



Head of School Newsletter

Autumn 1 2024



Welcome to my first Head of School newsletter for this academic year and what a fabulous start to the new academic year we have had! All your children have settled well into their new classes and routines.

We have made some changes to the way in which information is shared with you this year. You will receive an Executive Headteacher Newsletter at the start of each term, a class newsletter a few weeks into each half term and a Head of School newsletter at the end of each half term.



As always, thank you for your continued support at the infant school, Miss Owen.

Staffing Update

A warm welcome to Mrs Couldrey, our new Midday Supervisor Assistant. She will be working at lunchtimes supporting your children and getting involved in their play.



And congratulations go to Mrs Kemp who will be moving from the dining hall and playground to Edwards and Blake as a Catering Assistant in the infant school kitchen. This is because Mrs Rout is sadly leaving at the end of November, after 24 years, to support her family more. She will be greatly missed, it is hard to imagine lunchtimes without her!

We are still advertising for another MSA post if you, or anyone you know, is interested? Please call the office for further details.

Out and About!



Well done to all our new Reception children who successfully transitioned from nursery settings to school in September. It was fantastic that staff were able to visit all the children in their homes, this really supported their transition to school, ensuring strong relationships were built with children from the beginning, helping them to feel valued and safe in their first few weeks at school.

We have all sorts of trips and events coming up in the next few weeks. Reception will be having their night time adventure at school, the first of many annual events in their primary school life, eventually leading up to residential trips when they are older!

As part of Year 1 and 2's R.E. studies this term they will be visiting Spixworth's village church and comparing this to other religious buildings. A separate letter will be sent with more detailed information regarding this after half term.

★ Our Enhanced Offer ★

We have celebrated and recognised a range of charities and events this half term. These include:

Jeans for Genes Charity Day
Black History Month
World Mental Health Awareness Day
Show Racism the Red Card
Harvest Celebration

We have also achieved the 'Young Carers Tick' and 'Dyslexia Awareness Mark'.

Key Dates



6th Nov: Inter-house cross country competition (pupils only)
w/c 4th and 11th Nov: New Reception and Year 3 tours
14th Nov: Anti-Bullying charity week
14th Nov: YR Night-Time Garden Adventure
15th Nov: Children in Need Charity Day
22nd Nov: Reception National Child Measurement Programme
w/c 25th Nov (Wed/Thu/Fri): Parent/carer book looks
w/c 2nd Dec: Parent/Teacher Progress meetings online
10th Dec: Community School Team Neurodiversity Presentation
13th Dec at 9.15am: YR Christmas performance
16th Dec at 9.15am & 2.30pm: Year 1/2 Christmas performances
19th Dec: Christmas dinner and charity Christmas jumper day
20th Dec: Last day of term

New Projects!



Behind the scenes we have all been working hard to improve our library provision in school. We have improved storage to ensure books are accessible and attractively displayed for children. We have reorganised our reading books so they are easily accessible to staff for reading sessions and created a small nook for staff to work with children in small groups.

Our next steps are to finalise the issuing and returning procedures for books and appoint some keen children as librarians to help keep the library in order!

Some Extra Safety Reminders



Children should not be on the play equipment or on the playground on their own bikes/scooters before or after school. This includes the trim trail, theatre and any equipment left out. It can get wet and therefore very slippery.

An increasing number of key rings and other novelty toys are appearing on bookbags. This is causing a lot of distraction in the cloakrooms and at other times of the day. Please remove these from book bags from now onwards. This includes toys from home too.



Please remember that all long hair must be tied back at school at all times and in P.E. any stud earrings must be covered, or even better, taken out on P.E. days. No hoodies are allowed in P.E. either.

Remember that dyed hair and painted nails are not allowed in school.



General Reminders

- Please park considerately to our neighbours and safely for our whole community. Do not park in Elizabeth Close.
- All children should have their own, named, water bottle in school everyday.
- Please name all your child's items.
- Please let us know if your details or circumstances have changed over the holiday.
- Our schools are nut-free zones. Please do not include any items containing nuts in packed lunches. Special diets can be catered for by the kitchen.



Safeguarding

Online safety is an essential element of safeguarding for all children and adults in the digital world.

Visit our website to view the latest [Knowsley Online Safety Newsletter](#).



Safety Reminders

- Only certain members of staff are allowed to let visitors into the school.
- If you come into school you will be asked to sign in and out at the office.
- Unless otherwise informed, push chairs should normally be left outside school in the buggy park or in the entrance.

House Points

Our totals so far this term... Well done to **Howes!**
Keep up the good work everyone, it is still very close.



1075



1145



1306



1119

Attendance Matters!

Well done to Blossom Class who have achieved an outstanding 97.91% attendance this half term!



Well done to Lotus and Blossom who are leading in our fun attendance race game so far!
The winning classes get an extra playtime.

Our whole school has achieved 96.96%, exceeding our target of at least 96%.