



Newsletter

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12th January 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back to a new year and the spring term!

We hope that everyone had a super Christmas break and enjoyed the festivities that the children worked so hard on to help get you into the Christmas spirit. Thank you to all the staff for all the additional work involved with rehearsing and supporting children to learn lines and songs, sorting costumes and for helping to ensure a fun end of term.

Now the work begins again and we have new challenges and tasks ahead of us for the spring term. We have already had a busy start and it is lovely to see how well the children have settled back into the school routine.

Years 5 & 6 travelled to the London West End last week to see a production of 'The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe'. It was a huge success and the children really enjoyed the whole experience and the opportunity to see a favourite classic as a live performance.

We would like to thank all the children who took part in the trip for being such good representatives of our school. Also thank you to all the staff who gave their additional time and ensured that the whole experience was fun, informative and even the lengthy trip home due to road issues did not dampen any spirits!

Before Easter, we will be taking our Year 6 on their residential visit to Thorpe Woodlands - more details about the trip will be following home soon for those children taking part. Please remember that full and final payment must be received no later than the 1st February to guarantee your child's place. If you are experiencing difficulties with payment, please contact Mrs Barkworth at the main office as soon as possible.

We will also be offering the children in Year 5 a chance to undertake four half days of Bikeability training, Years 3 & 4 are visiting the Regent Theatre in Ipswich for a live performance whilst Year 2 are off on a visit to Framlingham Castle as part of their project - there's always lots to do!

Our staff will also be hosting Parents' Evening appointments on the weeks before and after half term - please see the calendar dates at the end of this Newsletters for details of when your child's class will be holding theirs. Following the success and positive feedback we had from holding a mixture of virtual and face-to-face appointments in the autumn term, we will be holding this term's meetings in the same manner.

School Carpark, Parking & Road Safety

Once again, we have received complaints from local residents, pedestrians and road users about parking at the front of the school. Please be mindful of how and where you park, ensure that you leave sufficient room for pedestrians, prams/buggies, wheelchairs to use the pathways and be aware of your surroundings before you park on pavements. We have also had reports of neighbours being spoken to rudely/abusively when being asked to move their vehicles. Please be courteous in and around the school area.

Please do not park in the carpark - this is for staff and professionals visiting the school. Children should not be brought into the carpark area, it is very difficult to see pedestrians moving around in this small, tight space, especially at the beginning and end of the school day as there is so much traffic moving around it is extremely dangerous for children to be in this area.

Severe Weather

On occasions when the weather looks likely to cause disruption to the normal running of school, we will post an update via parentmail and social media as quickly as we can once a site inspection has taken place. Messages will read as one of three options:

1. School open as normal
2. School closed - online learning day
3. Inclement weather plan

If **option three** is decided upon, the day will run as follows. **Please note that there would be NO breakfast or afterschool clubs if we are operating option 3.**

Inclement weather plan (Option 3)

NO BREAKFAST OR AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

9:50am - School open

10:00am- Registers close

2:25pm - EYFS and KS1 finish

2:30pm - KS2 finish

Delaying the start of school for an hour enables staff and families extra time to make their commute. Similarly, by finishing an hour earlier, commutes can happen in the daylight. Up to 40% of our staff are not local and some travel up to an hour. If we are to open the school, we must always adhere to safe ratios.

We understand that disruption of any kind, including inclement weather plans or in the very worst case, a closure causes problems for many families, especially for working parents. We will always try our best to open as normal, but safety for all is our number one priority.

In the event of inclement weather, we will also ask families to ensure that children have enough layers to be outside if it is safe to do so and that they are wearing suitable footwear.

'Trimley Treasure Trove'

We have secured a new, dedicated area in school to house our 'pantry' and second hand uniform - the 'Trimley Treasure Trove'. A big thank you to our wonderful staff, their families and the Felixstowe Hockey Club who have provided everything in our store. We are currently working to be able secure more regular resources.

If you would like to make use of our food store, please call into the TTT - it is open on weekday mornings 8:55 - 9:10am and accessed at the side of the school between the wooden and red gates (using the pedestrian entrance by the traffic light crossing). If you are unable to access the store at these times, but would like to use it, please call the office to arrange an alternative, mutually convenient time.

