

School Newsletter – 13th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

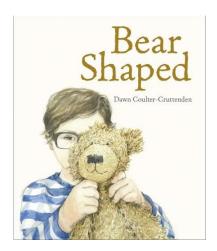
Can you believe that next week is our last week of this half term – hasn't the time flown by! We would like to thank you for your unfaltering support as always.

Let's catch up on the learning that has taken place this week in school:

Nursery: Nursery children have been learning all about dinosaurs this week. We have been looking for fossils in the sand, making dinosaurs out of play dough and enjoyed playing in the dinosaur swamp which was made out of green jelly! We have been drawing dinosaur prints with chalk on the playground, taken part in lots of dinosaur role play activities and have learnt some of the unusual dinosaur names.



Reception - **Robins**: This week we have been reading, 'Bear Shaped.' We started off by bringing our bears into school, drawing them and describing them. In the story Jack built a secret den for himself and Bear. We used Duplo and Skittle bricks to build our own secret dens.



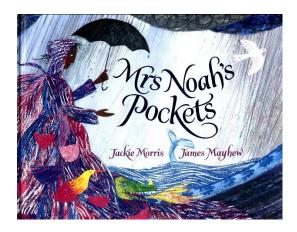
In Maths, we have been continuing to compare groups of different objects.



Year 1: Jays: In maths we are extending our knowledge of groups, by looking at the part whole model - Miss Hartle has 2 apples (part) and Mrs Sexton has 3 apples (part) that means we have 5 apples altogether (a whole). Meanwhile in English, we are exploring our senses, to bring to life our setting. Some examples from our picture of the park were, 'I can hear birds cheeping', 'I can smell freshly cut grass' and 'I can see children playing on a blue slide'. In Design Technology, we are exploring pop up books - The children have then made a weaving pattern to explore the sliders and pulls used within the mechanism of our pop up book. Here are our fabulous weaving patterns! Look at our amazing work !



Year 2: Kingfishers: In Geography this week we have been classifying whether a feature is human or physical, in preparation for our fieldwork around the village next week. In Reading The Kingfishers have been enjoying reading Mrs Noah's Pockets, and have been developing their summarising and retrieval skills.





Year 3/4: Woodpeckers: This week the Woodpeckers have enjoyed studying Ordnance survey maps of our local area and working out what the different symbols mean. We have also discussed human and physical features in our Geography lessons.

In our English lessons, we have begun to write our first person narrative descriptions and I have been so impressed with the adjectives and descriptions the children have chosen to use in their writing.



Year 4/5: Swallows: This week, the Swallows have shown huge expertise in solving Maths addition and subtraction problems using a variety of methods. In English we are working really hard to improve our editing skills. As a part of Black History Month, we have learned about Rosa Parks and her importance. In Science we have looked closely at the orbit of the Earth and the moon and how we get daytime and nighttime.



Year 6: Herons: In Maths, we continued our learning of formal methods for multiplication and have now moved onto division.

In Geography we have started to look at our third country for comparison, Jamaica. In Science, we learned about the composition of blood and what the different components do.





Attendance – Every Day Counts

It is important that all children attend school as much as possible. Children who attend more, do better socially and academically. It is important that all children are helped to succeed and by being at school as much as possible this can happen. That also means that children arrive at school before the school day starts so that they can have a smooth start to the day. School starts at 8:50am and finishes at 3.20pm, gates open at 8.40am.

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please call the school office on 01493 730364. If your child has a medical appointment during school time, please let the school office know in advance.

This weeks school attendance overall was: 92.88 %

Class	%	Congratulations to the Nursery Class who are our Attendance winners this week!
Nursery	97.67	
Robins	93.81	
Jays	88.5	
Kingfishers	94.74	
Woodpeckers	90.71	
Swallows	96.07	
Herons	91.03	

Mrs Walker presented the Nursery class with the trophy and a certificate in class this afternoon.



'Let's Talk About...'

This academic year, as a part of our work both in implementing the DFE's revised Reading Framework and our own curriculum development, the development of oracy skills will be a focus across our school. We will seek to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity and support to become fluent, confident and skilled communicators.

Each week on our newsletter, there will be a 'Let's Talk About...' a topic/theme to promote conversation and discussion at home.

Let's Talk About...Mental Health



World Mental Health Day

In Monday's assembly this week, Mrs Walker spoke about the importance of good mental well-being revisiting this theme from a few weeks ago in light of World Mental Health Day that took place this week.

