



Bressingham Primary Newsletter

3rd March 2023

Dates

(Further information will follow about some events, marked *)

Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March

Possible teacher strikes with likely implications for some children*

Friday 17th March **Red Nose Day**
RED NOSE DAY Children may come to school wearing something red or in non-school uniform (£1 donation)

Monday 20th March
Year 1 & 2 Medieval Day*

Wednesday 22nd March
Quick Sticks Hockey Festival for Year 4*

Thursday 30th March
Framlingham Castle Visit for Year 1 & 2

Please note the change of date.

A letter was sent out yesterday.

Friday 31st March
Spring Assembly on the school field at 2pm (weather permitting). Parents and carers are very welcome to attend.*

3rd April – 17th April
Easter Holiday

18th April
Summer term begins

Teachers' strikes

There are two further strike days coming up. We will update you as soon as we know of any changes.

Parking

Please don't park or turn round in Pascoe Place, as this is a privately owned road and access is not allowed. Thank you.

Attendance

We have sent out information about attendance recently. There is a strong national agenda around attendance, as attendance levels continue to be lower than before the pandemic and this is affecting children's learning and in some cases their wellbeing. If a child is away, the continuity of learning and or their feeling of being settled can both be affected.

The local authority attendance officer now meets with schools each term to discuss attendance. We are advised on actions and at our recent meeting, need to:

- request that everyone attempts to keep every child's attendance to *at least* 96% attendance from now on
- inform you that every appointment for which children miss school needs to be detailed with staff

- let you know that if there is frequent absence for illness, where it isn't apparent that a child is ill either before or after the absence, or not enough information is given, this may be challenged and may be unauthorized
- schools can require reasonable proof for medical absence, such as proof of appointments or medication, and potentially contact medical professionals to work together to try to improve attendance.

This hasn't previously been needed, but, to highlight the impact, usually we only have about 2 children who are persistently absent (below 90% absence) at this time of year, but this year, we have 21 children who are missing half a day a week of schooling, or more. This is clearly going to have an impact on their learning, but also on the learning of others, as staff work to help them to catch up with what they have missed.

We are not asking for children who are genuinely unwell and unfit for school to attend, but otherwise, they should. If we all work together to try to improve attendance, with everyone striving to bring children into school, then we can improve this situation for all. Let's go for 95-100% for all...

Open classroom events

It was lovely to see so many of you in school and sharing your child's learning with them. Thank you.

Pancake races!

The children had enormous fun running pancake races and eating pancakes with their chosen toppings. Here are some photos of the day:



Skipping visit and activity day

With an inspirational visitor, all the children, from Year R to Year 6 enjoyed different kinds of skipping and then shared their new skills together. The skipping continues at breaktimes!

Holiday Clubs

There is a holiday scheme run by Norfolk County Council for all, which are free for children of those families eligible for means-tested free school meals. Please click on the following link for more information:

https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/big-norfolk-holiday-fun?https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/big-norfolk-holiday-fun&gclid=EAlaIQobChMloqjXgtq_QIVTtPtCh3ypgaREAYASAAEgl5V_D_BwE

Staffing

We have a couple of staffing changes coming up. Mrs Munro will be coming back from maternity leave and will be teaching 3 days a week, Monday-Wednesday, alongside Ms Paterson in Year 2. Sadly, this means that Mrs Ives will be leaving our staff. We will miss her and wish her well with what she does next.

Huggywuggy

We have had several children tell staff that they have been upset by seeing films involving this character. Whilst it sounds warm and cuddly, it isn't and we ask that parents continue to talk to their children about what they are seeing online and checking that they are comfortable with those things.

There are clear age guidelines for many sites and protective settings can be set up for children, but some characters, games and clips can continue to slip through. For example, the Roblox site has some games

uploaded by users which are highly inappropriate for young users.

There is further advice about internet safety in the Office part of the newsletter below. Please do look at the suggested sites to help you to keep your children safe.

World book day

Thank you for helping the children to enjoy the day. They have had a lovely day and looked fabulous in their costumes. Here are some photos:





Operation Exercise

Thank you for supporting this by walking or cycling from home or from the village hall car park. Every time you manage to walk or cycle from the village hall car park or home, it contributes to your child's class possibly winning a weekly award 😊



Star of the Week

It has been lovely to have parents of our Stars of the Week joining us for our Celebration Assemblies. Invitations are sent out for this each week via Parentmail. We obviously understand that you may not be able to attend due to commitments, but it is special for the children when you can. Please note that taking photos or filming is not permitted during this assembly; however, should you wish to take an individual photograph of your child we can arrange this afterwards.



