

# School Newsletter

4 November 2022



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. This is always a busy and exciting term for the children and staff in school and one that we always look forward to. You will see that the diary dates section of this newsletter is growing each time we write to you because of all the different events going on. Please make a note of these dates in your diaries.

Thank you to everyone for coming into school for Parents' Evening this week. It has been wonderful to have parents in school for these meetings and we hope that you found them a useful indicator of how your child is doing in school. We hope you enjoyed looking at their books too. There will be a second opportunity for parents to come and see books at the end of this half term with our Open Book Event.

Next week, we will be marking Remembrance Day in school. We have had our delivery of poppies, which we will begin selling next week in the afternoons. As a school, we see 11 November as an important date to mark. The children will be doing work in class around Remembrance as well as marking a minute of reflection on Remembrance Day.

Kindest regards,

*Mrs Robinson, Mr Keer and Mrs Seagrave*

## Dates for Your Diary

<b>Tues 8 Nov</b>	Year 5 Banham Zoo trip	
<b>Fri 11 Nov</b>	Flu immunisations – Please see the email sent home today	
<b>Fri 18 Nov</b>	Children in Need – see information below	
<b>Mon 21 &amp; Tues 22 Nov</b>	Scholastic book fair in school – see information below	
<b>Fri 25 Nov</b>	Christmas hamper gift non-uniform day – see information below	
<b>Fri 2 Dec</b>	FOF Disco – more information coming soon	
<b>Wed 7 Dec</b>	Year 3 and 4 Christmas lunch day – details coming soon	
	Open Book event 3:15pm – 4pm – drop in event to come and view your child's books	
<b>Thurs 8 Dec</b>	Year 5 and 6 Christmas lunch day – details coming soon	
	Open Book event 3:15pm – 4pm – drop in event to come and view your child's books	
<b>Sat 10 Dec</b>	Friends of Firsides Christmas Fayre	
<b>Tues 13 Dec</b>	<b>AM</b> Year 5 Christmas performance	<b>PM</b> Year 3 Christmas performance
<b>Wed 14 Dec</b>	<b>AM</b> Year 6 Christmas performance	<b>PM</b> Year 4 Christmas performance
<b>Fri 16 Dec</b>	Last day of term – free non- uniform day with optional Christmas jumpers	

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FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

### Scholastic book fair

On Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 November we will be holding a Scholastic book fair. This is an opportunity for children and parents to buy books from a huge list of titles. The more money raised from the book sales, the more the school can earn back in books. So buying books for your family and friends helps to buy more books for the school!

We are holding the book sales from 2:45pm in the school hall with the view that parents can attend before the end of the school day – an ideal opportunity for some Christmas present buying! Children and their parents will be able to attend after school.



Please note that all payments will be electronic through scanning a QR code or pre-payment.

Please [follow this link](#) to find out the books that will be on sale. You can also pre-pay for books here.

Look out for a design competition that will be announced next week where children can win vouchers to use at the Book fair.

### Children in Need Friday 18 November





**BBC**  
**Children  
in Need**



**Friday 18 November**

**Non-uniform day and optional crazy hair day**  
**Children can wear spots, Pudsey accessories or just general non-uniform.**  
**£1 on the day to go to the charity.**

**We will also be having a cake sale on Thursday 17 November after school.**  
**We would really appreciate any donations of cakes / biscuits.**  
**Please bring them to the office on the morning of the sale.**  
**Ensure that you include a list of ingredients.**  
**All products must be nut free.**  
**We would really appreciate any cakes / biscuits made with consideration for those with allergies, e.g. gluten free, dairy free too.**  
**Cakes will be priced 20p – 50p. Please bring small change.**



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### Christmas hamper gifts non-uniform day Friday 25 November



On Friday 25 November, we are holding a non-uniform to collect donations of items for our Christmas hamper raffle. So that we receive a range of items, we are asking that children bring the following items in return for a non-uniform day:

**Year 3 and 4** – smellies, small gift sets or candles

**Year 5 and 6** – chocolates, sweets or biscuits.

### Poppies for Remembrance Day

From Monday 7 November, Year 6 School Councillors will be coming round to classes to sell poppies for the children to wear. We ask for a suggested donation of 50p but more can be donated if wanted. Change for the poppies must be brought to school in a named purse or envelope and given to the class teacher and not be kept in lockers or bags.



### FOF Christmas Fayre Saturday 10 December

We look forward to welcoming you to our first Christmas Fayre since 2019! More details to follow from FOF who have many exciting plans up their sleeves for this event.

