



Newsletter

Issue 8 Spring 2022

Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

As I sit and type this it is World Book Day and it is so wonderful to see the children all dressed up celebrating books and reading. They have already taken home their World Book Day token home and these can be exchanged either for a special World Book Day book or as part payment towards a book of their own choosing. It is so wonderful that this scheme has been going for 25 years this year and means that every child can have a book to keep of their very own. We know at John of Gaunt how important reading and stories are and we encourage you to make sure that these are part of your life at home.



Everyone has settled well into the second half of the Spring Term. Last week the children enjoyed their traditional tale week and this time it was 'Little Red Riding Hood'. From a crime scene in Year 2 to re-enacting Grandma's Cottage in Reception, all the children enjoyed their learning.

This week has proved a little challenging with our unfortunate gas leak and I thank you all for your understanding when we needed to close to ensure everyone's safety. Everything is now fixed and as I type there is a lorry here filling in the holes!

Further on in this newsletter is an update on the Covid situation and updated rules for isolation and testing. It is clear that we are not free from Covid but are all learning how to live with it as part of normal life. Please read the information carefully and continue to support us as you have done through the whole of this pandemic.

We are looking forward to our growing themed family learning day next week. Please make sure that you check the flyer that was sent home or posters for your child's class slot. This is also included further on in this newsletter.

However, due to a number of Covid cases, we may need to postpone our Family Learning Day if cases increase over the weekend. We will confirm on Monday if this will be able to go ahead or not.

CE Toplis

Dates for your Diary

8.3.2022 - Main School Family Learning Day

9.3.2022 - Year 2 SATs meeting @ 3.15pm in the hall

10.3.2022 - Nursery Family Learning Day

18.3.2022 - Red Nose Day

w/c 21.3.2022 - Parents Evenings for Zebra and Leopard Class

w/c 28.3.2022 - Parents Evenings

Easter Holidays 4th - 19th April

Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%.

Our current figure is

93.4%

The best Class this week was

Zebra's on 95.4 % &
Elephants on 95.2%

Covid update

Although many of the specific COVID-19 laws have changed, the public health guidance remains largely unchanged. The principles of hands, face, space and fresh air remain key to infection control, and we continue to ask people to act responsibly by staying at home and away from others if they have symptoms or test positive for COVID-19. When a pupil, staff or other adult develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#) or has a positive test they should follow the guidance [People with COVID-19 and their contacts](#) which advises;

"Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. They should follow the guidance for their educational setting."

We have a responsibility under the existing Public Health Laws and Health Protection Regulations to respond appropriately to all infectious diseases (e.g. Mumps, Measles, Rubella, and COVID-19). We do this by making sure we follow published guidance and have in place risk assessments and Health and Safety policies. Therefore, in line with our risk assessment and related policies, children and young people who test positive or have symptoms of COVID-19 must stay at home as per the published guidance.

Some of you may have concerns and anxieties about the relaxation of the rules and I have included the following website links which you may find helpful.

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) FAQs \(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](#)

Thank you for your continued support as we move to a new phase of living with COVID-19 .

Easter Hat Parade



The last day of the Spring Term is Friday 1st April. During the afternoon the children are going to be visiting Bure Valley to watch the parents panto; which had to be postponed from before Christmas. We are very grateful to the Panto team for rescheduling this for the children as they always really enjoy it.

It is also tradition at John of Gaunt to have an Easter Hat Parade, with of course chocolate prizes for the winners. So get your creative fingers flowing and have fun with your child/children creating an Easter Hat ready for our parade. I know this is a while ahead but I wanted to give you plenty of making time! More details to follow nearer the time too.



Ukraine

One of our school council children approached me and asked whether we would be able to support one of the local causes set up to help the people of Ukraine. This wonderful act of thoughtfulness is living proof of our motto 'always choose kindness'.

DONATE TO UKRAINE HERE



Trucks going to the Poland-Ukraine border are in need of the following.

- Warm Blankets
- Non Perishable Food
- Power Packs
- Sanitary Products
- First Aid
- Baby Essentials
- Nappies
- Winter Clothing
- Torches and Batteries
- Adult & Baby Clothing
- Colouring Books/Crayons
- Shoes



Please bag and label items where possible.



It is my understanding that they have already filled one lorry but are seeking funds to send a second lorry out to Ukraine. If you are able to donate any of the items listed please take them directly to the Banningham Crown or if this is impossible due to transport we will be happy to take small donations for you.

