

School Newsletter

28 April 2023



Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school after the Easter break. We hope everyone enjoyed a restful holiday. The children have come back enthusiastic and ready for learning which is brilliant to see.

Thank you to everyone who joined us this week for Parents' Evening appointments for Year 3, 4 and 5. We hope you found the meetings useful. This term, the teachers will begin writing end of year reports. These will be sent out to parents at the beginning of July.

This week, we have introduced our three new school rules: **ready, respectful, safe**. We will be referring to the children about these regularly throughout their time at Firsides. Any reminders given to children about behaviour will refer back to "Are you ready? Are you being respectful? Are you being safe?"

We are looking forward to marking the Coronation of King Charles III in May with some special class work and a celebration Big Coronation Lunch. The children are all learning a special Coronation song to sing during our celebrations. Please see more information about this below.

Over the next term, the teachers are arranging a number of different trips and visitors to school. You can read more about all of the extra opportunities that we offered in the spring term by [clicking here](#). At Firsides, the other events and activities that we offer enhance children's learning experiences and are vitally important to their **wider personal development**. This includes offering a curriculum which extends beyond the academic, providing for pupils' broader development. Below you will see a number of dates for your diaries for the summer term. Some of the trips and visits are in the initial stages of booking therefore you will hear more information about them soon.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Robinson, Mr Keer and Mrs Seagrave

Dates for Your Diary

Mon 1 May	May Day Bank holiday
Mon 8 May	Bank holiday for the Coronation
9 – 12 May	End of Key Stage 2 assessment tests (Year 6)
29 May – 2 June	Half-term holiday
5 June – 23 June	Year 4 multiplication tables check (children will complete it during this period)
Mon 26 June	Year 4 karate workshops (in school)
7 – 9 June	Year 6 residential trip to Eaton Vale
Tues 27 June	Whole school photograph (all children in school uniform)
Mon 3 July	Year 5 Space centre visit

Dates continued on next page...

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Dates for Your Diary cont....

Mon 3 July	Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day (time to be confirmed)
Wed 5 July	Year 5 and Year 6 Sports Day (time to be confirmed)
12 – 14 July	Transition days for Year 6 pupils to Hellesdon High. Year 3, 4 and 5 will move into their new classes for the three days and we will welcome Year 2 children into school.
Tues 18 July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly to parents (time to be confirmed)
Fri 21 July	Last day of term (free non uniform day for all pupils)

PE kit changes

Please be aware that from September, our PE kit will be changing slightly. We will still continue to ask the children to wear their PE kit on their PE / Games lesson days because it means the children get more active time during their lessons and lost property has significantly reduced. However, at times we have noticed that PE kit sometimes doesn't look quite as smart and as it is in place of uniform on PE days, we would like to change things slightly. Therefore, **PE tops should be either the white logo t-shirt (available from Birds) or a plain white polo shirt.** Polo shirts are available in various high street shops and supermarkets.



We also remind parents that **plain** black jumpers / hoodies worn on PE/Games days are plain. Alternatively, children can wear a green Firsides fleece (available from Birds).



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Coronation celebrations 5 May 2023

With the interest building for the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III, we wanted to share with you some of our plans for marking this event as a school. An email has been sent out about our special lunch that Norse will be providing on the day. We will be holding our very own Coronation Big Lunch, with the children and staff eating together in a street party style event. If you wish for your child to have this special party picnic lunch, please order via Scopay **by Friday 28 April**. There will be no hot dinner options on this day. Everyone else should have a home packed lunch.

In year groups the children will be learning about different monarchs throughout the ages and the significant events that happened during their reigns. We will be compiling work and photos from classes into a special Coronation book.

Children across the school will also be learning a special Coronation song. The children will be coming together to sing this during our celebrations.

On Friday 5 May (our Coronation Big Lunch day), we will also be inviting children to come to school either dressed for a Coronation Party (party dresses, shirts and ties – think palace garden party!) or a red, white and blue theme.

Tag-rugby sessions with North Walsham Rugby Club

Once again this year, we are excited to welcome into school coaches from North Walsham Rugby Club through links with The Wensum Trust. The coaches will deliver two workshops for each year group over the summer term in addition to the children's usual PE and games slots.

Year 5 have now had their two sessions and the following are the dates for other year groups. Please make sure that the children come to school in their PE kits on these days:



Year 4: Tuesday 2 May and Friday 12 May

Year 5: Monday 5 June and Monday 12 June

Year 6: Wednesday 28 June and Thursday 6 July

Ms Youd – Pastoral Support Manager

Ms Youd will be taking a sabbatical from her post for the next twelve weeks. She has been selected to work on a major safeguarding project which means that she will not be in school for the remainder of this term. This is an exciting opportunity for her and will enable her to return to school with a wealth of new information around safeguarding. Whilst this is a fantastic opportunity for Ms Youd, I know that she will be missed in school and we wish her good luck for the duration of this project.

The other Designated Safeguarding Leads in school will cover Ms Youd's work in her absence.

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Class photographs

All classes had their photos taken last week. Unfortunately, we were disappointed with the quality of these photographs and felt they were not of the standard that we usually expect. Therefore we have asked the company to come and reshoot the photos. When we have a new date, we will communicate this with parents as soon as we can. Thank you for your understanding.



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. Please remember that some allergies can be triggered simply by breathing in the allergen and does not need to be eaten to trigger a reaction.

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