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'Learning For Life'

2022 June

Dear Parents/Carers

I write with an update as we accelerate into our final term of the academic year. The second half of the Summer Term is always a busy but fun time in school with a wide variety of events going on.

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Governor News

Sadly, Greta Edley recently stood down as our Local Authority (LA) governor. My thanks to her for the role she has played since her appointment in October 2015, particularly in relation to supporting English and EYFS development across the school. Her experience, support and fun, gentle nature will be very much missed by us all.

With this in mind we will therefore be needing to fill a governor role. If this is something you have considered and would like to know more about please talk to Sander Tiel our Chair of Governors who is often around at the school gate.

The Governor section on the school website is the place to go for all information on current governors and their roles and responsibilities. The minutes of the committee meetings, as well as the termly full Governors Meetings, are uploaded on to the website shortly after every meeting.

Jubilee



The whole school joined in with the Jubilee celebrations in the week before half term.

We decorated the school fence with art work produced by the pupils as well as bunting and flags. The children enjoyed a 'street party' with traditional sandwiches, cakes and an ice-cream followed by some games. Everyone wore their own crowns and were given a goody bag with a souvenir book, coin and badge to mark this special celebration.

In the buildup, the children learned about the Queen, her role and her reign and completed a 5 week termly theme designing crowns, writing poems and making cardboard royal characters. We



even featured on radio Nottingham. 70 years is quite an achievement and we certainly marked it in style!

Congratulations

Congratulations to the recent winners of the Open Gardens/Jubilee Flower Bed Design Competition. This competition was organised by local resident Bob Allison who came in to school and delivered an assembly to the whole school inviting the children to design a flower bed in a Jubilee theme for the planters positioned on the main roads into the village.

Bob, and other members of the Open Gardens team, judged the entries and 5 winners were chosen. Each winner received an Air Ambulance Teddy Bear and will have their designs featured in



the Open Gardens brochure.

Bob also spoke to the school about the Children's Air Ambulance and its vital service. It is totally run on donations and we often see it flying over the school playground. Bob would like the school to meet the mascot and school council are interested in raising some money for them too.

Willoughby Award

Congratulations also to our recent winners of the Willoughby Award. We are really proud of them all!

22/4/22	Freddie (Y6)	13/5/22	Louis (Y6)
29/4/22	Toby A (Y3)	20/5/22	Rosie (Y4)
6/5/22	Arabella (Y5)	27/4/22	Tabitha (Y3)

Induction Morning

Children will have the opportunity to be in their new class groups for an induction morning on Thursday 30th June, where they will have the opportunity to work with their new peer group:-

New Reception Intake	-	Mrs Brooks/Mrs Barker
Current Reception/Year 1	-	Mrs Smith/Mrs Dornan

Current Year 2/3 - Mrs Ridgway/Mrs Griffin
Current Year 4/5 - Miss Smith/Mrs Griffin

Our Year 6 pupils are on Induction days at their new secondary schools. Where there is an exception to this, they will be able to help with the younger children in school.

Attendance

A child with a good school attendance record is setting themselves up for a better future once they leave school. Employers want staff who are reliable, and good attendance is a sign that a person can be trusted.

Did you know that missing five days of every term every year is the same as missing one whole school year? School cannot authorise absence for holidays, visiting friends or relatives and the like. The expectation is that all our children attend school for 100% of the sessions in a year, recognising acceptable reasons for absence for genuine illness and medical reasons. My thanks to the overwhelming majority of our parents for ensuring their child(ren) have no recorded unauthorised absences.

Reports this Year

We are currently working hard to collate all the information to bring you your child's report for this year. We aim to have reports available for Friday 15th July. The report will include your child's current attainment and progress as well as any SATs results for the children that took those tests.

Open Afternoon will be on Wednesday 20th July (from 3:00pm), where you will have the opportunity to sit alongside your child to look at their work for the year.

Whole School Visit

Staff discussed a number of different options for our whole school visit this year. We have decided that in line with our aims of 'Helping Children to enjoy being a child', we would visit Twinlakes. This shared school visit of a fun day out with their classmates helps make memorable experiences. The visit will take place on Thursday 21st July. We have decided to fund the whole of the trip through the school budget this year, to try and help families as the rise in the cost of living continues to squeeze finances for everyone.

Ukrainian pupils

My thanks to all parents and pupils who have helped welcome our Ukrainian pupil into our school family. The warmth and friendship shown have certainly helped what must have been an incredibly difficult and unsettling journey for all involved. We may be welcoming another pupil/s and we will continue to help in any way we can. With that in mind, if anyone could volunteer some time or expertise to support learning English and/or reading we would be grateful. Please contact the office, thank you.

Sports Events

The sports calendar, organised in connection with the Rushcliffe School Sports Partnership and The South Wolds Academy, is back up and running as recent sporting events outside school have shown. The following events have taken place:

- Year 3/4 To Link festival
- Year 3/4 Cricket festival
- Year 4/5/6 Dance Workshop
- Year 5/6 Rounders festival

We also have the Keyworth Cricket festival as well as a Yr 6 Sports afternoon to look forward to this half term, not forgetting Sports day on Tuesday 12th July. My thanks to Mrs Ridgway for coordinating these events, providing wonderful sporting opportunities for our pupils.

Paperless Communication

Our new Office Manager, Mrs Moothia has been assigned the task of helping the school move towards paperless communication! The aim is to make life easier and help stop parents and office staff chasing around letters and information for a variety of things, often lurking at the bottom of school bags or at the back of school trays.

She will be trialing methods to make consent and payment easier and electronic via Google Docs and/or Teacher2Parents. The first try out will be for the end of year whole school trip, where a simple electronic consent is needed.

We are hoping that this will help streamline communication to and from the office and finally get rid of paper slips and letters.

Finally.....

- Two of our Year 6 pupils, William and Freddie, have signed up to go on a Scout trip to Nepal in October 2023 and they need to raise £2,600 each to fund the trip. To help them Susie and Faye are planning a Christmas Wreath making event and (before your diaries get filled up!) wanted to advertise the date to you all (see attached flyer)

Many thanks for your continued support for all that we do together to ensure all the children have a safe and happy environment in which to learn.

Beatrice Smith
Head Teacher



SAVE THE DATE
CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING



Thursday 1 December 2022
St Mary & All Saints Church, Willoughby

A fundraising event to help support International Scout Trips for 3 local boys

George Bateson is fundraising for his **World Scout Jamboree** in **South Korea** in August 2023

William Bateson & Freddie Oliver are fundraising to attend the **Spirit of Nepal** in October 2023

More event details to follow and thank you for your support

Any questions please contact Susie Bateson (07786 922601) or Fay Oliver (07813 191266)

