



Newsletter 21st September 2018

ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON Church of England VA Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers

We are very pleased with the way all the children have settled into their new classrooms and new teachers. Being a new parent at a school can be a bit confusing as there are routines and practises to learn and sometimes you have questions that need answering but you are unsure who to ask. I would hope that any staff member, but particularly your class teacher, would be your first point of call. However, I appreciate sometimes another parent is easier to approach and so we invite you to our **Meet and Mingle** where new parents and more established ones can get to know each other.

This year we have decided to link it with The **Macmillan Coffee Morning** and so will be holding a coffee morning in the school hall after drop off on **Thursday 27th September**. Please come in and have a coffee/tea and a piece of cake. We will set up a baby/toddler area in the corner of the hall so all are welcome. We will also have on display the old log books and photographs as they caused a lot of interest last time. The morning will run until 11.30am so if grandparents, and other community members wish to come and join us then please encourage them to come along.

Our Friends Association will be serving refreshments and there will be other parents there to chat to. The staff will be along at break time.

All proceeds from the morning will go to the Macmillan Appeal. We all know someone who has needed their support and appreciate your time and generosity.

If you are able to bake some cakes for the morning please complete the attached slip and return to the office as soon as possible. Any not sold during the morning will be sold at an after school cake sale.

There is another opportunity for the parents in Robins to come into school as on **Wednesday 26th September** you have been invited to come and eat lunch with your children. Please return the relevant form if you are intending to come. We know that not all parents can make these occasions and sometimes a grandparent comes instead.

Our school photographer, **Deena's Images**, will be in school on **Monday 24th Sept to take individual photographs** of the children in their new smart uniforms. You might want to ensure children have tidy hair etc.

Dates for this/early next month:

Sept

Wednesdays until 17th October
Parenting Programme

Mon 24th – Photos of children in their uniforms

Wed 26th – YR parents invited to lunch

Thurs 27th – 8.30am

Macmillan/Meet and Mingle
Coffee Morning

Early Oct

Mon 1st – Y1 parents invited to lunch

Tues 2nd – 2pm – Reading meeting for Robins/YR parents

Wed 3rd – KS2 trip to Bergh Apton church

Wed 3rd – 6-9pm Framingham Earl High School Open Evening

Thurs 4th – Photos of children in non-uniform

Thurs 4th – 6.30-8.30pm Hobart High Open Evening

Thurs 4th – 7pm Friends AGM

Tues 9th Oct – Y2 parents invited to lunch

Tues 9th – KS2 trip to Norwich Theatre Royal

Wed 10th – Y1 trip to Poringland library

Thurs 11th – 9.15am Harvest Festival at Yelverton church

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Sally Hitchcock – Parent Support Advisor – Parenting Sessions.

Would you like to...

- **Enjoy being a parent more?**
- **Create a better relationship with your child/children?**
- **Learn to enjoy play with your child/children?**
- **Have a greater understanding of your child?**

This course started last week and the parents who attended say they found it very helpful. If you feel you would like to join in then the next session is Wed 26th September at 9.00am.

There is much bad news in the press about cuts to Children's Services, Sure Start Centres and services so please access our PSA and the support she can offer while we still have her. Not all schools have access to a PSA anymore....**Sally Hitchcock, Parent Support Advisor 07825356836 or psa@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk**

Events for the children in Key Stage 2 this term include a drama day on Wed 26th September and a trip to Bergh Apton church to enhance their learning of World War 1 on Wed 3rd Oct. We have also been fortunate to secure tickets for all the KS2 children to attend the Norwich Primary Prom at Norwich Theatre Royal on Tues 9th Oct.

Choir Christmas Concerts – As it is only September I hesitate to mention the word Christmas!! (I've been told there are less than 90 shopping days!!) However, the choir has once again been asked to take part in the YMCA Christmas Concert. Last year it was held in Norwich Cathedral and both our choir and Huff n Puff were asked to take part. This year the concert will be held at The Salvation Army Citadel in St Giles Street on the evening of **Wednesday 5th December**. Charlotte Cork and Lauren Talford will be leading both the choir and Huff n Puff once again and the children will soon begin to learn their Christmas repertoire. Further details will be made available once these have been finalised.