### Dogs on school site

A reminder again that there should be no dogs on the school site at all. We have a number of children with extreme fears or phobias of dogs and having them on site is causing them great distress. Also, from a health and safety point of view, dogs must be kept off site due to the risk of them fouling on the school site. **Dogs must not be coming through any of the school gates either at the front of school or at the back by the park.**

### Football update

Teams representing Y3/4 and Y5/6 girls attended the WNDSSP 5-a-side tournament at GOALS on Tuesday morning. Both teams really enjoyed the experience and the Y5/6 team reached their finals, but unfortunately lost to Taverham.

On the same day, the Y6 team were at the Under 11s Jack Ramm 7-a-side tournament at Easton College. They were very unlucky to be knocked out in the semi-finals in extra time!

The Y6 team also played away at Colman on Wednesday winning 5;1 in their final league game. This should secure a joint top finish.

The Year 6 Girls team won 1:0 against Drayton to finish second in their league.

Well done to all the children involved.



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### 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.

### Christmas parcels

Tilly and Sienna in Year 5 are once again this year making up Christmas parcels and shoe boxes for those in need this year. They will be made for children and adults alike. Last year, they made 60 parcels so it would be great if they could beat last year's total. We would like to help them with their generous idea and therefore have a collection box in the School Office for anyone who wishes to donate. At the moment, they are in need of toiletries for children and adults. Any donations should be dropped off at the School Office by Friday 11 November.

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**Autumn 2 Curriculum news**

<p><b>Year 3</b></p> <p>This term the children in Year 3 will be continuing with their topic on the Stone Age and they will be building up to demonstrating what they have learnt about this topic with their first double page spread. They will be answering the question: Would you rather live in the Stone Age or the Iron Age.</p> <p>In science, we will be learning about light with a focus on shadows: how they are made and how you can change the shape and size of shadows.</p> <p>In English we are using the text 'Until I met Dudley' with a focus on explanation texts and being able to write about how things work.</p> <p>In maths, we started this term looking at addition and subtraction and will now be moving on to multiplication and division. We continue to practise our times tables on a daily basis.</p> <p>In our music lessons, we will be rehearsing our songs for our Christmas performance of Jesus' Birthday Party. We look forward to welcoming parents to the performance on the afternoon of 13 December.</p>	<p><b>Year 4</b></p> <p>We have an exciting half term ahead of us in Year 4. The children have really enjoyed learning about the Ancient Greeks so far. We will continue with this history topic until Christmas, linking it to our work in English as we begin to read Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan. Our focus in maths this half term is multiplication and division and, in particular, times tables. We practise these every day learning handy strategies for remembering multiplication facts as well as playing games to make learning them fun. In science, we have started a new topic - electricity. Children have already learned how to stay safe when using electrical appliances and will soon be learning how to build electrical circuits. In art, children will continue their work on pattern, which links to their work in computing on repetition in shapes. In music, we will start to rehearse our Christmas performance – Jesus' Birthday Party. We hope you will be able to join us in the school hall on the afternoon of 14 December to enjoy our version of the nativity.</p>
<p><b>Year 5</b></p> <p>Year 5 are looking forward to more exciting learning this term. They will be continuing their work using the book Varmints and linking it to their science work on life cycles. They are busy writing explanation texts to link the two together. In maths they will start the term focusing on multiplication and division including work on multiples and factors. In computing, the children are starting a new topic on videos and will be creating their own during the term. In geography, they will be starting their new topic on rivers.</p> <p>The children have been excited to start their swimming lessons at Hellesdon High School this week. They all made a great start with them.</p> <p>The children are also very excited about their visit to Banham Zoo next week as part of the science topic on life cycles.</p>	<p><b>Year 6</b></p> <p>In English, Year 6 will be looking at the adventures of famous explorer Ernest Shackleton and we will be producing newsletters on his ill-fated polar expedition. In maths, fractions will be our main topic of learning; specifically, ordering, comparing and calculating. The Year 6 young scientists will be looking at light and how it travels. Geography will be focusing on mapping skills as well as looking at biomes. Street Art will continue to be our creative focus and we will be creating large scale and individual pieces. In R.E, we will be looking at the topic of Humanism while computing will see the children investigating computing systems and networks. Finally, in design and technology the children will be planning, creating and evaluating their own mobile phone holder, with the focus being on sewing and stitching fabrics.</p>

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