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

Newsletter 1 September 2024

Nearly half term!

How has half a term passed already!

Reception children are in and settled, like they have always been here and it is so exciting to get to know them and work with them on their education journey.

Staff changes

As always, in a big school, we have a couple of staff changes from the end of term in december.

Miss Yeoman is moving on to pursue a new role outside education. We wish her well and thank her for supporting us when we created the federation, helping us all get used to working together and setting up new systems and processes and getting to know the staff and children. She has also played a big part in ensuring our maths curriculum is effective across all year groups, as well as many other responsibilities. We thank her for all she has done for the schools and the children in the many years she has been with the schools, and hope she finds enjoyment in her next role in her career too.

Miss Jenna Ray will be joining us as **Assistant Head** in January. She undertook a rigorous interview process and we are delighted she will be working with us all.

Mrs George is also leaving us in December, to focus on some quality time with her family and looking forward to enjoying her many interests. Mrs George has been with us for many years and has always been happy to work wherever required. Her desire to ensure the best for all children is clear and we will miss her.

We are recruiting for the role, and also a pastoral support worker role following Mrs Feeke leaving us and these adverts will be online with the Norfolk education Jobs service and additional details can be found on our website on the vacancies page.

Lunchboxes

Just a quick reminder that lunchboxes should not have sweets or bars of chocolate in them please.

There are many things a child can bring for lunch but these two items are not included. Thankyou!

Harvest sessions

Thankyou to all of you who came along to our Harvest sessions and took the opportunity to look at your child's work ahead of our online parent consultation evenings. We really love seeing families come in to celebrate school with the children and appreciate you coming along.

Term Dates

Any new dates are highlighted yellow.

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Tuesday 22 nd October	Parent café for parents of children with SEND 5.30 - 6.30 at the Junior school Focus on positive behaviour management (Session 2 of 2) If you have not booked and would like to attend, please let the Junior office know so we have enough cake!	
Wednesday 23 rd October		Junior Rocksteady Concert for parents/carers 10 am in Junior hall. Information will be sent by Rocksteady.
Thursday 24 th October	Infant Rocksteady Concert for parents/carers 10 am in Junior hall. Information will be sent by Rocksteady.	
Thursday 24 th October		Y3/4/5/6 cross country for selected children at Langley
Thursday 24 th October	Last day of half term School closes at 3:15/3:25	
HALF TERM 25/10/24 - 3/11/24		
Monday 4 th November	School re opens following half term at 8.40 am	
Monday 4 th November	Parent/Carer consultation online appointment booking opens at 4pm. Details of how to do this will be emailed to you.	
Wednesday 6 th November	Flu Vaccinations	
Thursday 7 th November		Y3/4/5/6 Girls' football at Goals in Norwich
Thursday 7 th November 9.15 am	Final parent/carers tour for new reception Parents/carers for September 2025	
Thursday 8 th November	Year 1 walk round Toftwood	
Monday 11 th November		Year 4 Roman Day - Year 4 will email details before h term
Monday 11 th November	Parent Consultations Online 4-7pm	
Wednesday 20 th November	Y1/2 PE festival at Dereham Leisure Centre for selected children	
Thursday 21 st November	Parent Consultations Online 4-7pm	
Friday 22 nd November		Year 5 Viking Day Details to follow
Monday 25 th November	Pre-school Activity morning 9:15-11:30 For those children due to start Reception classes in September 2025	
Tuesday November 26 th 10.30 am	Selected children to the Scout Hut for Hear2care session with pensioners	
Wednesday 27 th November	Flu Vaccinations (Those not seen last time) Further information to follow once received from NHS	
Tuesday 3 rd December	Pre planning exhibition for the new SRB for SEMH. 3.30 - 5.30 at the Junior School	
Wednesday 4 th December	Christmas Lunch booking form emailed to all parents/carers Please complete and return it before the deadline of Wednesday 11 th December	
Friday December 6 th	Sugar for Shelters being collected	
Monday 9 th December	Year 1 Christmas performance 9:15-10:15 at Junior School	
Tuesday 10 th December	Year 2 Christmas performance 9:15-10:15 at Junior School	
Tuesday 10 th December	Reception classes height and weight checks Information will follow once we have it from the NHS	
Wednesday 11 th December		Year 3 Christmas Performance 9:15-10:15
Wednesday 11 th December	Deadline to order Christmas Lunch for ALL children	
Thursday 12 th December		Year 4 Christmas Performance 9:15-10:15
Friday 13 th December		Year 5 Christmas Performance 9:15-10:15

