



Newsletter

Issue 11 Summer 2019

Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Well here we are at the end of another academic year. I know that for all of us time seems to go by very fast these days, but this year really does seem to have flown by. It is as we welcomed our new children in on transition days that we realise just how much the children develop in a year and also how much they grow! I have been so proud this year of how well the children have adapted to things, like our new behaviour strategy and also how much they have loved being part of their houses. Our House Captains have done a brilliant job of running their house and collecting and counting all the house points each week. John of Gaunt is such a happy place to be every day and it is our wonderful children who make it like this. Many people come through our doors each week and they all comment on the lovely atmosphere that is created in our school. My thanks go to my brilliant staff who give their all to making John of Gaunt the great school that it is and a fantastic learning environment for your children. We sing a song that says 'We're so proud of our school and everything about it. We're so proud of our school, and don't you ever doubt it'. The words to this are so very true and I thank you for your part in helping us achieve this. I wish you all a fantastic and restful summer break and look forward to working with those of you returning in September. Good Luck Year 2's as you move to BVS.



CE Toplis

Mrs Webb

As you all now know, Mrs Webb is leaving us next week and we have organised to have a goodbye picnic for her on the field at lunchtime (separate flyer sent home about this) on Wednesday 24th. On this last day we would also like to invite the children to come dressed in their mufti clothes. Mrs Webb is a mad fanatic about Elvis and we thought it would be great if the children could come dressed with an Elvis theme. This might be that you have a whole Elvis costume lurking at the back of the wardrobe or a rock guitar or anything from the Elvis era. However, ordinary mufti clothes are also fine too!

Dates for your Diary

23.7.19 - 9.15am Year 2 Leavers Assembly
24.7.19 - Goodbye picnic for Mrs Webb and Mufti Day with an Elvis theme!

School finishes for the Summer holidays on 24.7.19 at 3.10pm

School reopens on Wednesday 4th September at 8.50am.

Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%.

Our current figure is...

95.5%

The best Class this week was ...

Lovely Leopards on 98%

Saying Goodbye

We are very close to having to say a big goodbye to our lovely and fantastic Year 2's. It is always sad when we send children on to their new school, but also lovely for us to see how much they have grown, not only in size, but also in their learning too. We know that we have prepared them well for the next stage of their education journey and we wish them all well as they move to BVS. Year 2 parents don't forget that there will be a leavers assembly on Tuesday 23rd July at 9.15am, where the children will this year perform Pirates vs Mermaids. They have been practising really hard so we are in for a real treat. Don't forget your tissues! We are also saying a 'sort of' goodbye to Mrs Shaw. Mrs Shaw will not be based in a class from September, but we are delighted that she will still be with us teaching the Key Stage 1 children computing on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. A big thank you to Mrs Shaw for all that she has done.



Sports Day



A big thank you to all of you who came to support Sports Day last week. It was so lovely to see the children in their coloured t-shirts for their houses and to hear them cheering their team mates on. I was so proud of what good sports they all were. Well done also to all the Mums and Dads and younger siblings who took part too.

A massive well done to Salhouse who won the overall trophy. This was very well deserved and so great for Salhouse who have been in last place in terms of weekly house trophies, so there must be some Olympic athletes in the making in that house.

We thoroughly enjoyed having sports day in the morning instead of the afternoon and thought that next year we might extend it further with a family picnic on the field after the races so watch this space...



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 whole school (anyone who wanted to talk to Mrs Toplis!)

The best thing about this year has been...

Liyu - English, special writing and computing because I like doing all those things.

Gracie-Mae - Earning all my house points for Ranworth the red team.

Caitlin - When we are doing Maths because it's fun.

Ella T - Spending lots of time with my friends.

Ryker - Learning new things.

Phoebe - All the writing because I like practising.

Holly - Making lots of things like our hats, our cars and making the solar system.

Evie T - Meeting new people and making new friends.

Evie W - Making the bug hats, I made a ladybird.

Teagan and Darcy - Playing together in Super Snakes.

Letter from Jenny Youngs - Chair of Governors

"Time flies when you are enjoying yourself" and here we are at the end of another successful academic year in the Aylsham Learning Federation.

Students and pupils across all our schools have been working very hard on the academic front as well as taking advantage of the many extra-curricular subjects on offer.

At John of Gaunt, as across all the schools in the federation, there has been very little staff movement, which is good for creating a stable environment for our children to learn in. John Bear's nursery is proving very popular in the local community and numbers are increasing on a weekly basis; the children are enjoying the light airy space which has been created and appear to be thriving. At John of Gaunt, there is particular pride in the phonics results achieved this term, and the children are enjoying the camaraderie of the new House system which has been put in place. The school enjoyed a successful and competitive sports day, and the Year 2s are ready for their next school.

