



Headteacher Newsletter September 2021

Dear Parents

We have had a really good start to the term and our children have settled well into their new classes. Having the school return to most of its pre-pandemic routines has really lifted the school's spirits. Children have returned to the lunch halls allowing them to socialise with their friends in other classes. They have played competitive sport with other classes during House Games on Friday afternoons. And classrooms have returned to group teaching and close up support from teachers. It has been a very encouraging start.

Natasha Law

This new law comes into effect on 1 October 2021.

Schools will be required to list all ingredients and allergens on the labels of any food made on site, e.g. snacks, sandwiches, salad pots or cakes, that are pre-packaged prior to them being offered for consumption. Ingredient lists, with the presence of any of the 14 categories of allergen emphasised to the extent that they are clearly legible, must be printed on the package or label of any PPDS.

The standards cover all food and drink that we provide to pupils on and off the school premises up to 6pm and therefore includes breakfast and after school clubs.

This law does not apply to:
food technology lessons
fund raising events

You should immediately contact the school if your child develops an allergy. All food allergies are managed by our caterers Aspens.

Our allergy arrangements are that we are a nut free school (including sesame) and do not accept food brought in from home for children to consume (including sweets).

Window and door replacement program

Progress has been good towards our window and door replacement program. I am really pleased with the low level of disruption to learning that we have had during this work. Children have been excellent at using our temporary classroom, whilst their classroom is being fitted. We hope to have completed all of the very large majority of the work by the start of next half term.

Covid-19; changes to self-isolation rules

Self-isolation guidance from the government has changed since the start of term. All adults who are double vaccinated and children under 18 years are able to attend school if there is a case of covid-19 in their household or in their class. Please therefore send your child to school if this applies to your household at any time. If your child has symptoms or has a positive test result, they should remain at home for 10 days or until recovered if they are sick.

PE and Clubs update

PE lessons led by Mrs Barker have successfully resumed. Children wearing PE kit to school is working well, but a reminder to only wear school PE kit and a school jumper. This maintains our school uniform policy when children are not doing PE during the day.

Mrs Barker will now coordinate our clubs program which starts after the half term. Teachers will no longer run clubs after school and instead parents will be able to sign up for clubs run by local sports clubs.

Mrs Barker will continue to run the Year 5 & 6 football team and training for this will begin after the half term. The school will then take part in the winter league starting in January. We will rely this year on parent-led transport arrangements to take children to and from matches.

Year 5 will be invited to sign up to the School Sports Partnership Dance performance, which will be held in January. Year 5 parents will be invited to this event nearer the time.

All children will take part again in our program of events run by the Norwich Sports Partnership. This includes a variety of activities, some competitive and others organised to give children a taste of different sports. These events are held during the school day and transport is provided for all events.

All Year 3 children will have swimming lessons this year. We aim for every child to swim at least 25m by the end of their lessons. Children swim at the UEA pool which has excellent facilities. Each Year 3 class will have a 10 week program of swimming.

House Games has resumed for Years 3 – 6 on Friday afternoons. All children take part every week in a range of outdoor sport activities. The afternoon is organised as an inter-house competition by Mrs Barker and supervised by teachers.

Our younger children in Reception – Year 2 will now take part in a Pioneer Scheme based on the Outdoor Learning Made Easy program
<https://www.outdoorlearningmadeeasy.co.uk/pioneer-scheme/> .

This scheme is based on the core values of: wellbeing, self-management of risk, environmentally friendly, creativity & resilience. All children from Reception - Year 2 will spend Friday afternoon following the Pioneer Scheme.

Music

We have revised our music curriculum for 2021-22 so that all children get more time learning about, listening to, and making music. All children will learn to sing a new song and listen to a new piece of music every week. All children in Year 4 will be taught the flute and trombone during the year. To find out more information about the music curriculum follow this link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974358/Model_Music_Curriculum_Key_Stage_1_2_FINAL.pdf

Visitor and trips charges

I am keen that we continue with our excellent offer of trips out of school and visitors into school. Teachers have already begun to map their trips and visitors to their curriculum. Parents can support the school with this provision by making the recommended contribution. Any shortfall in contributions may result in the trip being cancelled. Please contact the school in advance via the school office if you feel that you are unable to make the contribution so that we are able to plan ahead. We will endeavour to keep costs down, stay local and use public transport as much as we can to reduce the cost of trips out.