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Monday 16 th December	Year 2 Christmas Party pm	Year 6 Christmas Performance 9:15-10:15 Years 3 & 6 Christmas Parties pm
Tuesday 17 th December	Reception Christmas Activity session 9:15 5-10:30 One adult per child, no younger children Reception Christmas Party pm	
Tuesday 17 th December	Year 1 Christmas Party pm	Years 4 & 5 Christmas Parties pm
Tuesday 17 th December	Parent café for parents of children with SEND 2-3pm at Infants Focus to be confirmed	
Wednesday 18 th December		Junior Rocksteady concert at 10am Rocksteady contact parents/carers directly
Wednesday 18 th December	Federation Christmas Lunch - Pre booked orders only	
Thursday 19 th December	Infant Rocksteady concert at 10am Rocksteady contact parents/carers directly	
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term Schools close at 3:15/3:25	
Tuesday 7 th January	School reopens for all children at 8.40 am	

For Christmas performances please be aware that it will be two adults per child, and no younger siblings. If you have no one to watch a younger sibling we may be able to support you in coming to a rehearsal so please contact your class teacher via the usual methods.

New SEND and Inclusion Helpline

As part of their Local First Inclusion programme, Norfolk County Council are continuing to look for new ways to help you to support children and young people with SEND.

There's lots of information available on both the Norfolk Schools website [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) - Norfolk Schools and Learning Providers - Norfolk County Council](#) and the [Local Offer](#).

However, if you can't find the information you need to support children and young people with SEND, or those at risk of exclusion,.

There is a new phone line available on weekdays from 9am until 5pm and you can now call them on 0333 313 7165 and speak to a professional for advice and information. It will make it easier for families to get the information they might need. The team can give you advice on children and young people with SEND.

They know that parents can sometimes find it difficult to find the information they need, being able to talk to someone to navigate the support on offer will help ensure that the right support is available at the right time, first time.

They would like all families to ring the support line before they apply for an EHCP needs assessment. This is to make sure they are doing all we can at the earliest opportunity to support families. The new phonenumber will also help to ensure that you get to the right service and reduce the number of different teams you might need to speak to about a child.

They hope that by getting the right support to children earlier, they can improve outcomes and reduce the need for Education Health and Care Plans.

SENDIASS, which is an impartial service supporting families, will continue with its existing number.

As the SEND and Inclusion support line is a new service, they will be closely monitoring it to ensure its success, gaining feedback, and developing it further over the coming weeks and months.

They are also working with schools and partners to develop additional opportunities, where they aim to develop a 'team around the school' approach that endeavour to wrap support around schools from a number of different professionals.

Federation Values

We have been working hard discussing and learning our new Federation this half term. These are values for now and for their future.

These are:

Autumn 1 - Respect, Autumn 2 - Honesty, Spring 1 - Resilience, Spring 2 - Collaboration, Summer 1 - Kindness, Summer 2 -Empathy

All values are introduced at the beginning of the academic year and referred back to throughout the year, with a deeper focus each half term on each one.

This half term we have been pleased with how many children show respect, respect for each other and respect for rules and processes too. The children have been able to explain what this means. One child in each class has been chosen to receive a values certificate this half term. Please do discuss the values with your child and how they can show these, in and out of school.

SENDIASS Newsletter

Please follow this link for the latest newsletter to support parents/carers of children with special educational needs.

Free Emotional Support for Year 6 children - Kooth

Kooth have now extended our Kooth service to 10 year olds! They will be delivering virtual school wellbeing assemblies in November and December and Mrs rathi has signed up for our Year 6 students to learn about Kooth and the support they can access to add to their mental health & wellbeing toolkit.

Year 6 have this free, safe and anonymous support available to them for whatever they are going through. Kooth can provide ongoing valuable support. Kooth can give additional support for students who may already be receiving support through school counsellors, MHST and CAMHS.

Kooth offer free support with [no](#) waiting lists. Kooth is a safe and anonymous space for young people to talk about their wellbeing without the fear of judgement. They have clinical practitioners on hand to offer one-to-one support through text-based counselling, operating after school hours, on weekends, and during school holidays. Our Year 6 students can access the immediate help they need without a formal referral.

Black History Month Tuesday 15th October 2024

Key Stage 2 met for an assembly of online music with Midé Naike.

Midé Naike talked about his Beat Box journey from the age of 16. He was originally from Nigeria, but now lives in Birmingham. In his group he has musicians from Italy, Jamaica etc who all bring their musical influences and genres to the mix. He explained that Beat Box is like the drums, creating a rhythm and he gave us a demonstration.