School Cloud Parents Evening

Teachers will be running Parents Evenings over a 2 week period, starting week beginning 21st March. When you log into the school cloud portal you will be able to see the dates available for each teacher in those 2 weeks.

As we did during the Autumn Term, our parents evenings will be virtual on a system called School Cloud. Running our parents evenings virtually was necessary at the time but worked so well for both you as parents and us as a school that we decided to continue in this way.

Our booking system opens on Friday 11th March at 9am and by using this link:

<https://johnofgaunt.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

You will then be able to proceed to book your parents evening appointment. The details you enter into school cloud MUST be the same as those that you have registered with the school on our system known as SIMS. If you have SIMS parent it will be the details you can view on there.

Once you have booked your appointment you will receive an email detailing your time and at the bottom of this email will be the link to click on to attend the meeting, and so please keep the email safe. This system works by using a device such as a smartphone or a tablet or a computer with a microphone and camera enabled. It is not via the telephone so please don't wait for your phone to ring because it won't!

 schoolcloud
Parents Evening



THE
AVLSHAM
COMMUNITY
TRUST
(FAMILIES)

It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child



John of Gaunt Infant and Nursery School Family Learning

We would like to invite all parents/carers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, younger brothers and sisters to join their child for a fun spring themed planting and growing family learning day on

Tuesday 8th March

9am - 9.30am	Zebras
9.40am - 10.10am	Giraffes
10.20am - 10.50am	Elephants
11am - 11.30am	Otters
1.30pm - 2pm	Turtles
2.15pm - 2.45pm	Leopards

We are looking forward to seeing you.



Arrangements for the day are subject to change giving consideration to current cases of COVID-19.



Parent Support Advisor



Parenting isn't easy and sometimes things can get tough. Carol Flatters our Parent Support Advisor is available to listen and support your family with any issues or concerns from home or school that 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 including financial signposting
- Help with issues around school attendance

To contact Carol Flatters our Parent Support Advisor please e-mail: cflatters@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk or text/telephone 07780 922545 at any time throughout the school year (term time only)

If you would like to meet Carol she will be at Aylsham High School on

Wednesday 16th March 2022

Wednesday 11th May 2022

9.30am – 10.30am

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



It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child

Dyslexia Awareness

Wednesday 9th March 2022

9.30am – 12noon

Arrivals from 9.15am

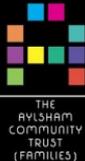
Aylsham High School

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.

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



It takes a Whole Community to Educate a Child

Sleep, what's that?

Are you and your children struggling to get a good nights sleep?

This FREE workshop delivered by Sleep East will offer support to help parent/carers establish a good sleep routine.

Tuesday 15th March 2022

9.30am – 12noon

Aylsham High School



Sleepeast.

This workshop will cover: The physiology of sleep. Why is my child not sleeping? Sleep information and strategies. Keeping a sleep diary. Developing a good bedtime routine and maintaining a good sleep pattern.

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



Aylsham High School hosts the

WELLBEING AT HEART COMMUNITY SUPPER

in aid of TACT (Families) and the Cat Cartwright Garden
Friday 18th March at 7pm—Carriages at 11 pm
Attire—Smart/Casual with a hint of Yellow

Tickets required for Admittance to Supper and Auction Raffle Entry
Auction Prize List

Hodson & Co table for four—seven course supper with wines—Bespoke Cheese Hamper—value £450.00

The Saracen's Head—Dinner, Bed and Breakfast voucher for one night—Care off Mr and Mrs Elwes

Coastal Exploration Company—morning or afternoon sail for four in a mud flat exploring the creeks from Wells Harbour with breakfast or late lunch with amazing knowledge from crew and fabulous food—value £575.00

Abbey Farm Norfolk—luxury glamping weekend for four with breakfast and grazing hampers—value £750.00

Coxfords Butchers—sausage making with Jonny and Jason for eight—an evening of fun and you get to take the sausages home with you too—value £200.00

Urban Clay—perfect for the children—pottery painting—value £20.00
Ruddy Muddy Drawing—value £50.00

Tickets are £25 per person for a Three Course Supper
With Cheese & Wine

Tickets available from:

HODSON & CO, Red Lion Street, Aylsham

Coxfords Butchers, Market Place, Aylsham

with kindest support of Aylsham Parish Church

