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Follow us on twitter - @ToftwoodFedera1

**Toftwood Infant and Junior School Federation**  
**Executive Headteacher - Mrs Joanna Pedlow**

**Newsletter 4 - 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

### **A busy half term!**

This half term has flown by, with so many exciting things happening for the children. The children have been showing some excellent learning behaviours in the classroom as well as kindness and respect for others. Do take a look at the website [www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk](http://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk) or follow us on X (Twitter) @ToftwoodFedera1 to keep up to date with things that are happening in the schools and further afield.

### **Farewell**

We are saying a sad goodbye to Mrs Murfett, one of our TAs at the Junior School. She has been here for many years now and worked with so many children, who have all benefitted from her listening ear and kind heart. Mrs Murfett always wants what is best for the children, and is committed to helping them succeed socially, emotionally and academically.

We will miss her tremendously, but we wish her well in her new and very different venture.

### **Hello!**

As we say goodbye to some people, we welcome new staff too!

After half term we will say hello and welcome to the following Teaching Assistants:

Mr Oparoacha, who will be working in Year 5 initially

Miss Hughes, who will be working in MM4

Miss Marks who will be working in GG6 mainly

We very much look forward to them all joining us and becoming part of our community.

### **Harvest Activity Afternoon Years 1-6**

Please remember our Harvest Activity afternoon on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. From 2pm onwards. Come and join your child for some Harvest activities and see their classroom.

Please note, children will not be allowed to leave until the end of the school day. Adults will leave the sessions 10 minutes before the end of the school day. No younger children please, as we do not have the space to accommodate them.

Please enter via the main office doors and sign in in the classrooms. Sheets will be there when you arrive.

You will be able to walk between the schools if you have children at both schools.

We look forward to seeing you.

### School Photos

School photos have been taken. The children had individual and sibling photos, if they were in school. These will come home as proofs after half term, but you are under no obligation to buy them if you do not wish to.

### Reading!

Reception have been working hard learning about 'The Koala who Could' They were all given a copy of this book in their welcome packs, and have had the opportunities to read and share this at home. They have just been using this as a basis for their learning for the past two weeks. The children have been reading this in their freeflow time, they have remembered important words from the story and are able to recite large parts of the book using storytelling language.

We also have had some lovely videos sent in from home of children reading the story, which we have loved watching.

To build on this, each of the year groups in Years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have six books over the year that they will be focusing on to develop storytelling language, a love of reading and enhance their skills.

You may wish to borrow these books from the library or buy them to support your child's learning and enjoyment of being a reader in school:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
The Koala Who Could	A Little Bit Brave	Perfectly Norman
Stickman	One Snowy Night	The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark
Supertato	Rubi's Worry	The Bear And The Piano
Missing Richmond	Where The Wild Things Are	There's A Snake In School
On My Way Home	The Wall In The Wild	Six Dinner Sid
Slow Samson	How To Be A Viking	The Extraordinary Gardener

### Pre-loved Uniform

Just a reminder that we do have good quality pre loved uniform for sale, in a range of sizes. If you would like to buy any, you can email [fedadmin@toftwoodfederation.co.uk](mailto:fedadmin@toftwoodfederation.co.uk) with your details and what you are looking for and Mrs Knox will get back to you and sort it. You can also ring the Junior office between 9.30 and 2.30 each day if you would rather. You can also bring in good quality pre loved uniform and exchange it for the next size up.

### Supporting Children with Global Conflict

We know many of our children may have seen the news about the global conflicts taking place across the world. They may find this difficult and worrying.

Here are some sites you may find useful to support your child in understanding what is happening in an age appropriate way:

Israel and Hamas: What's happening: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/67051424>

Helping children to thrive in times of crisis: <https://www.rescue.org/uk/irc-uks-healing-classrooms>

**Attached to the email are also two booklets:**

Talking to children about war and conflict

Upset by the news - Symbol Book

If you are reading this on the website, they can be found also on the newsletter page

### **Managing Feelings and Behaviour**

We have been discussing the language we use around our traffic light systems, which are there to help children manage their feelings and behaviour.

These will after half term all be a pure traffic light system with no faces etc.

This is how we will discuss them with the children.

**Green** - Good to Go. I'm ready to learn and following the golden rules.

**Amber** - Pause and think. What can I do to quickly get back to green?

**Red** - Stop. Take a breath and think of a plan to follow the golden rules and be ready for learning. The adults can help me with this.

**Silver** - I am showing excellent behaviours for learning and working well with others as well as following the golden rules.

**Gold** - The adults have seen something excellent from me.

Children can manage their behaviours and get back to green within a lesson by showing the good behaviours for learning and also by following the golden rules. This shows them how they can manage their behaviours and feelings and are supported to do so.

This work also links to our work with some children who may find this exceptionally challenging on the Zones of Regulation. You can read more about this approach here: <https://zonesofregulation.com/>

All of this work is part of our commitment to supporting children in managing their own feelings and behaviour to be successful both now and in the future.

### **Year 1 and 2 Running Club**

The children have been practising their running skills this half term.

For more information and photos take a look at our website here:

<https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/clubs/autumn-2023-running-club/>

### **Reception Harvest Activity Morning**

We had a really good turnout of parents, carers, grandparents and family friends for our Reception harvest Activity Morning. They enjoyed working with the children on leaf crown making, scarecrow colouring, hedgehog painting, junk modelling, stick wand wrapping, pumpkin scooping, leaf weaving and conker tweezing!