We joined in with a warm up of our faces and mouths, to make sure that we were ready to join in. We also practiced our breathing techniques, before we learnt some of the sounds and combined them. We were able to clap along to the rhythms which is an important skill.

Midé explained the role of a DJ and how they like to do "scratching" ie with the word "hello". He had us pretending to bounce a word off a wall and back, in different voices. We also imitated various musical instruments with our voices, which the children thoroughly enjoyed and sounded quite impressive!

Healthy Homes

Breckland have launched a service known as Breckland Healthy Homes which will be looking to help tenants and Landlords from Private rented properties where there is damp and mould or concerns about conditions that might lead to disrepair.

They would like to reach as many households as possible to help as many residents as we can. This includes households with children. Please see the information below. Please do feel free to contact Mrs Bates if you would like any support with housing issues.



Calling all Private Tenants and Landlords

Breckland Council is launching the 'Breckland Healthy Homes Service' to help prevent and tackle damp, mould and condensation in the private rented sector

Funded by the UK Government

The Healthy Homes project has been launched to test different approaches to improving damp and mould enforcement in private rented homes across a number of local authorities. The project was administered under the previous government and led jointly by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and was funded through HM Treasury's Shared Outcomes Fund.



**Funded by
UK Government**



We offer support, advice and guidance to private tenants and private landlords, this includes:

- Working with you to understand improvements that could be made to your home
- Helping you to understand and access funding opportunities
- Signposting for fuel tariff guidance, aiming to reduce utility bills
- Where necessary, using enforcement to make sure that your home is free from serious hazards

Report it!

Scan the QR code or visit www.breckland.gov.uk/housing for further information or to report a damp and mould issue. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence by our team.

- **Help to understand the causes of damp and mould**
Borrow home hygrometer/data logger kits
- **Home visits**
By our team to assess the health and safety standards in your home
- **Remediation recommendations**
Our experienced team will offer recommendations to improve the health and safety standards in your home
- **Landlord forum**
Expert advice and guest speakers including information on obligations and how we can support you
- **Tenants clinic**
Meet our team for guidance, support and for up-to-date information on your rights and responsibilities

Who are we?

Breckland Healthy Homes Service is provided by Breckland Council's Private Sector Housing Team.

We are committed to ensuring landlords are supported in providing decent, safe and secure living accommodation for their tenants.



Funded by
UK Government



Breckland Council

Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 1EE

T 01362 656870

www.breckland.gov.uk/housing

Community Events

Whitlingham Half Term Adventure

Please follow this link for details of events for children in October Half Term at Whitlingham
<https://www.whitlinghamadventure.org.uk/news/october-half-term-2/>

Help with Finances



Newsletter



Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre, in partnership with Dereham Baptist Church

money money money

How do you handle your finances? Like many, you might recognise the importance of budgeting but haven't managed to start yet. Now is your opportunity—discover effective techniques, dedicate time to create a budget, and set it up to (almost) operate independently in the future.

Join us for four Wednesdays from 10 AM to 12 PM at Dereham Library, starting on October 23rd.

Secure your free spot by signing up at <https://capuk.org/get-help/money-coaching> or by emailing: catherineweatherill@capuk.org.



What's not to adore? We celebrated the 5th birthday of Dereham Debt Centre with pizza and birthday cake! Just a week before our festivities, we were thrilled to welcome our 100th client, beginning their journey to financial freedom. Each client has their own unique story, yet many share the relief they feel when they reach out to our helpline.



Big thank you Caprinos pizza for donating free pizza

Our debt services are free, and available for those living in Dereham and the surrounding villages. There are other centres in Norfolk and across the UK.

For free debt help phone 0800 328 0006. Visit capuk.org for more info



**Ladies Fashion Show
AND Pop-up Shop!**

**SHOP YOUR FAVOURITE HIGH STREET BRANDS
AT UP TO 70% OFF!**

Colours.
[FUN]DRAISING
FASHION SHOWS



**Friday 25th October 2024
Litcham Secondary Phase**

Litcham Secondary Phase, Church Street, Litcham, Kings Lynn, PE32 2NS

Doors open 6.30pm, show starts 7pm

Tickets: £6
Tickets to be purchased in advance

Bring cash for raffle and refreshments

Raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won at the show!

For information please contact: Jane Munro 07834692317 - janelmunro73@gmail.com
or Emily Clarke 07787165431 - millykisby@hotmail.com