Charlotte and Lauren are also holding a Christmas Concert on **Friday 14th December** at Seething Church commencing at 7.00pm. Charlotte will send out a letter with further details shortly

Reading meeting for Robins/Reception parents – Tues 2nd October at 2.00pm. There will be a reading meeting for parents when Miss Larter will explain how we teach reading and phonics to your children. There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. We are happy for you to bring along your babies, any preschool children could go into Robins during that period.

Poringland Library

The children in Skylarks recently visited Poringland Library and Kingfishers and Robins will be visiting later this term. The library have asked that we draw parents' attention to the Logo Club and Code Club being held at the library in Poringland. Please see attached fliers for further information.

Friends

The Friends recently said farewell to some of our members as their children left to attend high school and we would love to meet some new parents/grandparents/carers, from across the school year groups. Informal meetings are held at the school (approx. 6 per year) and there is no obligation to attend all meetings or events – if you can help at any of the fundraisers we will be pleased to welcome you, many hands make light work and it's always fun and rewarding!

If you would like to become involved, please contact any member of the Friends or join us to eat, meet, mingle and chat at the AGM to be held on **Thurs 4th October from 7pm**. It is important we get feedback across the school so it would be great to have parents from every year group.

Admissions for Sept 2019

It's that time already! Do you have a child who was born between 1/9/2014 and 31/8/2015? If so, your child could start full time in September 2019 and you should apply to Norfolk County Council by 15th January 2019.

Apply online:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/admission-to-reception-classes>

(website open between 28th Sept. and 15th Jan.) or

application forms can be obtained from Norfolk County Council Customer Service Centre

Tel. 0344 800 8020

Email: admissions@norfolk.gov.uk

If you have an older child at school or your child is currently attending a nursery, please don't assume that no further action is required on your part. You still have to apply for a place for your child in the normal way.

Open Morning

We will be holding an Open Morning for prospective parents on **Tues 16th October** from 9.30am to 12 midday in Class 1. Please come along if you are interested in a place for your child.

Transfer to Secondary School

The Year 6 children should have taken home a letter giving details of how to apply for a place at secondary school. It is important that applications are received by 31st October 2018. The date when you will receive notification of a school place is 1st March 2019. It may reassure you to know that all parents last year got their first choice place. The guidance advises that you can state up to three preferences and that one of these schools should be your catchment school. Details of your catchment school can be found at www.whereilive.norfolk.gov.uk. However parents are free to make their own choices.

Year 6 height and weight check, Reception Year vision and hearing tests, height and weight check – the school nursing team will be coming in to complete their checks on the pupils in YR and Y6. Please see the attached letters for further information.

Illness in school – In my last newsletter I referred to parents informing us if there is an incidence of chicken pox or measles in your home. Please see the attached advice from the N&N children's oncology team.

We will be taking part in "**Operation Christmas Child**" again this year. Only mentioning it at this stage so that any shoe boxes you may have at home you might like to keep for the moment please.

Teresa Osborne

Attachments:

- Calendar of Events for Parents/Carers 2018-19
- Reply slip re able to bake for Macmillan Coffee Morning – 27.9.18
- Robins' Parents/Carers Invitation to join us for lunch – Wed 26th September
- Meet and Mingle/Macmillan Coffee Morning Thurs 27th Sept invitation
- Kingfishers' Parents/Carers Invitation to join us for lunch – Mon 1st Oct
- 5 week Parent Programme (please note sessions now starting earlier at 9am)
- Reception Year vision and hearing tests, height and weight check letter from NHS
- Year 6 height and weight check letter from NHS
- Letter re illness in school
- From Poringland library: Lego Club and Code Club flyers