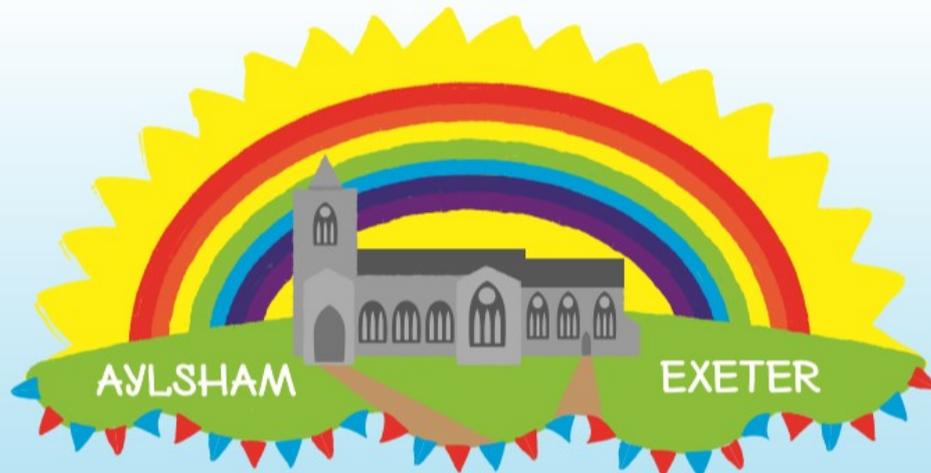
At Bure Valley, Mr Olney is particularly proud of the improvement in the Maths section of the SATs and the reading, writing and maths combined results broke through the 70% mark for the first time, all of which put the school above the national average. The school orchestra gave an excellent recital, and on the sports front, the school has been in many county finals. The support of parents and carers is vitally important for the success of the children across all schools and the staff and governors are always most appreciative of all the support that parents and carers give the schools.

At the High School, we have planning applications in for further indoor and outdoor sports facilities and we hope that these will soon be approved so that building can commence to improve facilities for both the federation and the community. GCSEs have all been done in a calm and ordered fashion and like the students and their families, we await the results at the end of August.

On the extra-curricular side of AHS, around 100 students have taken part in Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, at bronze and silver levels; sports have been undertaken at a very high level and again several county finals have been reached, both as teams and individuals. The highly anticipated musical My Fair Lady is already being prepared for the March production.

It just leaves me to wish our departing students the very best of luck in their future education and careers, and to wish everyone a very happy and healthy summer holiday and we shall look forward to welcoming all the students and pupils back to school in September.

Mrs Jenny Youngs



BEANEFEST

SUNDAY 28 JULY 2019

It's Beane a Blast!

Join us at Aylsham Parish Church for a special community celebration to say thank you and farewell to Rev. Andrew Beane and his family



**POP UP
BLACK BOYS
BAR**

**CHURCH
SHOWCASE**

**THE BIG
COMMUNITY
BRING & SHARE
PICNIC
WITH
PIMM'S TENT**

**COXFORD'S
BBQ**

**CHILDREN
& YOUTH
ACTIVITIES**

**LIVE
MUSIC**

**REFRESHMENTS
& TREATS**

**STALLS &
ATTRACTIONS**

**EVERYONE
WELCOME**

FUN, ENTERTAINMENT & MUCH, MUCH MORE...

9.30 am Special Quarter Peel of the Aylsham Church Bells
 10.15 am Farewell service to Andrew & his family
 12.00 - 2.00 pm The BIG Community Bring & Share Picnic with Pimm's Tent
 2.00 pm - late Beanefest - *It's Beane a Blast!*

Thanks to Ivan Fisher Independent Funeral Homes Ltd | Free parking at St. Michael's Primary School



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It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child

Dyslexia Awareness

Tuesday 8th October 2019

9.30am – 11.45am

Aylsham High School

This FREE workshop has been specifically designed for anyone who has contact with a child with dyslexia of school age e.g. parents/carers, grandparents or other family members and will be delivered by our Dyslexia Outreach Service.



- Workshop Content:
- * How to help with homework.
 - * How to support further reading and spelling development.
 - * How to support difficulty with organisation and memory.
 - * How to communicate with school if there is a conflict.

You will receive some dyslexia friendly resources and handouts.

Please book your place by e-mailing our cluster family learning co-ordinator Monica Harding
mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk
 or text/telephone 07780 887348



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Slow Cooker & Healthy Eating Course



Thursday 10th & 17th October

9.15 am - 11.45 am

Venue - John of Gaunt Infant & Nursery School

A practical free 2 week course offering basic cooking skills and low cost, low waste healthy eating ideas.



At the end of the 2 week course you will take home a free slow cooker (1 per household).

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

Places are limited and must be booked with our Family Learning Co-ordinator Monica Harding by e-mail to mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk or text/message 07780 887348.

If you have previously attended a Clarion Futures slow cooker or healthy eating workshop you will not be eligible to attend this course.



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It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child

CIEH Foundation Certificate in Food Safety

Thursday 14th November 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 or telephone/text 07780 887348.



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 or text/telephone 07780 922545.

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

Wednesday 6th November 2019

Wednesday 11th March 2020

Wednesday 24th June 2020

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)

