

Newton Solney Church of England (Aided)

Infant School

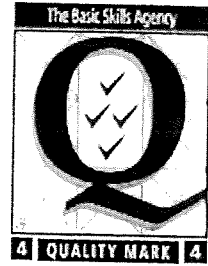
Headteacher: Mrs. Heidi Elks

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4th September 2018

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year and a special welcome to our new parents and children. We have a busy term ahead of us and I have included a diary of dates for your reference. This letter contains a lot of general information for you so please do read the letter carefully. Our Harvest Service is only a few weeks away and gives you all a chance to join us for a celebration when the children will be singing a few songs in St. Mary's church, Newton Solney.

Staffing

Arrangements for this term are:-

Swans (Reception) - Teacher:- Mrs Gamble

Teaching Assistant:- Mrs Langley

Robins (Year 1) – Teacher:- Miss Allan

Swallows (Year 2) - Teachers:- Mrs Elks – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday am.

Mrs Ryan – Wednesday pm, Thursday and Friday

Teaching Assistant for Robins and Swallows - Mrs Shepherd:- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

School Business Officer:- Mrs Rayson

Midday supervisors:- Mrs Pritchard and Miss Kowolik

Dining Room Assistant:- Mrs Armson

Letters home

Letters from school will be passed to pupils to put in their wallets or bags. Please check wallets every day.

Attendance/Absence

For security reasons the school gate is not opened until 8.50 am, from which time the children are invited to come into school ready to start lessons punctually at 9am. They will miss important instructions if they are late joining their class.

At the end of the school day, 3.10pm, all parents please wait outside the back door of Swans' classroom and the side of the hall. This way all parents can make the most of using the shelter in bad weather.

Please tell the class teacher if a different person is collecting your child at the end of the day.

Please do not let your child/ren play on the equipment in the playground in the morning or with the equipment in the Reception area after school. Thank you.

If your child is absent through illness please telephone school on the first morning of absence. A message on the answer phone can be left if no one is in the office. If school is not informed of a reason for absence we will contact you as we are required by law to record reasons for every absence. (It is not necessary to also send an explanatory letter to the class teacher unless you particularly want to give further relevant information.)

Accident/injuries at school.

In the case of a child being unwell or involved in an accident at school, parents will be contacted immediately. Other incidents will be recorded and a note sent home for your information in the child's bag or wallet. Please make sure that we have up to date telephone numbers.

Medication/medical appointments.

Staff are only able to administer prescription medicine in school. Please inform a member of staff who will give you a parental consent form to fill in with the details of the medicine and the dosage. If possible we would request that medicines do not come into school but are given before school and after school. Staff will not administer non-prescription medicine e.g. Calpol.

If your child has a medical appointment it would help school if a letter of appointment could be shown, the absence can then be recorded as an authorised medical appointment.

School Holiday policy

It is Derbyshire County Councils and schools policy to no longer authorise holidays within term time unless there is an exceptional circumstance that has been discussed with myself. If children are taken out of school for a holiday they will receive an unauthorised absence mark and parents may receive a fine from Derbyshire County Council.

Parking.

For safety reasons please do not park or drop off children in Trent Lane opposite the school entrance. School can be approached via Blacksmiths Lane, where parking is available, and then exited through Trent Lane. Our own "one way system" will make life easier and safer for everyone. Please be particularly careful not to block driveways of local residents. Do note that the landlords of the "Unicorn" and the "Brickmakers Arms" are happy to provide safe and easy parking in their car parks at the beginning and end of the school day. If at all possible please car share with other families living nearby or along your route. The school car park is strictly for staff and visitors only unless you have been given permission to park there by myself.

Dogs.

Please note that we are not allowed to have dogs on site. This includes tying them up to the school gate. This is to ensure the safety of the children and the dogs.

Snacks and drinks

School participates in the National Fruit Scheme whereby every pupil is offered a piece of fruit or vegetable daily. Children are encouraged to bring in a plastic bottle of WATER (named and not leaking) which will be taken home each day to be refilled.

If you would like your child to have milk at school please collect a letter from the office which will tell you how to sign up to the "Cool Milk Scheme". All Reception children have been signed up to receive free milk until their 5th birthday.

Universal Free School meals for all Infant Children

All infant age children are entitled to a free school meal. National requirements ensure that school meals include plenty of fruit and vegetables, oily fish, bread and drinking water each day and healthy drinks. A vegetarian choice is always available. Chocolate bars, chocolate coated biscuits, sweets and savoury snacks such as crisps are not included. Food containing nuts is not supplied in case there are children with nut allergies. Please take into account these standards if you are providing your child with a packed lunch to be eaten in school or on a visit. If you wish to change from a school meal to sandwiches or vice versa please give two weeks notice.

Birthday treats

We would like to ask parents not to send in sweets/cakes for children's birthdays. There are quite a large number of children in school with varied food allergies and it is unfair on these children to miss out on a treat. If you would like to send in a little gift for the class then we would suggest stickers which all children love. Thank you.

