



TERM 2 NEWSLETTER

Welcome back

Looking in the diary, there are just 7 more Fridays to Christmas (shhhhhh-Don't tell the children!!) This term is certainly whizzing by. Thank you to all those parents who were able to attend Parents Evening before we broke up, we had an **91% attendance overall** which is great. I would also like to thank all those parents who completed the questionnaire for Friends of School whilst waiting to see teachers, this really helps gain an insight into your views as well.

School Development

As a school we are constantly looking at ways of improving ourselves and every year we create a school development plan that allows us to really focus in on things that we think will make a difference to our children's outcomes and experiences whilst they are with us. I wanted to share with you the areas we are focusing on this year:

Improvement priority 24-25	Why it is a priority
To further develop pupils use and understanding of year group specific mathematical vocabulary to allow for better outcomes in reasoning and problem-solving questions. (key driver 2)	Data analysis shows and staff discussions support that children have disproportionate outcomes in reasoning and problem-solving questions to arithmetic. We believe the reason for this is their understanding of the vocabulary used within the questions and what this means mathematically.
To reduce persistent absenteeism to be in line or lower than National average – target of 10% (key driver 5)	Persistent absenteeism is still too high in school and there are pockets of persistent lateness. There are some children who may not reach their full potential as a direct result of their attendance levels.
To further improve children's retention of knowledge over time in foundation subjects.	We have created an effective and broad and balanced curriculum to follow, we need to ensure that children are retaining what they have been taught over time.

Attendance at school –

Term 1 attendance overall= 95.2%



Just a reminder that the school day starts at 8.45am and any child arriving after 8.50am when the side gate is locked will be marked as late. In Term 1 we had **8.3%** of children arriving late to school on more than 1 occasion – this needs to improve, as those children are at risk of becoming persistent absentee children. All our lessons begin at 8.50am and so those that are arriving after that are missing vital learning.

School website updates:
www.moultonchapel.lincs.sch.uk

Over half term we have updated many of the school's policies on the website, these can be found in the 'key info' tray and then in the drop-down list of policies. I have attached a separate letter to this newsletter to explain the changes to the Attendance policy in particular as parents need to be aware of the specific changes to that policy.

Take home tasks

For those new to our school these are topic linked projects that you can work with your child at home on. All take home tasks should be brought into school on **Friday 29th November 2024**. These are anonymously voted on by staff and the trophies presented at the December celebration assembly.

- Maple class - a junk modelling main meal or pudding which includes fruit and/or vegetables on a paper plate
- Monkey Puzzle class – Poster or model on volcanoes
- Oak class - Make a gas mask **or** evacuee's suitcase in a shoebox **or** another item agreed with Ms Christie



PE and swimming

Swimming continues for **Key Stage 2** children only this term. Thank you to all parents for your support with providing your child with a swimming hat – don't forget we are still on the look out for a blue and white one with a fin on the top that has gone missing. Also, **earrings for PE should be removed**, your child is not allowed to compete in tournaments if wearing earrings. Staff are not permitted to remove earrings.

Term 2 clubs

Term 2 clubs remain the same as Term 1 and if your children wishes to join or no longer partake in a club, please let the office know.



Reminders for Parents

- ✓ You **MUST** let us know if there is any change to who is collecting your child from school.
- ✓ You should contact the school if your child is going to be absent from school for any reason on the first day of absence.
- ✓ Please ensure your children's clothing is named including coats.
- ✓ KS1 reading packets should be brought to school every day.
- ✓ Children should not be riding bicycles or scooters down the side pathway before school or after school please.
- ✓ Make sure school has been given any changes to contact numbers / addresses for your child's records.
- ✓ Please be mindful when standing outside the school gates in both the morning and afternoon that children are not having to walk through clouds of smoke from cigarettes or vapes – secondary smoke is incredibly harmful.
- ✓ All KS1 children **MUST** be collected by an adult from the playground.

Playtime snacks reminder



Children in Reception & KS1 are provided with a healthy snack through the government scheme. KS2 children are only permitted to bring fruit or vegetables for their snack, and this should be provided by home. If you are sending your child's snack in a tub, please ensure the tub is named.

Upcoming Calendar Dates

- **Monday 4th November** – FOS meeting @ 3.15pm
- **Friday 8th November** – Oak class trip to IWM Duxford.
- **Friday 15th November** – Flu Vaccination Day
- **Friday 15th November** – Children in Need Day
- **Thursday 12th December** – Dress Rehearsal @ Community Centre – all day
- **Thursday 12th December** – Xmas productions @ 6pm
- **Tuesday 17th December** – Whole school to panto (am)
- **Wednesday 18th December** – Xmas jumper day
- **Thursday 19th December** – Parent assembly @ 9am / Xmas Party day / End of term 2
- **Friday 20th December** – Staff INSET day
- **Monday 6th January 2025** – children start of Term 3

I thank you for your ongoing support and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals



It is important that everyone who is in receipt of any State benefits makes an application for Free School Meals, even if their child already receives a free meal as they are an Infant child.

Apply using Lincolnshire's Parent Portal.

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals/>

The system is the one used to identify to the Department for Education children who may be in need of additional educational support.

School receives additional funding from the Pupil Premium Fund in the school budget which means we can ensure all children fulfil their potential.

As a school we are also able to support the families of children who qualify for Free School Meals benefit by provision of free uniform items, reduced contributions to trips and free-swimming transport, etc.



Health

Sickness/diarrhoea

*If your child does have a bout of either (or both!) please ensure that he/she is kept at home **until 48 hours after the last occurrence**. We appreciate that this can be very inconvenient, if you are a working parent, but it is essential to ensure we reduce the spread of infections.*

Head lice

*We will probably never be free of these little irritating creatures, but if everyone checks the heads of **all** family members regularly and treats with a commercial product or by regular combing through with a lice comb, we can try our best to be head lice free.*

We will continue our practice of contacting the parents of any child who is seen by staff to have head lice to ask that the child be collected from school and treated. Please don't be embarrassed if you get the phone call – head lice are a problem everyone has had to deal with at some time or another.

Absence from school

If your child is unwell and must be absent, please telephone us as early as possible. You may leave a message on the answering machine, send an email or report via ParentMail. Under safeguarding we have a duty to call you to find out why your child is not in school if we have received no indication from you regarding the absence.

Mrs Sexton