Please see the office section below for lots of information about Coronavirus, internet safety, support for children and families, and more.

Thank you all for your support of our wonderful children and school.

Dawn Gudde & Joanna Lewis

Notes from the office...

School Uniform

Thank you for keeping to the school uniform list.

To place an order for items with the school logo, please follow the link: www.brigade.uk.com

Nut free school



We are a nut free school. Please be aware that children can have nut allergies, so please do not include any items containing nuts in snacks or in lunches; these can include snack bars or spreads, amongst other foods. Thank you.

Free School Meal Information, from Norfolk County Council

How to apply:

Parents are encouraged to apply on line and information and a link to the on line application service is provided at www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk

Internet Safety

The following resources provide guidance for parents and carers to keep children safe online. They will, amongst other things, support parents to talk to their children about a range of online safety issues, set up home filtering in a child-friendly way and set up age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices:

[Thinkuknow](#) by the National Crime Agency - Child Exploitation and Online Protection command (NCA-CEOP) provides resources for

parents and carers and children of all ages to help keep children safe online.

[Childnet](#) has developed [guidance for parents and carers](#) to begin a conversation about online safety, as well as [guidance on keeping under-fives safe online](#).

[Parent Info](#) is a collaboration between Parent Zone and NCA-CEOP, providing support and guidance for parents and carers related to the digital world from leading experts and organisations. National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) has [guidance for parents and carers](#) to help keep children safe online.

[UK Safer Internet Centre](#) provides tips and advice for parents and carers to keep children safe online - you can also [report any harmful content found online through the UK Safer Internet Centre](#).

The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF): If an incident involves sexual images or videos that have been made and circulated online, the victim can be supported to get the images removed by the Internet Watch Foundation

(IWF)Childline/IWF Report Remove is a free tool that allows children to report nude or sexual images and/or videos of themselves that they think might have been shared online

The following sites are also good to look at with children:

For younger children...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/six-tips-teaching-children-technology?collection=parenthood-tips-and-tricks>

For older children...

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit>

For all children...

[Undressed \(lgfl.net\)](#) LGFL

'Undressed' provided advice about how to teach young children about being tricked into getting undressed online in a fun way without scaring them or explaining the motives of sex offenders

Support for mental health

Norfolk has a website and telephone number that may be useful for you or for someone you know of for mental health support: [Norfolk & Waveney - Mental Health Advice & Support for 0-25's \(justnonorfolk.nhs.uk\)](#) or 0300 300 0123.



In a mental health emergency, there is a new number to contact:

If you need urgent mental health help, call 111 and choose option 2



Mental health crisis support 24/7 for people of all ages in Norfolk and Suffolk

Early Help Hub

The Early Help Hub for South Norfolk, in Long Stratton, is a good point of contact for many different services, should you have any urgent needs or worries:

<https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/south-norfolk-help-hub>

See Something, Hear Something, Say Something

Norfolk have launched a campaign for awareness of possible abuse, entitled *See something, hear something, say something...*



If children are worried about something

Childline 0800 1111
www.childline.org.uk

NSPCC www.nspcc.org.uk

CEOP www.ceop.police.uk

Just One Number 0300 300 0123
www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk

Young Minds
www.youngminds.org.uk

Samaritans 116 123
www.samaritans.org

Kids Helpline
www.kidshelpline.com.au

National guidance about Coronavirus:

[People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
www.gov.uk

Guidance from the local authority for schools, about Covid19:

- If you are eligible, please take up the offer to [get vaccinated](#).
- Ensure good [ventilation](#) is in place.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day.
- Make use of face coverings where recommended (e.g. on

school transport when respiratory virus rates are high).

- If you have [symptoms of a respiratory illness](#), and a high temperature, or do not feel well enough to attend your setting, stay at home and avoid contact with people until you are well enough to resume normal activities and no longer have a high temperature (and no longer need medication to reduce a temperature).
- [Children and young people \(aged 18 years and under\) who have mild symptoms of a respiratory infection](#) such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.
- Adults and children who have experienced diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school for two days after symptoms have gone.
- If you do have access to tests and [test positive for COVID-19 and are an adult](#) you should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 days after the day your test was taken (or longer if you are still poorly/have a temperature), which is when you are most infectious. Or for 3 days [for children and young people aged 18 and under](#) (or longer if you are still poorly/have a [high temperature](#)). More detail is available on [GOV.UK](#).