

# Executive Headteachers' Bulletin November 2021





Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn term and to November! I hope you enjoyed the half term break. The Junior School hall windows have been replaced during the break bringing a much needed upgrade to this space. There is lots to look forward to in the coming weeks and some changes to be aware of too. Please read on to find out more about charity days, themed weeks, Covid-19 updates and more. Please note: we will shortly be advertising a cleaning post. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact the office.

Ms Jordan

### Covid-19 Update

Numbers of positive Covid-19 cases are rising significantly across the country, including in Norfolk. All Norfolk Schools have now been asked to raise their protective measures.



We are continuing with extra cleaning and hand hygiene, encouraging regular use of lateral flow testing and vaccination for staff, ensuring children or adults with symptoms do not come to school until a negative PCR test has been received or isolation completed. Staff continue to wear masks when moving around the site and we ask that parents also wear masks when entering the building or speaking face-to-face with staff outside. Thank you for your support.

# <u>Safeguarding</u> Online Safety Newsletter

You will shortly be receiving our new online safety newsletters. The November issue will be with you this week and contains a section on Squid Game. Please take the time to read this and refer to the parent's guide sent in October if you need any help with parental controls. If staff have any concerns about the safety of children, including if they may have accessed inappropriate material at home, one of our safeguarding leads will contact you. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.



### <u>Safeguarding</u> NSPCC talk PANTS

The NSPCC have launched their new "Talk PANTS" campaign to assist teachers and parents when starting difficult conversations regarding sexual abuse and body autonomy with young children. Take a look at the website which includes a guide for parents and carers: <a href="Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus">Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus - The Underwear Rule | NSPCC</a>

# A Spotlight on Anti-Bullying Week

This year, Anti-Bullying Week begins on 15<sup>th</sup> November and has the theme One Kind Word. Children are invited to come to school in odd socks to mark the start of the week on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. In a world that can sometimes feel like it's filled with negativity, one kind word can provide a moment of hope. It can be a turning point. It can change someone's perspective. It can change their day. It can change the course of a conversation and break the cycle of bullying. Best of all, one kind word leads to another. Kindness fuels kindness. So from the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, together, our actions can fire a chain reaction that powers positivity. It starts with one kind word.

#### Flu Vaccines

These will be taking place in school on 10<sup>th</sup> November (SIS) and 18<sup>th</sup> November (WV). Consent forms have now been returned to the School Nursing Team. If you did not consent to your child receiving the vaccine but would now like them to, please contact your GP surgery.

#### Maths Week

November 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> is Maths Week in England. This year we are asking Where is the Maths in That? Children will be using images, videos, stories, puzzles and a wide range of practical resources to put their Maths skills to real-life use.

#### COP26

We are joining the debate! As well as understanding this important event through assemblies and classwork, we will join the Forest of Promises on November 5<sup>th</sup> by sharing our promises to help address climate change.



#### Children in Need

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November is Children in Need Day. The Federation Council will send more information soon!



#### Reception and Year 3 Open Day Tours - Update

Due to the updated Covid-19 guidance to schools we have to make some changes to the planned tours. We still hope to go ahead but tours will now be on a 1:1 basis rather than in groups. All tours must be pre-booked and all attendees will be required to wear face coverings, and follow hand-hygiene procedures. All current bookings will be contacted to arrange new times. As with all Covid-19 measures, arrangements will be kept under constant review.

#### Attendance



If you need to request a period of absence for your child (not related to illness or Covid-19), please ensure you complete the request form and return it to school **before** the leave is taken. Thank you

# **General Reminders**

Please park considerately to our neighbours.

We have received another complaint from a resident of Elizabeth Close stating parents are parking in the resident's only carpark to drop off and pick up their children and also leaving litter behind. Please do not park in Elizabeth Close as this is for residents only

Please also be reminded not to park on the yellow zigzag lines outside of either school.

Please name all your child's items.

Please let us know if your details or circumstances have changed over the holiday.

Our schools are nut-free zones. Please do not include any items containing nuts in packed lunches. Special diets can be catered for by either kitchen. Please follow all COVID safety advice.

Thank you

## Phonic Screening - Y2

The Year 1 Phonic Screening was cancelled at the end of last year due to the impact of Covid-19. The screening must now be completed this half term. This is a government directive. This means that the current Year 2 children will have their phonic knowledge assessed in the coming weeks. We aim to share the outcomes of this screening with parents at the parent/teacher meetings if possible.



#### **Key Dates**

Open evenings for 2022 Reception and Y3 families w/c 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Nov. Booking necessary Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week: 15<sup>th</sup> Nov Flu Vaccines: 10<sup>th</sup> Nov (SIS), 18<sup>th</sup> Nov (WV)

Children in Need: 19th Nov

Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings: w/c 29<sup>th</sup> Nov

Last day of term: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec

