



# Newsletter

## Issue 1 Autumn 2021

### Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Welcome to our first newsletter of the Year. May I take this opportunity to welcome all our new families to John of Gaunt. We are delighted that you have chosen our school to start your child's education journey. We know that they will be very happy here at our school and we look forward to working with you on their journey.



We had the most amazing first week at school. It is an absolute joy to see so many happy smiling faces and to finally be able to have them all in one room again. The happy chatter at lunchtimes in the hall and the time to be together in assembly has been great. Finally some lovely warm sunny weather has, I think, lifted everyone's spirits.

Our new reception children enjoyed their first day at school; exploring the school and exploring all the things in their classroom and outside area.

Year 1 and 2 have been getting to know their new teachers but have already started their RWI and Mathematics Mastery lessons and have also completed the first traditional tale of the year 'The Three Little Pigs'. This week sees the start of their new topics and you will soon receive the curriculum letters detailing all of the learning for this half term. Our weekly curriculum plans remain on our website for you to have a look at so that you know what the children are learning each week. It does help with the conversations when you know what they have been doing and also helps with the inevitable answer to the question 'What did you do today' 'Nothing!'. Children in Year 1 and 2 will already have had the first RWI book home. Please try and spend just a few minutes each day reading the book with your child, it really does make such a difference to their progress.

We hope that this will be a very happy year for you and your child and also a settled one too.

*CE Toplis*

### Dates for your Diary

20.9.21 - Year 1 Local Walk  
22.09.21 - Year 2 Local Walk

29.9.21 - Year 2 Maths Parent Workshop via zoom (9.30am - 10.30am)

6.10.21 - Year 1 Maths Parent Workshop via zoom (9.30am - 10.30am)

22.10.21 - School closed (please see information in newsletter)

10.11.21 - Reception Maths Parent Workshop via zoom (9.30am - 10.30am)

16.11 and 17.11.21 - Parents Evenings

23.11.21 - Family Learning afternoon (hopefully)

16.12.21 - Rotary Carol Concert (evening)

### Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%.

Our current figure is

96.3%

The best Class this week was

Turtles on 98.6 %

## Remote Learning

We sincerely hope not, but there may be times across the course of this academic year when your child has to remain at home and carry out their learning from there.



For Year 1 and 2 children their schooling work will be provided to you remotely via Google Classroom. Year 2 children will be very familiar with this but it will be new to our Year 1 children. All the children belong to their own class google classroom but you will need to join the classroom in order to be able to access it. Shortly, you will find a ticket in the front of your child's home learning book which details their unique email address and password. You will need to log on to their email and find the invite to join the classroom. Year 2 parents please note that as they are now in a new class, their google classroom account has been moved and you will need to join again in the new classroom.

Our reception children will use Tapestry as their platform for remote learning. Whilst Tapestry may be new to some of you, you will quickly become very familiar with it.



## Parents Evening

This year we will once again be using School Cloud Parents Evening. Although times have changed slightly with regards to the pandemic we actually felt that School Cloud was a successful way to run parents evenings and meant that we could update you on your child's progress without the added complication of attending school. It also means that we run exactly to time!

For those new to this we will send out details nearer the time but in short you are invited via email to book a time with your child's class teacher, you then receive an email confirming your time and at the bottom of that email there is a link to click on at your allotted time where you will then link virtually to your child's class teacher. Appointments are set at 10 minutes and the system ends them after this time hence why teachers always run to time!

Our Autumn Term Parents evenings will be on **Tuesday 16th November** and **Wednesday 17th November** for your diaries but an email inviting you to book an appointment will be sent out in due course.



## Additional Day

Next year marks the Queen's platinum Jubilee and so she has kindly granted an additional bank holiday in June next year. This additional bank holiday falls in the normal school holidays so in lieu of that the Local Authority have authorised schools to shorten the school year by a day just for this academic year.

The Aylsham Learning Federation have chosen **Friday 22nd October** as our day and therefore school and nursery will be closed on this day to all children and staff. This extends the half term holiday by a day.



## 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.

Carol Flatters is our TACT (Families) Parent Support Advisor.

If you would like to speak to Carol she can be contacted by text or e-mail

[cflatters@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:cflatters@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)  
text/telephone on 07780 922545.

(term time only)

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 including financial signposting.



**It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child**

## Emergency First Aid at Work

Tuesday 28th September 9.30am - 4.30pm

*Please bring a packed lunch.*

**FREE one day training course leading to an Emergency First Aid at Work certificate.**

Venue - Emmanuel Church, Cawston Road, Aylsham, NR11 6BX

Free parking available at Buttland carpark, Mill Road, NR11 6DU



This **FREE** course is suitable for anyone who might need to provide first aid to someone who is injured or becomes ill while at work. The course covers a range of accidents and first aid emergencies that could be encountered in the workplace. Learners will develop skills and confidence to help someone who is; unresponsive and not breathing, including how to use an automated defibrillator (AED), unresponsive and breathing, having a seizure, choking, bleeding heavily, suffering from shock or burns.

If you are thinking about returning to work, career progression options or training to work in a new industry this certificate may be a useful addition to your CV.

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

For more information or to book your place contact

Lisa Whatnall from Clarion Futures email [lisa.whatnall@clarionhg.com](mailto:lisa.whatnall@clarionhg.com) or call/text on 07770 704740.

For information about The Aylsham Community Trust (families) courses and workshops please telephone Monica Harding 07780 887348.



**It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child**

We are delighted to offer parents/carers the opportunity of joining a free support session. The session will be led by our Social, Emotional and Mental Health Officer, Sara Dale.

## Managing Anxiety

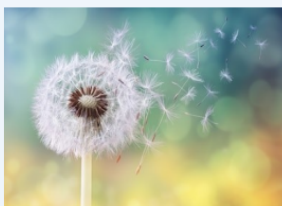
Wednesday 13th October

9.15am - 10.45am

Aylsham High School

This **FREE** session offers support to families who struggle with a variety of anxiety related concerns and symptoms.

During the session you will learn a variety of coping strategies.



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



## Introduction to Helping in Schools

Venue - Emmanuel Church, Cawston Road, Aylsham, NR11 6BX

Free parking available at Buttland carpark, Mill Road, NR11 6DU

A **FREE** course to help you identify the skills and knowledge required to work in a teaching support role in primary, secondary and special needs schools.

### Taster Session

Monday 13th September 10am –12noon

Followed by a **FREE** 5 week course starting on

Thursday 23rd September 9.30am - 12.30pm

Attending this course will offer you the opportunity to progress onto a funded Level 2 Award in Support Work in Schools and Colleges starting in January 2022.

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

Subjects covered will include:

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

For more information or to book your place contact

Lisa Whatnall from Clarion Futures email [lisa.whatnall@clarionhg.com](mailto:lisa.whatnall@clarionhg.com) or call/text on 07770 704740.

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