

Dear Parents/Carers,

This month sees the first strike action from one of the teacher unions, with further dates planned in March. It is desperately sad that ours, and so many other public professions, have reached the point where it is felt there is no other way to be heard. We want teachers with children in classes, teaching and learning. We also respect many teachers feel that years of pay freezes and minimal pay increases cannot go unchallenged and our qualified, experienced teachers deserve to have their say.

Legally, teachers do not have to share their intention to strike in advance. Based on the information we have, both of our schools will be open on each of the planned strike days, although this has to remain subject to change. We will not however be attempting to cover the teacher's normal work in any affected class. Should we have classes where their teachers are striking, these classes will receive care and a non-curriculum based day, possibly in merged classes. We hope that this provides a suitable balance between supporting our community and supporting our teachers' rights. I am sorry for any disturbance caused to children's learning.

Ms Jordan



New Website Languages!



We aim for our schools to be as welcoming and accessible to every member of our community as possible.

We have now added a new button to both school sites which allows the viewer to select the language the content is shown in.

If you have need for a language that is not yet listed on this menu, please contact the school office to let us know.

Transitions



A reminder to any parent of a child due to start Reception, Year 3 or Year 7 in September to ensure you have completed the Norfolk County Council forms to secure their place at your chosen school.

Further information about all transition events will following in the coming weeks and months.

Current Year 6 parents are busily arranging a suitably fabulous send off for these children! Please see Mrs McCullum or Mrs Stubbs for further information.



School Booking Systems

Thank you for your patience and perseverance with our online booking systems for lunches and before and after school care (The ARC).

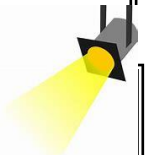
A users step-by-step guide has now been sent to book places at The ARC. Please use this to ensure your child's place is booked and paid for in advance. Please remember to book lunches by 9am Monday of each week ... and ensure your child is happy with the choices made!



A Spotlight on Sleep

Getting enough sleep is important for our physical and mental wellbeing. There can be many things that get in the way of a good night's sleep for children: bad dreams/fears, worries, being over-stimulated, too hot or too cold or irregular routines. There is a lot of support available for children of all ages. Start here for more information and contact details: [Children's Sleep \(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](https://justonenorfolk.nhs.uk)

After Easter, the Community Hub Café will be hosting a member of the Action for Children team each month, who will be available to talk to parents/carers and give advice on childhood issues such as sleep and diet.



Family First Magazine

Family First is a parenting magazine produced to help improve the physical and mental wellbeing of families living in the UK. To view the magazine online, click on this link:

https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff_winter2022_digital160123

Family First

School Matters!



Attendance

The race is on! At both schools, Friday assembly means celebrating all the achievements of the week – including the class with best attendance! So far, Star class are in the lead at the Infant School and Explorers class are champions for the Juniors. Overall Year 4 have the highest attendance of any year group. The boys have overtaken the girls attendance at the Infant School, but the girls remain firmly ahead at the Juniors!

Safeguarding



7th February is Safer Internet Day!
(And the 20th anniversary of Safer Internet Day!)

Our E-Safety Champions will be leading an assembly to help our children learn about this year's theme: Making space for conversations online. There will also be activities for all children to complete over the week to build their understanding. To find out more about the theme and top tips for parents in talking about safe online conversations go to: [Top tips for parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

General Reminders



- Please park considerately to our neighbours and safely for our whole community.
- All children should have their own, named, water bottle in school everyday
- 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 the kitchen.

Friends Dates for the Diary

The Friends have many plans for the year ahead. Please save the date for these events:

Friends Bake Sale: 6th Feb (SIS); 10th Feb (WV) 3pm

Non-uniform day: 24th Feb. to take part, please bring a prize suitable for a tombola!

Red Nose merchandise sale: 13th March

Coronation Family Picnic: 5th May from 12noon on the Junior School field

Village Garage/Car Boot Sale: 14th May

Summer Fete: 8th July



Key Dates for this Half Term

Please note a full list of key dates for the year was sent in July and is available on our website.

Year 4 Swimming starts Friday 3rd Feb, every Friday for 8 weeks

Year 4 Residential to Horstead Centre 6th & 7th Feb

Children's Mental Health Week and School's Football Week: beginning 6th Feb

Safer Internet Day: 7th Feb

Parent/Teacher meetings: 7th-9th Feb

Half term 13th – 17th Feb



