



Headteacher Update

We are now two thirds of the way through the school year and the children continue to work incredibly hard and demonstrate their excellent behaviours. Though we have been without Miss Read this half term, our strive for improvement has continued as we get ready for our new curriculum launch in September. Miss Read’s recovery is progressing well and she sends her thanks to everybody who has asked after her. While a full recovery is still a little way off, we expect Miss Read to begin a phased return sometime in the next half term and we are all looking forward to having her back in school again.

Please see below a list of **key diary dates** for the summer term.
Thank you for your continued support

Parent/Teacher Consultations

We hope you found the parent/teacher consultations supportive. As always, they were very well attended and our governors reported your positivity back. Those consultations which were unable to take place will be rescheduled for early next term.

Thank you to those of you who responded to our online feedback form. It is really pleasing that 93% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that *‘The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year’* as this has been a focus of ours from your feedback in the autumn term.

Breakfast and After School Club

We are always looking for ways to improve and support our school community. Please watch out for a survey in the summer term regarding our wrap-around provision.

Attendance Matters

The children are engaging well with our Attendanceopoly and so far, rewards of cake, cookies, hot chocolate, extra playtime and thousands of team points have been ‘won’.

Our newly appointed office manager, Miss Young, comes with a wealth of experience regarding school attendance and she will be working with the school community to help us move forwards towards our target of 95%.

Our attendance target	95%
Our attendance from Sept 2022	92.1%
Number of unauthorised days absence so far this term	99 days

There are **190** school days within the year; please ensure that you book your family holidays in the other **175** days. Term time holidays will not be agreed unless there are clear **exceptional circumstances**.



Reading

This half term, we have been preparing for the launch of our new reading curriculum and book spine (for Year 2 through to Year 6) when we come back for the summer term. We will be starting with the following

Y2: Fantastically Great Women who changed the World by Kate Pankhurst

Y3: The Dancing Bear by Michael Morpurgo

Y4: Varjak Paw by SF Said

Y5: A Midsummer Night's Dream (retelling of Shakespeare's play)

Y6: Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens

Early Years and Year 1 will continue with their phonics program.

PTA

Thank you for making our events so successful this half term; we know that this is only possible because of your amazing support. We appreciate all that you do, especially in the current financial climate, and always value your feedback.

Next term we are looking to help the community celebrate the coronation and our year culminates in the Summer Fayre on Saturday 15th July.

If you are able to help out at any of the events or want to get more involved in the PTA, please get in touch. Follow our Facebook page: Search *Homefield C of E Primary School PTA*

Safeguarding

'Tell Me' boxes have been introduced in every classroom. These provide children with another opportunity to let adults know what is on their mind (suggestions, worries, things they want to celebrate...) and they are already being put to good use.



Choir

This half term, the choir - with children from Year 1 to Year 6 - have been working hard on their Easter performance of 'The Three Trees'.

They will be performing at St Nicholas Church, first to the whole school on the last day of term and then to the local community at the St Nicholas Church Easter Fayre on Saturday 1st April.



Sports and After-school clubs

We have had a busy half term with lots of sports taking place. We had twelve girls from Y3/4 attend a football session at the East Norfolk Sixth Form College for the day. They had the opportunity to play football with and against girls from nine other local schools. They had the full use of the top class facilities including the 3G pitch. We are looking to recruit more girls from Y3 to Y6 to join the club so if your daughter is free after school on a Friday please sign up with an immediate start possible.



We also had 32 pupils across Years 3 to 6 compete in the cross country at Bure Park in Great Yarmouth. There were some gritty performances from our pupils, with several in the top 10 places, competing against at least eight other local primary schools. The cool weather and undulating terrain did not pose a problem as the children ran their hearts out getting a real taste of competition. If

your child would like to get involved in regular running then why not try the Junior parkrun (2km). It is a free weekly timed event held from the lower promenade every Sunday at 9am. All they need to do is sign up for free and print out a barcode to take with them. Follow the link below:

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/>

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to a club for next half term. We still have a few spaces in cricket, netball (we are welcoming both boys and girls) and girls football. Netball is now on a Wednesday so that it does not clash with Y5/6 football; it will be led by Brianne. Sign up now (online) to start in the first week back.

Learning Round up

PSHE & RSE

The launch of our new Jigsaw PSHE & RSE curriculum has been a huge success. The children love their Jigsaw characters and have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons taught so far. Please see our school website detailing information about the curriculum and importance of our Jigsaw lessons.

We will be holding an information evening open to all parents from Nursery to Year 6 on Thursday 20th April after school where you can find out more about the Jigsaw curriculum and the resources we use. If you do have any queries about the curriculum please phone/email the school office and either Miss Clark or Mrs Jones will be in contact with you.

Nursery

What a busy half term we've had in Nursery! From Goldilocks and the Three Bears to Jack and the Beanstalk. From our Mothers' Day Cafe to the Easter Bunny Hop. We worked with Year 3 to create Easter Bonnets and the Year 3 children loved joining us in the Nursery. We look forward to welcoming some new children after Easter and wish you all a very Happy Easter.



As always, we thank you for your continued support and for sharing home learning and family events with us on Tapestry.