5 GREAT steps to Wellbeing

Evidence suggests there are 5 steps we can all take to improve our mental wellbeing.

G – Give to others – even the smallest act can count, whether it's a smile, a thank you or a kind word. Larger acts, such as volunteering at your local community centre, can improve your mental wellbeing and help you build new social networks.

R – Relate to others – connect with the people around you: your family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. Spend time developing these relationships.

E – E Exercise your body – you don't have to go to the gym. Take a walk, go cycling or play a game of football. Find an activity that you enjoy and make it a part of your life.

A – Appreciate your world – be more aware of the present moment, including your thoughts and feelings, your body and the world around you. Some people call this awareness "mindfulness". It can positively change the way you feel about life and how you approach challenges and encourages you to appreciate the good things in your life.

T – Try new things – learning new skills can give you a sense of achievement and a new confidence. Personal growth and development gives us purpose and meaning in our life. So why not sign up for that cooking course, start learning to play a musical instrument, or figure out how to fix your bike?

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-mental-health/



Mental Health and well-being are also important for adults (parents/carers and staff):

Both myself and Mrs Coleman, who is our Pastoral team member, are here for any parents/carers who are struggling. Please call the school office or email if you would like to get in contact. We can provide a cuppa, a listening ear, and sign post you to support where we are able.

The staff in school do a demanding job that can sometimes be stressful and so we seek to support our staff as much as we can whether through a listening ear, supporting each other as a team, supervision, counselling, or just random acts of kindness.

School Admissions to Reception September 2024

The 2024/25 admission to Reception application round opened on Monday 25th September 2023. Applications can be made online.

https://fiso.norfolk.gov.uk/Synergy/Parents/default.aspx

The application round closes on Monday 15th January 2024.

When does your child start school?

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, they are due to start school in reception class in the school year starting September 2024 and are entitled to a full-time place.

Parents are entitled to defer their child's admission or request that their child attend on a part-time basis. By law, children must start statutory education full-time no later than the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.

Decisions

If you apply online, you will be able to sign into your account and see the decisions during the day on 16th April 2024. If you post an application form, you will be sent a letter on 16th April 2024 by second class post telling you the decision.

First admission to school timetable for September 2024 entry

Round opens - 25th September 2023

Round closes - 15th January 2024

National Offer Day when school place decisions are made available - 16th April 2024

Appeals closing date - 10th May 2024

Open Morning/Afternoon

If you are looking for a Reception place for your child for September 2024, we would love you to come along one of our Open Mornings. I would be delighted to meet with parents, carers and members of the Hemsby and surrounding areas to show and tell you more about our school and the fantastic provision it provides. Please do spread the word!

We will be offering two sessions - the session timings are as follows:

Session 1 – Tuesday 7th November 9:30 – 10:15am

Session 2 – Tuesday 14th November 1:15 – 2:00pm

Please register your interest for one of our sessions by calling our school office on 01493 730364 or alternatively emailing office@hemsbyprimary.org.uk



Hate Crime Awareness Webinar for Hate Crime Awareness Week

Next week our Year 5 children will be taking part in a Hate Crime Awareness Webinar.

Norfolk Constabulary's Hate Crime Awareness Webinar is considered most suitable for year 5 students. This is because they will discuss the age of criminal responsibility, which is 10 years old.

The webinar is in 2 parts. The first part looks at the law around certain behaviours and the second part looks at when those behaviours may be considered "hate crimes". One of the Youth Engagement Team's Safer Schools Support Workers, along with a Safer Schools Police Officer, will deliver the session.

The webinar is intended to enhance the following learning opportunities set out in the PSHE Association's "Programme of Study for the PSHE Curriculum", for Key Stage 2. Note: the session is intended to be in addition to, not a replacement of any learning that students would normally do around these subjects.

Managing hurtful behaviour and bullying

R19. About the impact of bullying, including offline and online, and the consequences of hurtful behaviour.

R20. Strategies to respond to hurtful behaviour experienced or witnessed, offline and online (including teasing, name-calling, bullying, trolling, harassment or the deliberate exclusion of others; how to report concerns and get support.

R21. About discrimination: what it means and how to challenge it.

R29. Where to get advice and report concerns if worried about their own or someone else's personal safety (including online)

Respecting self and others

R30. That personal behaviour can affect other people; to recognise and model respectful behaviour online

R32. About respecting the differences and similarities between people and recognising what they have in common with others e.g. physically, in personality or background

Ourselves, growing and changing

H25. About personal identity; what contributes to who we are (e.g. ethnicity, family, gender, faith, culture, hobbies, likes/dislikes)

H26. That for some people gender identity does not correspond with their biological sex.

