



Withernsea



Primary School

‘A safe, happy, aspirational, respectful place to enjoy learning’

April/May 2011 Newsletter

Spring Term Reflections

We have decided to combine the newsletters for April and May as the Easter holidays fall within this period. It has been a very long and hard working Spring term. We have now completed the Spring term Assessments and have been looking at the progress made by all pupils. There are some pleasing results. Each teacher meets with Mrs Harper for a pupil progress interview and we look at each child and the progress they have made over the term. Parents can also help their children by ensuring that younger children read regularly at least three times a week as this regular practice really makes a difference to their progress. Parents can also help with school attendance - there are lots of children with attendance lower than 90% - this is really impacting on children's learning and progress. All opportunities for learning are crucial and valuable and we can never get that time back again. Any attendance below 80% means your child has missed the equivalent of a day a week and will have major gaps in their learning and understanding.

Thank you for your support; we wish you a very happy Easter – hopefully the sun will shine and we look forward to a successful Summer term.

Staffing

We thank Mrs Johnson and wish her all the best in her new job and welcome Miss Smith into Year 1. Mrs Noble will be replacing Miss Smith in Foundation Stage.

We wish Mrs Coates a very long and happy retirement after many years of service with the Infant School as she retires at Easter and thank her for all her contributions to both schools.

We welcome back Miss Sawford from her maternity leave, she will be sharing with Mrs Woodruff in Year 2. Miss Sawford will teach Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Woodruff will teach Thursday and Friday.

Key Stage 2 SATs arrangements

SATs tests commence Monday 9 May for the whole week. The children will sit a test each day. Please support your child by making sure they go to bed early the night before, have breakfast in the morning and arrive at school on time. If there are any problems please ring school to let us know because if a child misses one of the papers for that subject they cannot be given a mark for that subject. All of Year 6 children have worked very hard and also the Year 6 teachers have worked very hard to ensure all the revision has been covered and that the children are well prepared. We are confident that they will be able to do well, and although they might be a bit nervous, a positive can do attitude will really help.

Maths Evaluations

Mr Pawson and Miss Metcalf are our Numeracy team in school. They have been very busy this half term observing lessons, talking to pupils about their numeracy and looking at pupils work.

They found the teaching effective due to clear explanations, enthusiasm, encouragement and praise. We have been trying to ensure we put maths into 'real life' situations to give it more reality and purpose which has been useful to the children. There were a lot of resources being used effectively.

The children reported back they liked the marking and feedback they were given but wanted more time to make alterations and act on this feedback- so we will adjust our teaching to ensure children do have time.

One piece of feedback from parents is that they want to support their child with maths but the methods we use in school have changed and parents are concerned that if they use different strategies they will confuse their child and it would not be helpful.

If we arranged some parent workshops where we shared the strategies we use with parents, would parents find this helpful?

If you are interested, please complete the slip further on in this letter and we will set these up – thank you.

Healthy Schools Page



SEAL

The focus in May will be looking at Relationships.

We will be looking at our likes, dislikes, our opinions and views. We will consider that people have differences and similarities and that we need to respect this. We will be considering how our behaviour affects other people and the consequences of inappropriate behaviour such as bullying. We will also look at how to resolve differences in a restorative manner by listening to all viewpoints and agreeing conclusion and resolutions.

Family Seal

Thank you to all the parents in Year 1 who participated in 'Family Seal', we hope you enjoyed it. The children really enjoyed working alongside you as well.

Welly Appeal

If you have children's wellingtons that your child/ren have grown out of that would be suitable for children aged 3 – 6 years, we would be very grateful for their donation to school - these would help us access outdoor learning on muddier/wetter occasions. Please drop them off at the office or in the Foundation Stage - many thanks.



Maths Workshops – please return to the school office via class teachers

Name of child

Name of parent/carer

I would be interested in attending a Maths workshop on (please tick)

Addition and subtraction strategies to use with my child _____

Multiplication and Division strategies to use with my child _____

If there is sufficient interest we will set these up for parents to attend.

Royal Wedding Celebration

Withernsea Town Council invite everyone, particularly the younger children, to a Royal Wedding Party - 29 April 1.30 – 4.00 pm in Valley Gardens. There will be a Punch and Judy show, clowns and party food!



Foundation Stage Conservatory

Thank you for bearing with us during the building work - this is going really well and we hope to reach completion during the Easter holidays. We will continue with the present entry and exits routes until the builders have finished and will write to you with any further arrangements once work is completed.

Easter Arrangements



Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 children will be able to purchase raffle tickets at a cost of 10p per ticket. They will be sold at morning break. On the last day of term we have an Easter Egg raffle assembly where we pull out raffle tickets and the winners win an Easter Egg. Donations of any Easter Eggs for this via the school office are gratefully received. All the money raised goes into school fund which we spend on the children. Year 1 and Foundation Stage will also be celebrating Easter but not with an Easter Egg raffle!

Easter Lunch Menu – Tuesday 12 April

Turkey with stuffing
Roast potatoes
Served with
Broccoli/carrots

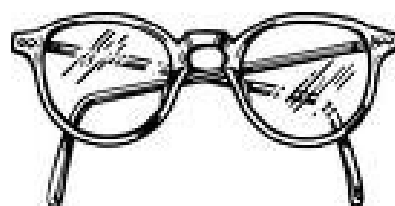
Chocolate Crackle Nest with chocolate mini eggs

Year 5 Play for parents – ‘Peter Pan’

Year 5 are staging a mini version of ‘Peter Pan’ and Year 5 parents are invited on April 14 at 2.00 pm to watch. Children in school will have the opportunity to see a dress rehearsal earlier in the week.

Old Spectacles

The Eco and Global Committee are collecting old and unused spectacles for the ‘Lions’ to recycle and send to developing countries. If you have any glasses that you no longer need, the school will be happy to accept them on your behalf and forward them onto the Lions.



Pupils' Page

Pupils enjoying the new P.E. equipment in the North building. Removal of the old beams and the installation of the new climbing bars has been very popular.