Reception

It has been a busy half term in Reception and we have enjoyed sharing in lots of whole school celebrations. We especially enjoyed having our mummies and nannies join us for an afternoon tea which we helped to prepare. We shared the story 'Guess how much I love you' followed by lots of delicious sandwiches, cakes and biscuits, lovingly decorated by the children.

To help us celebrate Easter we joined with Year 4 to make some marvellous Easter bonnets which we paraded around the school hall. There were some amazingly creative bonnets showing all the key features of Easter. We also made cards for our families and to deliver to some local residents.

In the classroom we have continued to follow our phonics scheme and the children are doing an excellent job of recognising and using all of the sounds we have taught so far. Please make sure they are regularly practised before reading their school reading book each night.

Maths has focused on learning the number bonds to 10 as well as 3d shapes. We had a hunt around the school grounds for cylinders, cubes, spheres and cuboids.
Happy Easter from the Reception staff and children.



Year 1

Year 1 have been working incredibly hard this half term. Geography has certainly been enjoyed and the children have worked really hard naming and locating continents and oceans.



In our RE lessons Year 1 have been learning about Easter. They represented their understanding of the Easter story by making their own Easter gardens.



We also made Easter cards to deliver to local residents.



After Easter we will learn about Judaism in RE, plants in Science and changes within living memory in RE.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a brilliant half term and they have been busy learning across all areas of the curriculum. In Art lessons the children have loved using waves to create some beautiful pieces of artwork. In Geography the children have been comparing Nairobi in Kenya to London. Children have been developing their research skills in Computing lessons with Mr Cole. They had to research a favourite animal and record their findings on a Powerpoint. Children have been learning to tell the time and find fractions of amounts in Maths. Year 2 are working super hard to improve their handwriting and written presentation. We have ended the term making some rather spectacular Easter bonnets with Year 6.

Year 3

Year 3 has had a fabulous half term. The highlight of our curriculum for this half term has been our art unit. Children have learned techniques used by Van Gogh to create their own paintings of a monster. Ask your children about tonking, sgraffito and impasto to find out more!



In Science lessons, we have been learning about rocks, fossils and soils. Children learned how fossils are formed and then had a go at making their own. Check out our fossils...



We finished the term off with a fabulous trip to the Drill House. Children really enjoyed the workshop and got stuck into all of the activities.



Happy Easter!

Year 4

We have had a very busy half term in Year 4, where we have enjoyed: playing the glockenspiel to accompany 'Lean on Me' and 'Mamma Mia', writing our own blogs, using viewfinders to help us look at composition of our art still life, and learning all about teeth and the digestive system. What a lot of learning!



We have enjoyed reading 'The Iron Man' and writing our own 'Iron Woman' stories, and our class reader - The Boy at the Back of the Class - was a real hit with everybody.

We want to wish everybody a Happy Easter, and leave you with a quote from a local resident which was emailed to school:

'I just wanted to thank your Year 4 students for sending around Easter cards to the neighbours. This is a very thoughtful act. I am new to the neighbourhood, so seeing the card sitting on my doormat has made me feel very welcome. Many thanks and Happy Easter to you all.'



Year 5

Thank you for all the support this term; together we have made solid advances in our learning. The core subjects of maths and English have shown pleasing progress both individually and as a collective. The main thing that has made the difference is the children are showing great learning attitudes and showing me that they want to better themselves. We have worked hard at children taking responsibility for their learning and especially taking pride in all they do.

Get ahead for the new term...we will be learning about Ancient Greece in history and in English we will be exploring Shakespeare - particularly A Midsummer Night's Dream, followed by Romeo and Juliet. In maths, we will be learning about decimals and percentages.

Look out for our facebook updates to show you some examples of lessons as they progress week to week but I will leave a selection of photos on here for you to enjoy. Happy Easter to you all.





Superb art work Year 5; well done!

Year 6

Easter already! This half term has flown by. The children this half term have worked incredibly hard. In maths they have mastered all things percentages, coordinates and angles. Thank you to all those children who have attended the extra maths boosters - you have made fabulous progress as a result. In English we have spent time writing action packed adventure stories and thoughtful autobiographies. Children have tried their best to include their amazing SPaG knowledge in their writing. We have spent our science lessons learning about evolution and inheritance and in Geography children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about all things volcanoes, earthquakes and mountains.

We have ended the term with a fun filled week: pantomime performances, sponsored bunny - hopping, the choir production, making Easter bonnets with year 2 and getting to participate in a theatre workshop. Have a wonderful Easter break filled with chocolate eggs and lots of rest!



Mrs Clarke

I am on the main playground most mornings, if you have any worries or concerns an appointment can be made via the office or I can call. I can help with any worries at home or school. Food banks, behavioural, emotional support, attendance or if you just need a chat!

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Year Group
18th April	Start of Summer Term	Whole School Community
18th April	Class Photographs	Whole School
20th April 3:15-4:00 pm	Jigsaw Parents Information Evening	Whole School Community
5th May	Coronation Celebrations	Whole School Community
9th - 12th May	KS2 SATs	Year 6
5th - 9th June	Y6 Residential	Year 6
26th June	Sports Day	KS1 (am); KS2 (pm)
tbc	Early Years Sports Day	Nursery and Reception
3rd July	Reserve Sports Day	KS1 (am); KS2 (pm)
7th July	Reports to parents	Whole School
Saturday 15th July	PTA Summer Fayre	Whole School Community