

Newsletter 1: September 2018



Dear parents and carers,

The brand new academic year is now underway and we are all excited about the events and learning opportunities that will be taking place in the coming months! I would like to extend a special welcome to all parents, carers and children who are new to the school.

Walking around the school and visiting classes, I have seen happy, smiling faces. The new foundation stage children are settling in brilliantly and enjoying exploring the classrooms and the school grounds. Throughout the rest of the school there is a buzz of excitement and we are all looking forward what promises to be a great year at school.

Simon Morley
Headteacher

Keeping in touch

Effective communication between school and home is very important to us which is why we have a number of different ways of keeping you up-to-date.

The majority of letters are sent home on Thursdays ("letter day"). We use Parent Hub which allows us to send messages, letters and pictures directly to your phone. To save school funds and to benefit the environment, from the beginning of term 2 (30 October) we will no longer be sending paper letters home. **It is therefore essential that you ensure you are signed up to and using Parent Hub.** If you have any problems, contact the school office. We will continue to send paper copies of any letters with return slips attached and any parents who would like to continue to receive paper copies of all letters may do so. Please contact the school office to let us know. You can download all previously sent letters by visiting the "letters" section of the school website too.

You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook for useful information and pictures of exciting activities and events. Our Twitter feed is available to view on the school website. Please also keep checking the class pages of our website for news of the exciting learning that has taken place in each class.

Planning ahead

A list of forthcoming key dates has been included in this newsletter for your information so that you are able to plan ahead. We will add to the list in future newsletters so that you are kept as up-to-date as possible. Please refer to the "upcoming events" section of the school website for more information. Please pay particular attention to the term dates and be aware that **holidays during term time will not be authorised.**

Bikes and scooters

It's great to see children arriving at school on a bike or a scooter; is a healthy option. We strongly encourage children to wear helmets (particularly on bikes) and would ask that children do not ride bikes and scooters in and around the school grounds when they have arrived, or after school. Thank you.

Forthcoming key dates

September 2018

- 14 11+ test – verbal
- 21 11+ test – non-verbal
- 23 Eco Sunday – all welcome
- 24 Y5 to PGL (day visit)
- 25 Y2 visit to Lincoln Castle
- 28 Y6 to PGL (residential)
- 19 Rhubarb Theatre in school

October 2018

- 11 6pm PGL celebration evening
- 15 Arts themed week
- 17 Y5 performance (2pm & 6pm)
- 19 Individual photos taken
- 19 Term 1 ends
- 30 Term 2 begins
- 30/31 Open evenings

November 2018

- 16 Children in Need
- 30 Last day of school clubs

December 2018

- 21 Term 2 ends

January 2019

- 7 Term 3 begins

February 2019

- 15 Term 3 ends
- 26 Term 4 begins

April 2019

- 5 Term 4 ends
- 23 Term 5 begins

May 2019

- 6 Bank holiday – school closed
- 24 Term 5 ends

June 2019

- 3 Term 6 begins

July 2019

- 19 Term 6 ends

Foundation stage news

The children have enjoyed settling into foundation stage life. It has been lovely to see them making new friends, engaging in lots of different activities and exploring the school grounds. We are looking forward to starting our 'Animal Kingdom' topic by baking rainbow fish biscuits and creating some jellyfish.

Key stage 1 news

In year 1, the children have been taking part in a wide range of creative activities linked to the theme of 'Harvest'. This has included printing corn dollies, making lentil collages and finding out where food comes from.

In year 2 the children have begun their 'Castles and Dragons' topic. They have enjoyed designing their own coat of arms and using natural resources to make a plan of a castle. They have also been reading, dramatising and storyboarding the fairy tale 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Key stage 2 news

Year 3 have begun learning all about Roald Dahl and his life. The children enjoyed making themselves as a Roald Dahl character, doing fantastic collage work for the character's body. In science, the children have been exploring magnets and are looking forward to learning more about this over the coming weeks.

Year 4 have been escaping from Tutankhamun's tomb. They had to solve multiple problems to gain the password to escape.

Year 5 have created brightly coloured Picasso inspired portraits to decorate their classrooms. They have written and illustrated cinquain poetry for a class poetry anthology. They are looking forward to the visit from the mobile planetarium to enhance their topic 'Out of this World.'

Children in year 6 have been introduced to their World War 2 topic and have been enjoying their class book "Letters from the Lighthouse." In addition to this the children have enjoyed designing class logos using natural resources.

Getting to and from school

At "drop off" and "pick up" times it can be very difficult to park close to the school. Therefore, if you are able to walk or cycle to school please do so as this will reduce the amount of traffic at these times of the day. The yellow lines near school prevent parking and stopping for the safety of our children, so **if you do need to drive please make use of the car park at the Peter Paine Performance Centre (Boston College) which is a short five minute walk away from the school.** There is plenty of space available.

Smiling faces on the first day of school



Don't let your child miss out

This is a wonderful school. However, your child will only benefit from everything we have to offer if they are here every day. **Good attendance directly links to children's learning and progress** so please work with us to maximise their potential by ensuring they attend school every day. We appreciate that there might be times when children are unwell and cannot attend school. Additionally, there may be, from time to time, exceptional circumstances which prevent children from attending. However, whenever children are not at school, they miss out on important learning opportunities and this is detrimental to their progress and development.

Free school meals – Parent Portal

School meals are free to all children in foundation stage and key stage 1. However, **your child may be able to receive free meals in key stage 2 too.** To check if you are eligible, please use the new Parent Portal (<https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal>). There is a link to the portal in the "school meals" section of our website.

Farewell

Mrs Bainbridge, who works in our school office, will be leaving our school at the end of September to take up a position as Senior Finance Technician at Lincolnshire County Council. Mrs Bainbridge has been at our school for 8 ½ years and will be very much missed. However, I know that she will be excellent in her new role and an asset to the local authority. We wish Mrs Bainbridge all the very best as she moves on to pastures new.