



# Newsletter

## Issue 7 Spring 2019

### Welcome from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Well, we are already half way through the second half of the Spring term and well over half way through the academic year! Key Stage 1 have started their castles topic. Year 2 enjoyed their trip to Baconsthorpe castle. It was a little cold and blustery but they enjoyed reading maps, solving problems and creating plans of the castle. Year 1 started their topic with a medieval day, in which they jousted and did archery, finishing their day with some medieval dancing and a medieval banquet.



In Reception they have been hunting for dragon's eggs and wondering where on earth they came from. They are also enjoying getting physical with their new balance bikes and climbing frame.

We have all been enjoying using our new 'big building blocks' on the playground during playtimes and lunchtimes and the children are amazing us with their creative skills. The blocks are also quite heavy which helps them to build their muscles ready for being great writers.

A big thank you for all the events that you support us and your children with, from learning Cafés to class sharing assemblies and family learning days. We always love to have you in school to share the children's learning and build our school community.

*CE Toplis*

### Dates for your Diary

21.3.19 - 9.05am TT sharing assembly

22.3.19 - School Disco

28.3.19 - 9.05am SS Sharing Assembly

2.4.19 - Class Photos

3.4.19 - Olly Day Road Safety Magic Show

**5.4.19 - Spring Assembly and Easter Hat Parade**

**School closes for Easter Holidays on Friday 5th April at 3.10pm and reopens on Tuesday 23rd April**

### Mobile Phones

Mobile Phones are wonderful things and I certainly wouldn't be without mine, however there is always a time and a place. After a busy day at school and a day away from you it is so lovely to see the children run into your arms ready to tell you what the day has held for them. Even if the answer is 'nothing', we know this means that they have done so many things they can't even remember! It is so important that the first thing our children see when they come out of school is your happy smiling face ready to greet them rather than someone talking on their phone who doesn't take any notice. Please try and remember to:

**'Greet your child with a smile NOT your mobile phone'**

### Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%.

Our current figure is...

95.8%

The best Class this week was

Clever Crocodiles

## Phonics



Do you know your 'ai's' and your 'oe's' and understand about split digraphs, trigraphs, phonemes or graphemes. If the answer is 'I'm not sure' then I am very excited to announce our new Phonics You Tube Channel 'John of Gaunt Phonics'. Mrs Simpson has been working hard creating some videos designed to lead you through the phonics jungle. The first 3 videos that Mrs Simpson has done are now live on our channel and there will be more to come in the future. Please let us know what you think as we venture in to this new territory and also any videos about phonics that you think would be really helpful to you and we will do our best to facilitate. We hope that you take the time to watch these videos on your own and with the children and see what they can teach you too! We hope that this will be the start of our You Tube channels for a variety of different topics and subjects. After all You Tube seems to be able to teach you everything!

Go to You Tube and type John of Gaunt Phonics. You should see our logo. Subscribe and then the three videos are there for you to see. Enjoy!

## Nursery Car Park

Thank you to all those parents that are listening to our requests to please leave the Nursery car park for Nursery parents. I am aware that often there are BVS parents using the car park too and I have spoken to Mr Olney about this. I also ask that cars are parked and engines turned off so as not to pollute our atmosphere any further and also to protect our young children and yourselves whilst waiting to drop off.

Many thanks for your continued co-operation.

## Children's Corner



This is the section of the newsletter for the children's voice. It may be about something that they have been doing in school or a special event. This newsletter it is the turn of:

### The Lovely Leopards

The best thing about Family Learning Day was...

'Egg parachutes because my egg didn't break. Me and Jamie put a plastic see through thing on it so it wouldn't break' Barnaby

'Making the helicopters in the Tigers because it was really fun colouring them in' Beth

'Seeing how strong spaghetti was. I was proud of my team because we balanced 9 books on the top' Reuben

'Egg parachutes. It was a good test and really fun' Finley

'Working with Evie and her Mum because we worked well as a team' Isabella

## World Book Day



A huge thank you for making our World Book Day such a success. The children all looked fabulous in their costumes and they loved having you come in to school to read with them. Remember reading stories isn't just for World Book Day and the children learn so much from having stories shared at home. Keep snuggling up with a book.

## Family Learning Day



What a wonderful Science Family Learning Day we had this week. As I wandered around the shrieks of joy and laughter coming out of each room was lovely to hear. Children who had made heart shaped bubble wands, but their bubbles still came out spherical or the group that managed to balance a heavy book on their spaghetti structure. The master builders with the egg parachutes meant that not many eggs were harmed in the process! STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) is such a vital part of our lives today that starting at such a young age is fabulous. There will be plenty of photos on the website but here are a few to share.



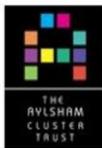
Thank you to those who stayed for the session with Anna Catlin and well done to those who won the lovely books. I thought afterwards about another good website which allows you to access e-books for free and also has quizzes after the story. The link is [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) and allows you to choose the age of books and also their book band level too. Just another way to encourage some good reading at home. Check it out.

