



North Elmham CEVC Primary School

Headteachers: Mrs. Batcock & Miss Tobin

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NEWSLETTER 3 AUTUMN TERM 2017 24 November 2017

Dear Parents & Carers,

Many thanks to all those who were able to attend Parent Consultations and share with teachers information about your child's current education and progress. If you were unable to come along this time, please contact the teacher via our school office to make a mutually convenient date so the opportunity is not missed. Thanks.

Communication with School

Now that our new website (see above) is up and running, we encourage all parents and carers to make good use of this. Newsletters and dates will be posted on our website, as well as information about the curriculum, policies and inspection reports.

We appreciate that some of our families have become reliant on regular separate updates from the class teachers. However, as we streamline our systems and make sure our staff are making best use of their time, the website becomes our main means of communication.

From January we will move to a paperless system; all letters will go on the website and you will receive a text alert each time.

This will save the school both time and money; this is critical at a time of reduced budgets.

If you don't have access to the internet, you will be able to pick up a paper copy from the office.

Make sure we have your up-to-date contact details.

All our staff work very hard to provide the best possible for our children. There have been a very small number of incidents when parents have not been polite to staff or have assumed it is acceptable to demand instant attention from our school office or teachers. This is a polite reminder that we always aim to treat our families with respect and politeness and expect the same in return. We fully recognise that there are times when you may feel stressed or anxious; school staff will always try to help. In return we hope parents and carers will recognise the demands on all school staff and will understand that occasional mistakes may happen and there may be times when we have to ask you to wait.

Our Headteachers are in school at some point most days, working closely with the staff team to improve our school and raise standards.

School Improvement Priorities

Staff have put in a lot of effort to develop interesting assemblies for the children and to support the Christian ethos through stimulating displays. Our governors have been busy checking on this and have noted many positive features. Quiet areas have been developed so children can spend moments of reflection through the day. We hope to make a special area outside to provide a quiet space.

Recently, we had a Curriculum Audit, undertaken by an experienced inspector who is also a Headteacher. We look forward to utilising her advice as we further develop what is already a broad, balanced and enjoyable curriculum. Alongside this, teachers have made great progress on their

classroom displays. These provide important support for the children's learning. This term we have also provided some very exciting visits which have supported and enhanced the lessons in School. Currently we have a focus on improving writing. Miss Button is leading this development. The expected standards for writing are high and our teachers have been attending staff meetings and further training to make sure their pupils are well-taught. Key to this is also high standards of behaviour so that everyone can concentrate and do their best. We ask all parents to remind their children of the importance of good and respectful behaviour so that we can build on the improvements in our school.

School Staff news

We recently said farewell to Mrs Emily Perowne who has been a caring and dedicated member of our support staff. At this stage, the needs of her young daughter have had to take priority so we all wish her well for the future. Mrs Louise Parfitt will be moving on to new challenges at the end of this month. She has been a highly-valued member of our staff team, working across the school as a High Level Teaching Assistant. We will miss her greatly and know she will be a real gain to the medical team as she takes up her new post at the surgery.

All our teachers are collaborating with colleagues at Stibbard as they lead subject Development in both schools.

EYFS and KS1

The very recent EYFS Discovery Cafe was a great success. With all parents, carers, playgroup, local child minder and FONES attending. Thanks also go out to Mrs Sue Graves, our school Governor, for stepping in at the last minute to read 'The Giant of Jum' to the children. All the children and adults alike, really enjoyed the afternoon.



The phonics workshop held by Miss Button and Miss Hardingham were successful; thank you for your continued support.

KS2

The children have had the opportunity to attend the West Norfolk School Sports Partnership Cross Country and Tag-Rugby events this half term. They all did very well and represented the school amazingly. We look forward to more events they can attend.

Friendship Day

As part of Anti-Bullying week on Thursday 16th November we held a Friendship Day, with four different activities; E-Safety, Norfolk Rocks, Smarties Science experiment and Odd Socks. All the activities were teaching the children that although we all look different, we all have things in common and need to respect each other.

Children in Need

For Children in Need this year, we dressed up with our spots and completed the North Elmham Bake Off. There were lots of cakes,



muffins, cookies and some sausage rolls baked. The school council had the hard job of taste testing all the cakes and judging the best tasting cake and also the best decorated. Toby Harris won the best cake and Natalie Weston won the best cup-cakes congratulations to them.

A big thank you to FONES for their support selling the cakes after school also.

We raised a total of £165.

In the case of bad weather

We always follow advice issued by the emergency services and Norfolk County Council. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, we will expect the School to remain open. Listen to local radio for advice and updates. In the case of School closure we would text parents and put information on the website wherever possible.

Key dates for your Diary

24/11/2017 FONEs Clay Barn Event

25/11/2017 School Open Morning - coffee and cakes available

29/11/2017 Open Morning for New Intake; an opportunity to have a look around the school and ask any questions.

08/12/2017 Aladdin Panto for the children 10:00-12:00

12/12/2017 KS1 and EYFs Nativity Rehearsal 14:00-15:00

13/12/2017 KS1 and EYFs Nativity 14:00-15:00

18/12/2017 North Elmham and Stibbard Christmas Carol Service 13:30 at the Church

18/12/2017 FINAL DAY OF TERM

04/01/2018 BACK TO SCHOOL

With best wishes from the Senior Leadership Team

Kathryn Batcock & Sue Tobin (Headteachers)

Kirsty Barber (Assistant Headteacher N Elmham)

Craig Isherwood (Deputy Headteacher Stibbard)