



Headteacher Newsletter

Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.



Welcome back to the Spring Term 2018...how is it possible that we are already in 2018?!!

I am pleased to say that we have had a fantastic start to the brand new year and all the children are working very hard, although some are still a little bit tired from all the festive family fun so a few early nights this week I think.

While we are thinking of getting ourselves back to school, can I remind you all that the school needs to be secured for all children's safety at 8:50am, so please ensure that all pupils are in school by this time. We have seen an improvement in this area but know that there is still room for improvement. Our admin and Welfare team are still using valuable time chasing absences, escorting late children and recording everyone so please try to help us with this target.

In the last newsletter I told you all about some of the staff changes we have had in school recently. It is always hard when we have to say goodbye to staff who have been with us a long time and made such an impact on school however it makes it bitter sweet when new staff come along and brighten up your days. I am really pleased to see how quickly our new members of staff have settled in and have already began to make an impact on the children they are supporting. They have all blown me away so far, thank you everyone!

Unlike last year with an abnormally long Spring term, this one is quite short with just over 5 weeks this side of the half term and just under 6 on the other. This term we see two year groups go off on their residential adventures starting with the Year 2's at Stibington in February, followed by the Year 4's at Horstead in March. All information regarding these visits will be coming home shortly if you have not already received it.

Clubs resume once again for the Spring term. You should have already received a letter confirming places in clubs or if you are on the waiting list for next term for over subscribed clubs, they are once again very popular.

In the Welfare Newsletters over the past few month, we have been trying to raise further awareness of the parking issues some parents continue to have around the school site. We continue to ask you to park in a safe place if you need to drive into school at either of our agreed park and stride sites in Glatton Drive or the Whittlesey Road Community Centre car parks. We have still had a number of complaints from local residents and other parents who have had their driveway blocked or nearly been knocked over by some parents who do not abide by this. We are extremely concerned about this issue and hope that families are able to walk into school safely without the concern of parking being a hazard. We have passed on all complaints to the police and they will be monitoring parking outside the school gates on a routinely basis.

Finally as we are now in a new term I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all of the parents and children who sent kind messages, cards and gifts for the staff over the festive period. They are not expected but very much appreciated by all, your kindness has been overwhelming. We hope you have all had a wonderful break with you families and look forward to a brand new term and year ahead of us.



Highlights from the past few weeks

The children from EYFS, KS1 and Year 5 performed their Christmas plays, 26 in total!

Santa came to visit us :) we were all on the nice list yippee

We had another very successful Christmas Craft and Games event

Year 4 Parents and children enjoyed a wonderful Christingle service at St John's the Baptist Church

The rest of KS2 also enjoyed another wonderful Christingle service at St John's the Baptist Church and KS1 had their very own service back in school

The Year 5's have already enjoyed a successful Tudor day in school. Thank you to all the parents who came to support the event - the feedback has been fantastic!

New Years Resolutions

What will yours be?

In the last Newsletter I talked about reflecting on what has gone well and what we would do differently as we reached the end of 2017. I talked about what we are looking forward and asked what you wish for your families in the upcoming year.

Parents please can I ask you for a huge favour? I would love to create a family display which encapsulates your hopes and wishes for your children in the future, so can you do me a little bit of homework too? Would you all make me a wish list of what you hope for your children for the upcoming year? You can present it however you wish.

I look forward to seeing what you all come up with.



Snow Day?

School closure information



With the colder weather approaching, please could I take a little time to explain the school's weather closure procedures.

If in the event that the school needs to close we will parent pay in the first instance, update the school website, teachers will send a Class Dojo message and parents can listen to 'Heart FM' on 102.7 where all of the Peterborough school closure announcements will be made. This can also be found on their web site www.heartpeterborough.co.uk. Posters will then also be put on the external gates by the caretaker.

We try not to close the school as we are very aware that child care arrangements can be very difficult at short notice and unless the weather is very severe the school will endeavour to stay open (also I love playing in the snow with the children!). This is also very dependent on staff being able to arrive at school as we have many staff who drive as long as an hour to reach us.

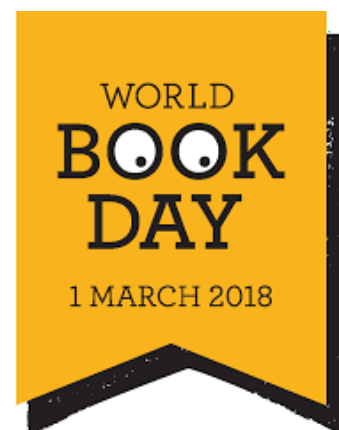
If we are able to remain open, please could children bring extra clothes, (warm jumpers, wellies, socks and trousers or snow gear if you have any, warm hats and gloves...oh and a carrot for the snow man's nose...we always run out!) two lots if they love being outside and then they will have a change if they get wet.