We also have a good supply of second hand uniform and some non-uniform clothing items as part of our reuse & recycle scheme. This will be available for you to browse through at the Parent Evening sessions and is available at alternative times too - please ask at the office.

If you have any items of clothing that you would like to add to our clothes bank, they can be donated to our TTT via the main office. We can only accept clean, good condition clothing please.

We are also considering adding a library to our TTT, if you have any good quality books which your children have outgrown and you are happy to pass on to new homes, we will be happy to receive them. Some books may even be used to add to our libraries within school!

Art Competition

If you have been to our main office recently, you may have noticed that there have been a few alterations. The Admin. Team would like to freshen up the walls with some artwork and we thought who better to brighten the walls, but our own pupils.

We would welcome pictures, either A4 or A3 size, on one of the themes of 'What is important to me', 'Suffolk Young Carers' or 'School Days'. Entries can be sent to the main office (remember to put your name and class on the back) and Mrs Lloyd will choose pieces of artwork to be framed to decorate and brighten our offices.

If you would like to draw a picture for the Admin. Team please send it into school no later than Tuesday 31st January.

Quick Reminders:

* Please ensure that there is sufficient dinner money in your child's account, BEFORE meals are taken. We are unable to allow debts to accrue.

* If you think that you may be eligible for benefit related Free School Meals (including those children in EYFS & KS1) please apply to Suffolk County Council - it only takes a couple of minutes and allows us to be able to support you and your family in various ways.

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit but **no element of Working Tax Credit** and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work fewer hours per week
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

The link to SCC FSM is:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals>

* Wild Wednesdays (Forest Thursdays for Yrs 5 & 6) are still taking place, despite the weather's best efforts with sessions taking part under the canopy when required. Please ensure that your child is prepared and appropriately dressed for their sessions.

Wild Wednesdays & Forest Thursdays				
Wednesday 11 th January	Year 1		Wednesday 22 nd February	EYFS
Wednesday 18 th January	Year 2		Thursday 2 nd March	Year 5
Wednesday 25 th January	Year 3		Wednesday 8 th March	Year 1
Wednesday 1 st February	Year 4		Wednesday 15 th March	Year 2
Thursday 2 nd February	Year 5		Wednesday 22 nd March	Year 3
Thursday 9 th February	Year 6		Thursday 23 rd March	Year 4
			Thursday 30 th March	Year 6

Diary Dates



Trimley St Mary Primary School Calendar of Events

Mon. 6th February - Thurs. 9th February 3 - 5pm Face to Face in main Hall 5 - 7pm Virtual Appointments	Parents' Evening Appointments Mon 6 th - EYFS & Year 1 Tue 7 th - Years 3 & 4 Weds 8 th - Years 5 & 6 Thurs 9 th - Year 2
Week Commencing 13th February 2023 - Half Term	
Mon. 20th February - Thurs. 23rd February 3 - 5pm Face to Face in main Hall 5 - 7pm Virtual Appointments	Parents' Evening Appointments Mon 6 th - EYFS & Year 1 Tue 7 th - Years 3 & 4 Weds 8 th - Years 5 & 6 Thurs 9 th - Year 2
Weds 8th - Tues 14th March	Bookfair
Mon. 13th - Thurs. 16th March	Bikeability - Groups 1 & 2
Thursday 16th March	3N & 4M - Regent Theatre 'Demon Dentist' by David Walliams
Friday 17th March	3V & 4T - Regent Theatre 'Demon Dentist' by David Walliams
Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd March	Bikeability - Groups 3 & 4
Week Commencing Monday 20th March	Proposed Year 3 & 4 Production Days & Times TBC
Week Commencing Monday 20th March	Yr6 - Thorpe Woodlands Residential Visit Group 1 Mon - Weds, Group 2 Weds - Fri
Wednesday 29th March	Yr2 - Framlingham Castle Visit
Friday 31st March	Last Day of Spring Term
Monday 3rd - Friday 14th April - Easter Holidays	
Monday 17th April	Non Pupil Day
Tuesday 18th April	First Day of Summer Term