For more information and photos take a look at our website here:

<https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/year-groups/reception/reception-harvest-autumn-activity-morning-october-2023/>

### **British Sugar Collection**

As we do in all years, we will be collecting sugar for the homeless, needy and vulnerable in Norfolk. This supports those helped by Shelters

Sugar is a fast energy boost for the homeless, and an essential hot drinks and Christmas foods.

You can also donate tea, coffee. Biscuits or packages foods if you wish.

If you are able to help with this, you can send your donation in from the 6<sup>th</sup> November and up until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

There will be collection boxes at each office from this date.

If you would like to check their website you can do so at [www.befafoodappeal.co.uk](http://www.befafoodappeal.co.uk)

### **Year 5 Rugby Festival**

Some Year 5 children enjoyed participating in a tag rugby event this month. They put in so much effort and showed great sportsmanship which was noticed by the adults from the other schools.

For more information and photos take a look at our website here:

<https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/sports-competitions/uks2-tag-rugby-festival/>



### Year 3 School Trip

Year 3 visited Norwich Cathedral as part of the Sacred Science programme of study. They explored different aspects of Science and learnt all about the history of why the cathedral was constructed. They recapped their geographical learning with compass points and absorbed the magnificence of the cathedral as a historic building.

For more information and photos take a look at our website here:

<https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/year-groups/year-3/autumn-1-2023-year-3-school-trip/>

Have a restful half term. Thank you for your support this half term

### Walks with Woodland Julie



**WALKS WITH WOODLAND JULIE**

Supporting children to discover and connect with nature through games, stories, nature crafts and more!

**29TH OCTOBER**  
**26TH NOVEMBER**

Sessions at 10:30am & 13:00pm

**Sandringham Estate, Sandringham, Norfolk, PE35 6EN**

The poster features illustrations of acorns at the top, a pumpkin, leaves, and mushrooms at the bottom. It includes three small photos: a child looking at a book, a person walking in a forest, and a group of people walking on a path.

### Theatre Show



**creative ARTS EAST** Friends of Dereham Memorial Hall Presents...

**SPLAT!**

**A FAMILY FRIENDLY PHYSICAL COMEDY ABOUT ART!**

"Madcap Brilliance... Sheer Comedic Joy" - Broadway Baby

★★★★★

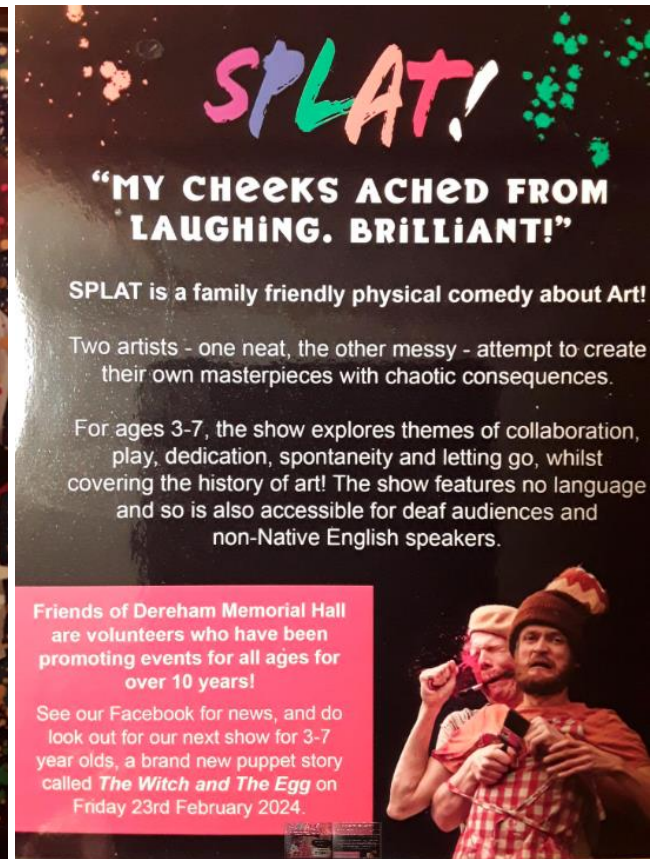
PERFORMED BY **of the tickel** THEATRE COMPANY

Children - Bring a cushion!

**Wednesday 25th October, 2pm**  
**Dereham Memorial Hall**  
61 Norwich Street, Dereham, NR19 1AD

Tickets  
Adults £6  
Children £3

Bookings: [ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/dereham](https://ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/dereham)  
Enquiries: 01362 696900 or 07432 901044



**SPLAT!**

**"MY CHEEKS ACHED FROM LAUGHING. BRILLIANT!"**

SPLAT is a family friendly physical comedy about Art!

Two artists - one neat, the other messy - attempt to create their own masterpieces with chaotic consequences.

For ages 3-7, the show explores themes of collaboration, play, dedication, spontaneity and letting go, whilst covering the history of art! The show features no language and so is also accessible for deaf audiences and non-Native English speakers.

Friends of Dereham Memorial Hall are volunteers who have been promoting events for all ages for over 10 years!

See our Facebook for news, and do look out for our next show for 3-7 year olds, a brand new puppet story called *The Witch and The Egg* on Friday 23rd February 2024.

The poster features a photo of two performers in a red and white checkered shirt and a brown hat, one holding a red balloon. The background is dark with colorful paint splatters.