Year 6 Residential

I am pleased to say that we will resume our residential offer for our Year 6 pupils this year. To reduce travel time and improve on the quality of provision, we have changed provider for this year.

We will write to Year 6 parents with more details of our trip to PGL Liddington in Wiltshire

<https://www.pgl.co.uk/en-gb/school-trips/primary-schools/centres/liddington>

House captains and Pioneer Leaders

We were very impressed with the quality of Year 6 applications for our House Captains for this year. House Captains will support Mrs Barker with the running of House Games on Friday afternoons and additionally help out around the school, as well as being excellent role models to our younger child. It was a difficult selection process with the standard so high, but we can now announce the following children were successful:

Goodall: Dylan Musson and Harriett Dingle

Fleming: Amy Barnes and Oscar Buckley

Hawking: Adnan Elzubeir and Scarlett Tennant

Franklin: Evie Holmes and Max Elbro

Pioneer Leaders

Goodall: Jason Mehmeti

Fleming: Merryn Pearson-Bray

Hawking: Amirah Farooq

Franklin: Ebony Harding

Open Days

School will open to prospective parents on the following Open Days:

Wednesday 20 October
Wednesday 10 November
Wednesday 24 November
Wednesday 12 January

Attendance at our Open Days will only be by prior registration via the school office. Parents will have the opportunity to visit our Reception Class provision and talk with teachers and senior leaders, including the Senco and Early Years Lead. This is a great opportunity to visit the school and we will be sending more information to our feeder nurseries.

Unauthorised dogs on site

We do not allow unauthorised dogs onto the school site. Please do not bring your dog onto the playground as this may become a health and safety risk to our children and staff.

Parking

The school has received complaints from both parents and residents about parking and driving around the school site during drop off and collection. School does not have the jurisdiction to intervene in any traffic issues and it would be unsafe for our staff to do so. However, I would encourage parents to complain directly to the local authority about any specific incidents and to report any traffic offences to the police. I would really urge drivers to consider residents, pedestrians and cyclists. If parents are able to park a small distance away from the school and walk in, that would help with these issues.

PTA Annual General Meeting

The PTA are holding their AGM on Monday 4 October at 19:45 via Zoom.

The PTA have done an amazing job of raising money for the school and have £11,000 earmarked for improving the junior playground. At this meeting they will elect a new committee for this year and nominations should be made in advance to eatonpta@gmail.com

The following committee roles will be elected at the meeting:

Chairperson

Arrange and chair PTA meetings
Ensure the PTA is run consistently with the aims of parents and teachers and that business is conducted in a transparent manner.
Communicate PTA activities, meetings and decisions through the school, website and Facebook (assisted by the PTA secretary)
Work with event committees and volunteers to encourage involvement from the wider school community and to help to make sure events are run well.

Treasurer

To maintain up-to-date records of all PTA financial transactions and complete statutory annual returns in line with the Charity Commission guidelines and regulations.
Banking
Organising kitty/licences for events and collecting/counting money
Prepare and report financial statements at PTA meetings

Secretary

Ensure all arrangements are made for PTA meetings
Ensure meetings are publicised in advance
Complete and distribute meeting agendas and minutes
Take minutes at PTA meetings and the AGM
To assist the Chair, Vice-chair and treasurer with specific requests which require formal written correspondence.
Positions of Vice Chair, Vice Treasurer and Vice Secretary will also be available.

Parent Consultations

We will hold parent consultations remotely this term week beginning November 1. More information on how to book will be sent nearer the time. The change to remote meetings, is aimed at saving time for parents and teachers, without compromising the quality of feedback. Parents will also receive a short interim pupil report before their meeting to inform the discussion.

School Governance

Dr Craig Avieson has been appointed Chair of Governors by the Trust. Dr Avieson is a parent at the school and has recently been appointed Director of Education for the Trust. If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact the school office.

School Census Day

The school census will be taken on 7 October and on this day we will make a menu change to Option A which will be fish fingers. Thursday's Option A will be served on Friday instead.

Yours faithfully



Allan Lowe
Headteacher