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8th September 2023 Newsletter

THANK YOU!

Firstly, we would like to extend our special thanks as follows:

Thanks to the PFA for organising the refurbishment of the outside shelter in the playground. It looks great – fresh and most importantly SAFE!

Without the support of our valued staff, PFA and volunteers; extra-curricular activities would be so much harder to organise and we really appreciate your support. If you would like to join our PFA do get in contact with Rachel Aitchison.

School Uniform

Please note we have made a small change to uniform, so that it is more 'uniform'. Please do not worry if you have already bought navy or grey but please ensure that the next uniform is black.

All children are expected to wear a school uniform. This helps to both create a feeling of 'belonging' and to develop a working atmosphere.

Uniform	Plain black trousers, shorts or skirts Plain white polo shirt Navy jumper or cardigan
PE Kit	Plain white or team coloured t-shirt Plain black shorts or tracksuit bottoms (no leggings please) Plain navy hoodie Appropriate sports shoes (not too brightly coloured please)

Embroidered school uniform is available for purchase online from myclothing.com (please speak to the office about support for this). (Sweatshirts and cardigans, Fleece, Polo Shirts, PE bags, Book bags)

PLEASE NAME ALL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS

Hair should be tied back, children should not wear jewellery, earrings should be studs (these need to be removed for P.E)

Reminders

PFA Events

Keep an eye open for events run by the PFA – they have lots planned, including a Halloween disco, raffles, cake sales, and a Christmas fair. Dates of these will be shared when they are finalised.

Assessments

All children are taking part in our baseline assessments – part of our assessment for learning practice, using Nfer. Reception children will be assessed as part of the statutory requirement. This will be taking place during the next two weeks and is nothing to worry about. Follow the link below for more information:

[Information for parents: reception baseline assessment \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Website

Have you had a look at our website?

It contains lots of information about school. Whilst we are always very happy to answer any questions you may have, you may find what you are looking for on the website.

Pickups and drop offs

Please make sure you keep your child safe by meeting them on the playground. Children will not be permitted to leave the playground unless accompanied by their adult or have specific permission from parents to walk/bike home alone.

Returning forms

Please return information and consent forms to the school promptly. We recently sent out quite a few forms requesting confirmation and information. So that our records are up to date to keep your child safe, please ensure you send this information back to as ASAP.

Music Lessons

We are very lucky to have Ann Smith come in on Fridays to teach children to play musical instruments. Ann specializes in brass and woodwind instruments but also teaches piano. These lessons are available for year KS2 children; lessons are every Friday during term, at a cost of £5 per lesson, payable at the office. If you would like your child to take part, please talk to the office to book your child's place.

Healthy and Eco School

Please ensure, if children are bringing in snacks for break times and packed lunches, that the items are HEALTHY, fruit and dried fruit are great energy providers for a snack. We will continue to try to be greener with less plastic waste – it would be great to have less packaging in lunch boxes to help with this.

Communication

Open Door Policy

We would like to remind you good communication is a priority for us. With this in mind, it is really important if any problems should arise, we are immediately informed so we can support you and your family. Teachers can be contacted via their email addresses, or if you wish to see them face to face, please arrange a meeting with them outside of teaching hours:

office@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk
head@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk
sbethell@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk
swaters@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk
mhunt@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk

Please note, we have migrated from our in-school server, where data was stored, to a cloud. NSIX emails for staff are no longer accessed.

Google Calendar for parents

As from September, we have invited parents to use our shared Google calendar. Please find the link sent as a text and follow this to add the calendar on the Google Calendar phone app. You may need to subscribe to the Google calendar on a laptop. Please also keep an eye on the website, which has a calendar for upcoming events for parents. Keep an eye on Facebook too!

Attendance

Whole school attendance for last year: 93.34%

Target: 96.5%

Total Late Minutes: 2312 minutes

This is an area we will need to work on for September 2023 - we noticed there were many unauthorised absences due to family holidays, last year. Attendance is a school priority and is important to your child's learning - if they miss large 'chunks' this will have a negative impact on their progress and well-being. *90% attendance is classed as persistent absence and adds up to missing 4 weeks of learning throughout the year. Did you know: Children with good attendance are more than twice as likely to pass their English and Maths GCSEs compared to those who are persistently absent, (DfE,2023).*

September 2023 Nursery

A polite reminder that nursery doors open at 8.45am, please bring your child down to the nursery door to drop off. **From Monday, please pick up from there too. This is to keep children safe and to ensure children are not anxious by all the comings and goings.**

Just to make you all aware nursery places from September 2023 are very limited - for every day of the week. If you would like to book a place for your child, please do get in contact with the school office as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

What's New?

Shelter

This has been restored by Greg Aitchison and his team and we are really grateful for the time they have given up to improve this area of the school for our children to use.

Mr Hunt

Otter class have been joined by Mr Hunt, their new teacher. Parents please make yourselves known to Mr Hunt so he can send children home with the right people!

Miss Spaul

With the start of the new year, Miss Spaul has taken over as interim headteacher. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with her should you have any questions or need a chat about your child and their care at school. Miss Spaul is now the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDco). She is available on the head@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk or through the office on office@reedham.norfolk.sch.uk and 01493 700271.

TA deployment

As you may be aware Mrs Woodards broke her arm back in May and was absent from the school for the last part of the year. Sadly, she has not recovered from this and will join us later this year. In the meantime, we have increased the hours of Mrs Free to cover classroom duties. All TAs move from class to class and support all children throughout the day.

Superstar Assembly and Fuzzies

We have changed our behavior policy to reflect a more joined up approach across the school so that all children receive “fuzzies” (small pompoms) as tokens to show exemplary behaviour.

New door Entry System

Over the summer we had a new digital security door system installed, where key cards are needed to enter and exit the school. This will help keep children safe. The next phase will be to have new gates installed at the end of the playground to “buzz” into the premises.

New Doorway to KS1 Toilets

We have also moved the doorway to KS1 toilets from the library to heron’s classroom to make toileting in there more efficient and safer.

Term Dates

Wednesday 6th September – Start of autumn term

Friday 8th September – Music lessons start with Ann Smith

Friday 15th September - Year 6 humanities Acle transition day

Monday 25th September - Full Governors’ Meeting

Friday 29th September - Year 6 creative industries Acle transition day

Thursday 5th October - Cluster Year 5 & 6 Netball @ Acle

Thursday 5th October (evening) – Open evening @ Acle

Week commencing Monday 16th October – Parent meetings (days to be confirmed by class teachers)

Monday 16th October - NHS height and weight checks for Year 6 and Reception

Thursday 19th October – PFA Halloween party (times TBC)

Week Commencing Monday 23rd October - Half term holiday

Friday 10th November – Cluster Cross Country event