



Autumn term 2018

October 3rd 2018

Dear Parents/ Carers and children,

Quick update

It is hard to believe that we are already half way through our first half term. The time seems to be flying past. Recent learning walks by members of the SLT have shown an improvement in the children's learning behaviours and attitudes to work – this has been great to see. We have had several visitors to school over the past three weeks and they have all commented positively on the children's manners and how keen they are to talk about their learning. The school has a calm and purposeful feel to it – long may this continue as we strive for better standards and increased progress for our children.

I have already awarded 50 headteacher awards, which shows how hard the children are working and the high standard of work they are producing.

The cross country team took part in a competition recently; they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and came 7th as a team out of over 20 schools. They all conducted themselves very well and were great ambassadors for the school.

The football team have played their first match and did very well too. We hope to have a successful year ahead.

Our lunchtimes have now started to settle into a new pattern this will mean that, some days, some of the children are having to go out for a bit before their lunch and then have more play afterwards. We have bought in additional time with Premier Sport who are now running free sports club activities throughout the lunchtime which everybody can join in with.

Vacancies in school

We are in desperate need of some willing and able people to join our midday supervisor team. We are looking for anyone with a few free hours in the middle of the day to come and help out in the dining room and outside. We would be willing to accept part-time as well as full-time applicants. The hours are from 11:45am – 1:15pm on any day. Please pass this information on to neighbours, family members and friends who you think may be interested.

For more information or an application form please ask at the school office.

Harvest and Macmillan Coffee morning

Many thanks for all your support with our Harvest contributions. Once again we were overwhelmed with your generosity and Rich Keeble collected the items today to distribute through the Lakenheath Food Bank.

Thank you also to those of you who came to our coffee morning on Friday and those of you who bought cakes after school. We raised £121 for Macmillan Cancer Research.

KS2 boys

I am afraid that the KS2 boys were a little late coming out on Monday as I had to speak to them all about the state of the boys' toilets in school. We are sadly finding toilet rolls pushed down the toilet bowls, wee on the floor and bogeys wiped on the walls. Mr Tingey had to speak to them again yesterday as we have had a repeat incident of this in the morning. If any of your boys know anything about this please encourage them to tell an adult so that we can put a stop to this highly inappropriate behaviour and make the toilet more pleasant for everyone to use.

NSPCC

We have had assemblies today from the NSPCC on their 'Speak out, Stay Safe' initiative. We will be taking part in a sponsored PE event to try to raise money for the NSPCC over the next fortnight. The children have been told about what is acceptable and what is not, they have discussed safe people to talk to if they have worries and have been taught the number for Childline [0800 1111].

The NSPCC will also be running a parents and carers session about On-line Safety on October 9th and the information for this is attached. Please book your space on this as it will only run if we have 20 people of more attending.

Year 6

The children have now been visited by both MCA and IES and no doubt you are all in the midst of applying for your children's secondary school place. Please remember the transport issue when applying for your place. There is no longer a guarantee of free transport to your chosen school if it is not your nearest one.

This was what Ms Byles has sent me to sum up what she said at the Open Evening at MCA last night:

'Last night at Open Evening I told parents from Lakenheath that we will be extending an offer of free transport to them next year if they want their children to attend MCA.

I advised them to first of all determine if they are entitled to free transport from Suffolk County Council. They can do this by looking on their website and putting in their postcode. It will then tell them what their nearest secondary school is and that is the one that they would provide transport to.

Parents living closest to IES Breckland but who are still within 6 miles of MCA and whose children have FSM can also ask Suffolk to provide their transport.

For anyone else living in Lakenheath whose nearest school is IES Breckland but who would prefer that their child comes to MCA, we will provide free transport. This will only apply for families who put MCA as their first choice of school and there will be a contract to sign which states that the offer of free transport can be withdrawn if their child does not meet our expectations for behaviour and attendance.

I advised families last night to pick their secondary school on the basis of what it will offer their child and not on the basis of transport but reassured them that should the cost of transport be a barrier we will overcome it with this offer of free transport. I also warned that whilst I could offer free transport to the cohort joining in 2019 (until that child reaches 16) I could not promise to do it for future cohorts so those with younger siblings should consider this.'

If you require any assistance in completing your forms please do not hesitate to ask. The deadline for applications is Wednesday October 31st.

Coffee and a chat

The next coffee and a chat session will be held in the Studio on Friday November 2nd between 9 and 10am. This is a chance to just get together, meet other parents and have a coffee.

And finally...

Please remember to return your data return and photo permission forms back to school ASAP.

Sally Esom

Headteacher

Dates for the Autumn term 2018

Date	Event	Who is involved
2/10	NSPCC assemblies	KS1 and KS2
3/10	Phonics workshop	EYFS parents
9/10	On-line safety session for parents and carers	Parents/ carers of whole school
9/10	On-line safety workshops for Y5/6	Y5/6
12/10	Architect workshop	Y1/2
18/10 from 1-2pm & 19/10 from 10-11am	Open day sessions for 2019 EYFS intake	New parents
12/10 -19/10	Contributions for Christmas Shoebox Appeal	Whole school
19/10 – 30/10 29/10 is a staff training day	Half term	Whole school
30/10	PTA Cake sale after school	Whole school
30/10	Parents' evening – late session	Whole school
1/11	Parents' evening – early session	Whole school
2/11	Coffee and a chat 9am	All parents and carers
2/11	PTA Halloween fancy dress disco	KS1 – 5:30-6:30pm KS2 – 6:30 – 8pm
11/11	WW1 commemorations at the Pavilion	Y5/6
13/11	Dental checks in school	EYFS – Y4
16/11	Children in Need Details TBC	Whole school
23/11	Bring a jar or tombola prize and wear your own clothes PTA	Whole school
23/11	Flu vaccines	EYFS – Y5
30/11	Coffee and a chat – 9am	All parents and carers
30/11 After school in the hall	PTA Christmas fair	Whole school
7/12	School Pantomime – paid for by PTA	EYFS/KS1 – am KS2 – pm
10/12 at 2pm 11/12 at 6pm	KS1 Christmas performances	KS1
12 – 13/12	Burwell House Residential	Y4
12/12 13/13	EYFS Christmas performances at 9:15am	EYFS
19/12	Christmas lunch/ Christmas jumper day/ End of term	Whole school
3/1/19 Thursday	Term begins	Whole school