

Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School Newsletter

July 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is an incredibly important part of any school's life. Therefore you will be asked to sign in if you come for a visit and you may be asked who you are on entering the building. We are not trying to be rude, we just need to make sure all children in our care are kept safe. We also politely request that you do not walk through the car park but use the path. There is often vehicular movement and therefore it is not safe for children and their parents to walk through the middle of the car park.

School Uniform

I continue to notice an improvement in the children's standard of school uniform since I have started here. The children are well turned out, in the correct uniform. Thank you so much for ensuring your children come to school looking smart and ready to learn.

Staff changes

I am sad to have to tell you that Miss Hazel Collinson will be leaving us at the end of this term. Miss Collinson has taught in Birch class for the last three years and has contributed to school life so much. We wish her well in her next adventure. I am happy to announce that I have found a new teacher for our Birch class, Miss Aisha Mahmood will be starting with us at the beginning of September.

Behaviour

Thank you to all of you who filled out the parent questionnaire on behaviour, it was so useful to gather your thoughts on how behaviour is managed in school. The results were mostly positive but have given us much to think about. A very useful exercise that I am sure you will see the benefit of very soon. The winner of the £20 John Lewis voucher is: Mr and Mrs Nichols. Please come to the office to collect your prize.

Calling all Parents!

Do you have a skill/ trade that you would like to share with the children? I would love to have more parents into school and community involvement is something I feel passionately about. If you feel you would like to come and deliver an assembly, teach a small group of children a skill or even better run a club for us then please get in touch. I know there is a wealth of knowledge out there, we really want to harness it!

Talent Show

This will take place on the 18th July in the afternoon. This is just an event for the children as there are plenty of other events that we invite parents to. Children will be invited to put themselves forward to perform their talent. This may be on their own or in a small group. Mr Haycraft and I will be compering the event. I am very excited to see what talents will be showcased!

The Body Coach

You may have seen on the website that the children participated in a HIIT session (High Intensity Interval Training) with 'The Body Coach' Joe Wicks. This live session was undertaken across the country, the children very much enjoyed it and it was great to be part of a nationwide sporting event!

Year 4 Mini Olympics

All of the year 4 children had a wonderful time at the Mini Olympics trip on Tuesday June 20th. Despite the very hot weather, the children participated in a wide range of activities including tennis, hockey, golf, football, problem solving, long jump, Boccia, an Olympic dance and their favourite - tug of war. All the children demonstrated the key values of the day which were honesty, passion, respect, teamwork, self belief and determination and the adults were also impressed by the support and encouragement they showed each other.

Wicken Fen Trip

On Monday 26th June all Year 1 & 2 pupils enjoyed a dry and sunny visit to Wicken Fen. The National Trust education team complemented our children on their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm. We explored the habitats that Wicken Fen has to offer and found an abundance of pond life, minibeasts under logs and we had a go at making our own minibeasts out of clay then decorated them with a wide variety of natural materials found at Wicken Fen. It was a very enjoyable hands on learning experience.

Parental conduct on the school grounds

We, as a school along with the governing body encourage close links with parents and encourage parental feedback. We believe that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a close and positive one. We are also thankful that the vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are fantastic in helping us engender this happy and collaborative spirit within the school.

However, there has been a number of occasions, which the conduct of some parents has not been appropriate. This has led to some complaints from other parents and staff, who have either been spoken to inappropriately, or who have witnessed unacceptable behaviour from other parents. On a few occasions this has resulted in verbal aggression towards members of school staff, parents or members of the wider school community, and in many cases has been conducted in the presence of small children.

We encourage a culture of respect and implore that you adhere to this. This is so important, in a place where we are trying to instil in your children the positive behaviours to which we should all be aspiring.

Open Evening

Please do come along to our Open Evening on 10th July from 6-7pm. This will be a chance to view your children's work and meet with their current teacher. You will also have the opportunity to see their new classroom. Most of the teachers will be available to talk to as well.

Play Equipment

You may have already heard from your children that they are no longer allowed to play on the trim trail as it has been deemed unsafe. It is to be removed in the next few weeks. In the interim whilst we as a school community look to develop our school grounds, is there anyone that is about to throw out a playhouse or something similar that we could place on our field for the children to enjoy in break and lunchtimes. We would be most grateful for any donations.

Thank you for your support and patience this term, I look forward to moving onwards and upwards into the next term.

Claire Worth

Headteacher