Coats.

Children do need a coat with them each day for outdoor play and **all clothing should be clearly named.**

Pencil cases and toys.

Please do not send in pencil cases as there are sufficient supplies of pencils, pens and crayons etc. in school and children do become upset if items are lost or broken. Similarly toys should not be brought in unless there is a specific request for topic items or on special occasions like a birthday.

Community Worship

Community Worship will take place on the first Thursday in the month at 9.15am in the school hall. Everyone is welcome to join us for a normal Worship. This is a very good opportunity to take part in and experience what is a very important part of our school day.

Worship in church

We hold a Worship in church once a month. This is for the children and staff only and is a normal Worship taken by a member of staff. We walk down to church together regardless of the weather, so again please ensure your child has a coat in school.

Easy fundraising.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk is a very easy way of raising funds for school. Go to this website first, then register FONSS (Friends of Newton Solney School) as your preferred charity, then each time you click onwards to another site to make a purchase (e.g. Sainsbury's, Tesco, Amazon) then that company makes a donation to FONSS. Do let friends and relatives know about the link too. Thank you.

Staff Training Days.

Please note that school will be closed on the following days for staff training – No children in school:-

Friday 26th October 2018

Friday 15th February 2019

Monday 3rd June 2019

Monday 22nd July 2019

Tuesday 11th September

Your child will be having their photo taken today in their school uniform. If you would like a family group photo taken then please come to the school hall between 8.30am and 9.00am.

Harvest Service - Friday 21st September at 2.00pm

Our Harvest Service is on Friday 21st September at 2.00pm at St.Mary's church, Newton Solney. Everyone is welcome so please do come along and hear the children sing some songs. We will send more details nearer the time.

Autumn Walk – Friday 5th October 1.30pm

All the children and staff will be going on an afternoon walk to look for signs of Autumn around the village. Children will need a coat, wellington boots/walking boots and most importantly a strong bag to put all their Autumn finds into. We would like to ask parents to come along and join us on our walk. Please come to school at 1.30pm for a fun outdoors afternoon.

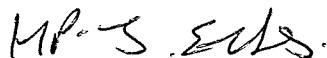
Literacy Day - Monday 22nd October

We would like all the children to come to school dressed up in Disney themed costumes for a fun day of Literacy activities.

Do come into school to see me or a class teacher, preferably at the end of afternoon school, if you have any concerns or queries.

Attached is a list of dates for your diaries including term and holiday dates for the school year 2018-2019. Please keep the dates safe and I will send updates out as the term progresses.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. Heidi Elks. Head Teacher.

Dates for your diary.

Date.	Event	Comments.
Tuesday 4 th September	Term Starts	Staggered start for new Reception children
Friday 7 th September	All children in school	
Tuesday 11 th September	Individual school photos	All children will have their photo taken in their school uniform.
Friday 21 st September	Harvest Service in St.Mary's church 2.00pm	More details to follow.
Friday 28 th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning 9.00am	Everyone is welcome to come along and join in this very worthwhile event.
Thursday 4 th October	Community Worship 9.15am	Please join us for a normal worship in the school hall.
Friday 5 th October	Autumn Walk. 1.30pm	Whole school walk around the village/fields. Children will need boots, a coat and a bag to put "Autumn things" into. All adults welcome to join in the fun.
Monday 22 nd October	Literacy Day with a Disney theme	All children are invited to dress up in Disney themed costumes.
Week beginning 22 nd October	Parent/Teacher Consultations	More details nearer the time.
Thursday 25 th October	End of term	School closes at 3.10pm
Friday 26 th October	INSET DAY	No children in school
Monday 5 th November	Term begins	
Thursday 8 th November	Community Worship 9.15am	Please join us for a normal worship in the school hall.
Friday 9 th November	Open morning 9.30am-11.00am	School will be open to show perspective parents round. Please spread the word.
Week beginning 12 th November	Friendship Week. Friday 16 th November – Friendship Friday	All children will be involved in fun activities
Thursday 6 th December	Community Worship 9.15am Pre-school Nativity.	Please come along for a preview of the Pre-school Nativity.
Tuesday 18 th December	Christmas Craft Day and wear a Christmas jumper.	All children will be involved in craft activities. If any parent would like to come and help please tell a member of staff.
Thursday 20 th December	Christmas Party. 1.30pm	More details nearer the time.
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Service in St. Mary's Church. 2.00pm	More details nearer the time.
Friday 21 st December	Break up for Christmas Holiday	
Monday 7 th January 2019	Term Begins	
Thursday 14 th February	Break up for February half term holiday.	
Friday 15 th February	INSET DAY	No children in school
Monday 25 th February	Term Begins	
Friday 12 th April	Break up for Easter Holiday	
Monday 29 th April	Term Begins	
Friday 24 th May	Break up for May Half term holiday	
Monday 3 rd June	INSET DAY	No children in school
Tuesday 4 th June	Term begins	
Friday 19 th July	Break up for Summer Holiday	