World Book Day

1st March 2018

Once again we will be celebrating World Book Day as it goes into it's 21st year. Details will follow shortly to give you all a heads up on how we will be celebrating this year. We will, as with every year, be setting up some fab competitions alongside the day and encourage everyone to get involved with this wonderful national event, however we have made the decision not to dress up this time, so don't go out buying costumes this time! Take a look at the website for more details and for some inspiration. You can also find a list of books that can be purchased for just £1 using the token that will be sent home on the day:

www.worldbookday.com



Year 6 are being evacuated!

As you all know, each year group takes part in adventures outside of the school gates from time to time. This month we see the Year 6 pupils evacuated off to Stibbington for the day to experience what it was like for children back in the 1940's

The children will go back in time to take on the roll of a child who was actually evacuated during the war and will experience a range of activities such as creating their own Identification cards, having a lesson in the period classroom, practising how to put on their gas masks and experiencing a rationed period-style lunch! I wonder whether there will be an air raid while the children are there too!

We look forward to hearing all about their adventures on their return after the war :) I wonder what they will be able to share with us all.



The Ancient Greeks are coming



History off the page are coming to visit the Year 3 children and journey back in time to 490 BC...the time of the Ancient Greeks.

Persia invades Greece. Pushing towards the city-state of Athens, the Persians reach Marathon a few miles away. The Athenians stand 10,000 strong to face the invaders, but will it be enough.

The children enter this uncertain time as residents of Athens. They take on typical roles found in the Athenian Agora (marketplace) at this time. They serve as wax tablet makers, pottery painters, fresco painters and jewellers.

As the children work, news and rumours swirl through the Agora about the battle. Can the Persians be defeated? Is Athens safe?

We can't wait to hear about the children's exciting day as Ancient Greeks. I wonder how the day will end.

Safer Internet Day



SAVE the DATE
Safer Internet Day
2018 | Tuesday
 6 February
www.saferinternetday.org



Safer Internet Day is organised by Insafe in February of each year to promote safer and more responsible use of online technology and mobile phones, especially among children and young people across the world.

We feel that this is an extremely important topic so will be holding our own Safer Internet Day to teach the children the importance of being safe online. More information about this and how parents can get involved will follow shortly.



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Aimee CD, Roxas C, Katie N, Scott T, Archie J, Henry T, Nicole H, Christian C, Lora L, Jessica P, Grace R, Benjamin S, Weronika G, Scarlett M, Scarlett H, Patriks Z, Dorian D, Maisie D, Elsie-May M, Freddy H, Zulaikha K, Lauren L, Sanjana P, Saskia S, Ugne B, Callum F, Paige G, Melisa N, Benjamin H, Robert G, Kieran H, Frank J, Bradley L, Gracie L, Isobelle V, Farhan C, Samuel J, Jake G, Giovanni S, Jayce U, Eliza A, Holly B, Jacob B, Amelie C, Muhammad K, Martyna L, Tyler A, Xavier B, Jake B, Lexie K, Joshua P, Divyana P, Logan M, Miles M and Logan C.

HOUSE WINNERS

END OF TERM RESULTS

AUTUMN 2017

1st Robins	1568
2nd Canaries	1319
3rd Kingfishers	1299
4th Parrots	1145



PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in an envelope if you would prefer them to remain confidential.

Please use the remaining space to make any further comments about things you like, the things you think we need to develop or any ideas you may have and we will try to use them in school.

Happy New Year Everyone
Love from Mrs Martin and the Southfields Team xxx

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

Book fair 17-22.01.18
 Governing Body Meeting 17.01.18
 School Nurse Drop in 18.01.18
 Year 6 Evacuee day 24.01.18

February

Year 5 to Hampton Court 01.02.18
 Year 2 Stibbington residential 05-09.02.18
 Year 3 History off the page 08.02.18
 Year 5 visit the Cathedral 09.02.18
 Class photos 22.02.18
 Year2 to Peterborough Museum 28.02.18

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2018

Opens Thursday 4th January
 Half term - Monday 12th to Friday 16th February
 End - Thursday 29th March

Summer Term 2018

Opens - Wednesday 18th April
 May Day - Monday 7th May
 Half term - Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June
 Ends - Tuesday 24th July