

School Newsletter

23 September 2022



Dear Parents & Carers

Over the last few weeks, the children have really impressed us with their interest, their empathy and kindness regarding the death of Her Majesty the Queen. The children have been given time to talk in class about her passing and we have supported individual children where needed. As always, if you feel your child needs extra support with this, please let us know. One thing that really made us happy was that we made so much effort to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee in June last year. Although, a death is always sad, we have also tried to remind the children about happier times and one event that we were proud of was our Jubilee celebration in June. We hope that the children will always remember this event.

We are now three weeks into the term and the children are showing how settled they are in their new classes. It has been lovely seeing them dive into their topics in their new year groups. Walking around the school, there is a purposeful atmosphere and we can see how hard the children are working.

We have some different events coming up which will give parents the opportunity to come into school, which we hope you will be able to attend:

- Coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support
- Norfolk Open Studios art exhibition
- SEN Coffee afternoon with Mrs Harris
- Parents' Evening (details to follow soon)
- Open book event - opportunity for parents to come and see their children's books towards the end of the Autumn term (date tbc)

We look forward to welcoming everyone to these different events over the term.

Kindest regards

Mrs Robinson, Mr Keer and Mrs Seagrave

Dates for Your Diary

Tues 27 September	School photos (no PE on this day – all children in school uniform please)
Fri 30 September	Macmillan Coffee morning 9am-10am for parents in the hall.
Tues 4 Oct & Wed 5 Oct	Open Studios art exhibition (open 10am-12pm and 2pm-2pm)
Tues 11 Oct	SEN coffee morning 2pm
Fri 21 Oct	Last day of term
31 Oct	First day of term
W/C 31 Oct	Parents evenings this week – details to follow

We are part of...

WENSUM TRUST



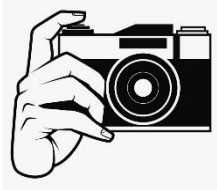
WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT

COME FOR
COFFEE
AND
CAKE



Macmillan coffee morning

We are supporting Macmillan Cancer Support by holding a coffee morning for parents. This will be held on Friday 30 September in the school hall after drop off (9:00am until 10:00am). Come along for a slice of cake, a cup of tea/coffee and a chat. All we ask is a donation to the charity. We would also welcome any donations of cakes / biscuits for the event. These can be brought to the school office on the day. Please remember that these should not contain any nuts.



Say CHEEESE!

School photos will take place on Tuesday 27 September for all pupils. There will be no PE on this day so all children must come to school in their school uniform which includes their school tie.

Break time snacks

Following on from our app message earlier in the week, we would like to remind everyone that at break time we ask that snacks are fruit or **healthy** cereal bars. Cereal bars should not be predominantly chocolate or high in sugar. Please remember that break time is only 15 minutes and the children do not have enough time to burn off high levels of sugar before their next lesson. Thank you for your support with this.

SEN Coffee Morning Tuesday 11 October 2pm

On Tuesday 11 October at 2pm we will be holding our SEN coffee afternoon with Mrs Harris (SENCO). If your child has any special educational needs (SEN) or if you have concerns of any needs your child may have, then please come along to meet with Mrs Harris.

This will be a very informal get together giving you the chance to meet other parents, share your experiences and thoughts and ask any questions. Or just come along for the coffee and cake 😊

Entrance will be through the main school office where you will be shown into the hall.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Nut-free and fish-free lunches

A reminder to all families that we aim to be a nut free school. This is due to severe allergies of some children in our school. Please help us to keep them safe by refraining from including nut products in your child's lunchbox. This includes whole nuts, nuts in cereal bars, peanut butter and Nutella. We have noticed a few chocolate bars coming in to school which contain nuts (for example, Kinder Bueno bars). Please ensure that these are not in lunchboxes.



There should also be **no fish** in packed lunches, this is due to severe allergies of children in our school. This includes, but is not limited to: tuna, salmon, fish paste, fish pate, fish sticks and prawns. We do not serve fish as a hot dinner or jacket potato filling option.



We ask that all parents follow this guidance, as food allergies can be very serious.

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FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES



Norfolk Open Studios Art Exhibition 4 – 5 October 2022

We are pleased to say that we are participating in this event again this year. The school hall will be open to parents and other members of the public to view the artwork between 10am and 12pm and then again between 2pm and 3pm on each of the Open Studio days. Access will be via the school office at the front of school. All the work has been around the theme of 'What A Wonderful World'. We hope lots of you will be able to come and view the work over the two days. There is more information about our entry to the Norfolk Open Studios [here](#).



Marking

This term we have launched a new system of feedback at Firsides Junior. There will be less use of written comments in books as teachers move to an immediate form of verbal feedback. Work produced in books will be reviewed by the teacher, lesson by lesson, but teachers will now keep notes in a feedback journal rather than writing comments in individual books. This system facilitates verbal feedback to individuals or the whole class in the next lesson and enables teachers to adjust and re-plan subsequent teaching in a more responsive manner. Verbal feedback systems are taking the place of written marking in many schools, are evidence informed and have been shown to have more impact on learning than written comments in books. Since we started this new system at the start of term, the teachers have reported that they feel the children are responding well to the new system particularly because the feedback is immediate and the children can respond to the feedback in class.

If you have any questions about this new way of working please phone the office and ask to speak to Mr Keer or Mrs Seagrave.

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