## Easter Hat Parade and Spring Assembly

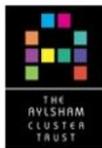
Our annual hat parade and Spring Assembly is on Friday 5th April starting at 1.45pm. We wanted to have this assembly all together as a whole school including the nursery so we have decided to use the Jubilee Family Centre to allow us the space to facilitate this. We would really like all the children to make an Easter Hat for this day, which is always judged by the Easter Bunny and prizes are awarded. At 1.45pm we would then love you to line the pathway across the field and to the Jubilee Family Centre so that the children can parade their hats for you all to see. The children will then leave their hats in the entrance and take their places in the hall and you will then be able to follow in behind. We will then have our assembly and afterwards we will ask you to once again line the pathway for us and then the children will parade back down the path to school or nursery. As it is the last day of term you will then be able to take your child home if you wish as soon as they have returned to school and collected all their things. We hope this will be a fun and special time for us all to be together as a school community and be a great way to finish the term and start the Easter holidays.

Easter hats can be as simple or as complicated as you like so let your creative flare flow. Remember to let the children have some part in designing and making their hats! You can always wear one yourself if you would like to join in!





## Parent Support Advisor



Parenting isn't easy and sometimes things can get tough.  
As a parent/carer you want what is best for your child.

Our Parent Support Advisor is available to listen and support your family with any issues or concerns from home or school you may be facing.

She may not have all of the answers, but she can offer:

- A confidential listening ear
- Help to enable you to express your concerns about your child to the school and act as a link between school and home
- Support and advice if you have concerns about your child's social, emotional or behavioural development, helping you to nip things in the bud before they get serious
- Support with transition – as they start or move between schools
- Give hints and tips about general parenting issues
- Help to find services and other agencies who are available to help you and your family
- Help with issues around school attendance

Carol Flatters is our Cluster Parent Support Advisor, she can be contacted by e-mail [cflatters@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:cflatters@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk) or text/telephone 07780 922545.

If you would like to meet Carol this she will be at Aylsham High School on the following dates: -

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

9.30 am – 10.30 am

Please feel free to pop in and see her – no appointment required.

Alternatively contact Carol by e-mail or phone at any time throughout the school year.  
(term time only)



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## Healthy Eating Workshop

Thursday 28th March 2019

9.15 am - 11.45 am

John of Gaunt Infant & Nursery School



Come and join us for a **FREE** Healthy Eating workshop where you will learn how to make healthy, affordable smoothies and soup.

Afterwards take home your **FREE HAND BLENDER** (1 per household) and put your new skills into practice.



This workshop will be delivered by Lisa Whatnall from Clarion Futures.

Please book your place with our Family Learning Co-ordinator  
Monica Harding by e-mail to [mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)  
or text/message 07780 887348.

If you have previously attended a Clarion Futures Slow Cooker workshop  
you will not be eligible to attend this workshop.



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## SAVE THE DATE

# Saturday 27th April 2019

Woodgate Nursery & Tea Rooms, Aylsham

## 2 pm - 4 pm

## GROWING DAY

Woodgate Nursery & Tea Rooms and The Aylsham Cluster Schools Friends and PTA groups will be offering families the opportunity of enjoying a variety of **FREE** activities such as grass animals and seedling planting.

**No booking required - just turn up on the day and enjoy this FREE event!**

Come along for half an hour or stay for the whole two hours.



All children must be accompanied by an adult.



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## CIEH Foundation Certificate in

### Food Safety

Thursday 9th May 2019

9am - 3pm

Venue - John of Gaunt Infant & Nursery School



A **FREE** one day accredited training course leading to the CIEH Foundation Certificate in Food Safety.

This is a key qualification for anyone wishing to work or volunteer in catering, manufacturing or a retail setting where food is prepared, cooked and handled. It would be an asset to anyone looking for employment in pubs/hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, food retail environments, care homes and schools.

*This course will be delivered by Lisa Whatnall from Clarion Futures.*

*Please bring a packed lunch.*

**Places are limited and must be booked with our Family Learning Co-ordinator Monica Harding by e-mail to [mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk) or telephone/text 07780 887348.**



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## **Introduction to Supporting, Teaching and Learning in Schools**



**A free course to help you identify the skills and knowledge  
required to work in a teaching support role in either a  
Nursery, Infant, Primary or High School.**

**Taster Session on  
Thursday 6th June 2019  
9.30am - 12.30pm**

**Followed by a FREE 5 week course starting on  
Thursday 13th June 2019  
9.30am - 12.30pm**

**Venue - John of Gaunt Infant and Nursery School**

**Subjects covered will include:**

**How children's learning develops \* Supporting positive behaviour \* Understanding  
equality, diversity and inclusion when working with children \* Safeguarding and welfare.**

**Attending this course will offer you the opportunity to progress onto a funded  
Level 2 certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools course  
due to start in September.**

**This course will be delivered by Clarion Futures in conjunction with WEA.**

**For further information or to book your FREE place please contact Monica Harding  
on 07780 887348 or email [mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)**