H27. To recognise their individuality and personal qualities.



Our Safeguarding Team

At Hemsby Primary School and Nursery we all have a responsibility to keep children safe. We take all necessary measures to ensure that this happens.

If you have any safeguarding issues, please contact the school to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead. These are:

- Mrs Walker
- Mr Purnell
- Mrs Olley

However, all staff are trained in safeguarding and will listen to any concerns you have.

Concerned About a Child's Safety?

Children's Advice and Duty Service

If you are a member of the public you can do this through Norfolk County Council's Customer Services on 0344 800 8020.

Request for Leave during the School Term

Request for leave for holidays/travel abroad cannot be authorised by the school. As you are aware, leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. The half term week this term is Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October. Please ensure that you book any holidays within these date ranges. Please note that, Under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996, a Penalty Notice/s for absence during the school term may be issued.

'Look at a Book'

Don't forget that next week on Tuesday 17th October, we have another of our informal 'Look at a Book' sessions taking place. This will be an opportunity at the end of the school day to pop into your child's classroom to take a look at their books with them and to talk about their learning. We look forward to seeing you.

Footwear for the field

Just another polite reminder that as the weather changes, please can we ask that your child has some wellies at school so they can use the school field both at playtime and lunch time. This is so they don't bring lots of mud into the school. Thank you.

Illness

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please call the school office on 01493 730364. If your child has a medical appointment during school time, please let the school office know in advance.

Parking

Please be reminded that there should be no parking on the zig zag lines outside of the school gate. Please park considerately and safely.



Travelling Book Fair

We are delighted that the travelling Book Fair will be visiting us once again. As well as providing you with an opportunity to purchase books for your child/ren, we also receive a generous commission from Travelling Books with which we purchase books for our school. You will be able to visit the Book Fair at the following times:

- Families of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children Monday 13th November 3:30-4:00pm
- Families of children in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6: Thursday 16th November 3:30-4:00pm.

The book fair will take place in the school hall. Please collect your child/children from their classroom/s first. Entry/exit to the book fair will be via the school office main door. Please note that no cash payments will be accepted. Payment will be via QR code.





A Big Thank You!

Cindy Baldwin-Church Warden writes:

'We thoroughly enjoyed seeing your children at our church for their Harvest service on 4th October. We hope to link further with the school over the next year!

Your parents, staff and children not only collected a huge quantity of foodstuffs, which were distributed to people around Hemsby, but also gave £86.05 towards church funds on a Leaving plate. This is extremely helpful as we are trying to pay for the clock to be restored as well as electrical testing and the tower restoration.

We would like to thank you all very much for your donations.'

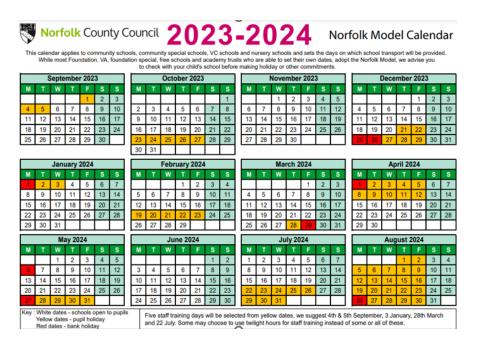
We will be returning to the church for some of Christmas celebrations. We are in the final stages of confirming these. Look out for more details of these events coming soon! We would love you to join us in church.

Local Half Term Clubs





Academic Year Term Dates



Dates for the diary

'Look at a Book' classroom sessions 3.20pm	
Year 2 Geography Fieldwork Walk – during school time	
Year 5/6 Boys Cluster Football Tournament at home 3.30 – 5pm	
Yr R & Yr 6 Height & Weight Checks in School	
House Captains Afternoon Tea 2.30 – 3.15pm Last day of term	
Children return to school	
School Visit to War Memorial	
Parents' Evening (3:30 - 5:30pm) Further details to be sent	
Yr Reception – Year 6 Flu Sprays – Letter to follow	
Parents Evening (4:00 - 6.30pm) Further details to be sent	
Travelling Book Fair (3.30pm – 4pm) – KS1 & EYFS	
Travelling Book Fair (3.30pm – 4pm) – KS2	
Children In Need	
Christingle at St Mary's Church	
PTA Christmas Film Night	
Christmas Lunch day	
Last day of term	

Have a lovely weekend.

Donna Walker Acting Headteacher