – end of term

Monday 9th April - School reopens

Attendance and Punctuality

We have recently completed a mid-year review of class registers and children's attendance and punctuality. We thought it would be a good time to remind parents of school's procedures for monitoring attendance and punctuality.

Attendance

School's current policy is to monitor any child's attendance which drops below 95% - which could be for any reason(s); illness, appointments during school time, holidays, exceptional circumstances etc. This monitoring means looking at class registers to look at the reasons for absence, patterns of absence, etc.

Our current policy is then to notify parents if children's absence is in danger of dropping **below 90%**. Any attendance below this is classed by the government as being '**persistent absence**' (whatever the reason) and therefore we have to then act on East Riding of Yorkshire Council guidance to try and improve attendance.

As a result of our mid-year review of the registers, there will be letters sent home in the near future to inform you of your child's attendance **if it is currently below 95% or in danger of dropping below 90%**. If your child's attendance then continues to fall you will then be invited into school to see if we can offer support. Please get in touch if you have any questions.



Punctuality

As you may know, classrooms are open to children as from **8.45am** each morning, breakfast club is also open from **8.00am**. The ideal situation for school, to help each class get off to a good start, is to have all children settled in their classrooms, working on their 'Early Morning Starter' by **8.55am**. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for helping make this happen—it really helps the start of the day!

However, those children arriving late are holding up registration and the beginning of the first session. We do record 'lates' in the register for **any child arriving after 9.00am**. Registers are analysed regularly and, as a first measure, letters will be sent home to those families whose children are regularly arriving late. We do have a reward system in place for those children who are consistently settled in their classes on time. Obviously, we know that a large group of children come on the bus each morning, they are always settled in their classrooms by 8.55am.

Thank you for your support. I am sure we all want the children's day to get off to the best start possible!

Term-time holidays and absence from school for exceptional circumstances

As Headteacher, there is no longer provision in law for me to authorise any absence from school for the purpose of a term time holiday. Parents can only request absence from school for exceptional circumstances. Further details on this have always been available on the school website or from Mrs Owen in the school office – we have always said that parents should ask if they have any questions before booking any holidays.

The following information comes from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and refers to updated guidance regarding how schools respond to holiday requests and absence. Please read carefully as there are changes.

Requests for absence from school in exceptional circumstances and Penalty Notices.

You are required under the Education Act (1996) to ensure your child attends school regularly. If your child accrues 10 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence you may be liable for a penalty notice (one days absence equals two sessions and a five day absence is equal to 10 sessions).

An unauthorised absence is any absence that the Head teacher has not given permission for or where an explanation has not been provided by the parents.

Parents must complete a request for absence from school in exceptional circumstances form and submit this to the school, allowing for sufficient time to enable the school to consider the request and inform parents of the decision.

Where parents do not follow the school's procedures of submitting a request and simply remove their child without seeking prior approval, a warning may not be given and you may be liable for a penalty notice.

If your request is declined or you do not follow the correct procedure and you still take your child out of school each parent within your household may be issued with a £60 penalty notice for each child you have taken out of school. If a penalty notice remains unpaid after 21 days it will increase to £120. If after 28 days it remains unpaid you may be summonsed to appear before Magistrates to explain why your child has unauthorised school absences and you may be liable for a fine of up to £1000.

Copies of the absence from school for exceptional circumstances request form with the information for parents, the revised referral form and the revised code of conduct are all available on the school website or from the school office.

Absence from school - Child has medical appointment or is considered too ill to attend school

Please inform school as soon as possible on the first day of any absence, giving the reason for your child's absence, any medical advice received relevant for school and when you expect your child to return to school. Someone from school will attempt to contact you if your child is not in school and we have not received a message. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Important Information - School lunches

Please note that school lunches are now £2.30 per day or £11.50 for a week – Classes 3, 4 & 5 only. **School lunches are now free to all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Classes 1, 2 and those Year 2's in Class 3).**

Did you know that just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money?

If you register for Free School Meals (even if your child does not want a school meal) it means that school will receive extra funding which will benefit your child. All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are automatically entitled to a free school meal, regardless of income (Universal Infant Free School Meals), but if you are on one of the benefits shown below then we would still ask you to complete an application as school will then receive the extra funding - currently £1320 per year. This money is called 'Pupil Premium' and there is information on the school website about how the school uses it to benefit the children's education. If your child is in years 3, 4, 5 or 6, a successful application would mean a free school meal for your child.

Your child(ren) will be entitled to 'Pupil Premium' funding for school and free school meals if you as the parent are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- *Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)*
- *Income Support*
- *Universal Credit*
- *Child Tax Credit (but NOT receiving Working Tax Credit) – provided your annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, does not exceed £16,190 (Please note: this amount is subject to change in April every year)*
- *Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)*
- *Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit*
- *Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*

Entitlement to free school meals is kept as confidential as possible. The free school meal will remain in place for as long as your child continues to attend an East Riding of Yorkshire school and you continue to be entitled to one of the above qualifying benefits.

To apply, please go to:

<http://www2.eastriding.gov.uk/learning/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-meals/free-school-meals/> or come and ask for a form.

Remember - you must contact East Riding of Yorkshire Council's benefit section if your circumstances change and you are no longer in receipt of one of the listed benefits.

Easter Fair – Wednesday 21st March



Our Easter Fair takes place on Wednesday 21st March.

Arrangements are a little different from previous years:

Year 6 children will be running stalls, and Year 5 children (from both Class 4 and 5) will also be helping in various ways.

Year 4 children from Class 4 and all the children from Class 3, can be collected from Mrs Plumpton's classroom **from 2pm onwards**. Parents can enter through the main entrance.

Those children who are not 'handed over' to a parent/carer will be dismissed at 3.30pm as usual – they will get chance to look round the Fair with a member of staff and can bring some money if you wish.

There will be stalls in Class 4, Class 5 (mobile) and the ICT room. Everything else will be in the school hall.

We would still really appreciate help with the following – please just bring into school:

Easter Egg Tombola – any donations of Easter Eggs (however small or big - *we are having a non-uniform day on Thursday 15th March in return for an egg!*)

Cakes & Buns Stall - all donations to be brought on the morning of the fair please *with ingredients label*.

Uniform Stall – any clean, unstained second-hand uniform that could be of use to others - all donations beforehand please.

Toys/Games/Books – any toys or games in good, re-usable condition

There will also be refreshments, penalty shootout, face painting, treasure hunt and a raffle!

Raffles will be drawn and prizes awarded from the various stalls, in the hall, as from 3.00pm.

As always with these school events we need volunteers to help run and manage stalls. If you can help please let us know!

PTFA Meeting Minutes:

Easter Fair Planning Meeting
Friday 2nd March 2018

Attended: Jo Richardson, Fiona Chester, Lisa Hobson and Jill Marshall
Apologies: Simon England and Jennie Jordan

Easter Fair to be held on Wednesday 21st March 2018 from 2pm in the school hall.

Cake stall - all donations to be brought on the morning of the fair please
Easter Egg tombola - Non-uniform day in exchange for an egg to be held on Thursday
15th March other donations very welcome

Face painting
refreshments

Raffle

Year 5 and 6 stalls to include:

uniform - all donations beforehand please

Treasure hunt

Toy stall - any donations of good quality in working order with all bits included toys
can be brought in before the fair.

As always with these school events we need Volunteers to help run and manage
stalls. If you can help please make yourself know to one of the above mentioned
people.

Date and time of next meeting to be arranged.

World Book Day and Safer Internet

Day - galleries of World Book Day assembly, 'Book

Swap' and book-sharing, as well as our 'Safer

***Internet Day' activities are on the
school website.***

