



Newsletter

Issue 9 Spring 2022

Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

As we come to the end of a whirlwind half term where Covid struck our little school in a big way, I would like to say thank you for your support, patience and understanding. I slightly feel like the last man standing after Covid has done its whoosh through the school but fingers crossed that this is us done for a while at least. Further on in this newsletter is the latest guidance I have received from the DfE so please read this carefully.



Despite Covid, we have had a good half term and the children have once again enjoyed their learning. Year 2 have enjoyed being Antarctic explorers and learning about the life of Sir Ranulph Fiennes. They seem to have taken great delight in telling me all the gory bits!

Year 1 and Reception have been learning about people who help us and members of our community. Reception enjoyed a visit from the police and enjoyed climbing in the police van and setting the sirens off! Year 1 sadly missed their trip to the church to learn about Sir Humphrey Repton but recreated much of this in their classrooms. Perhaps over the holidays you could pop to the churchyard and see where he is buried.

As I write this we are looking forward to our annual Easter Hat parade and thank you for all your work on making the children's Easter Hats. Before I even see them I know they will be amazing. By the time you read this we will have also watched the parents panto rescheduled from Christmas and a big thanks to them for being resilient and not giving up so that the children can enjoy a live performance.

I wish you all a very restful Easter break, I hope the warm sunshine comes back for us all. We will see you all again at 8.50am on Wednesday 20th April.



CE Toplis

Dates for your Diary

Easter Holidays 4th - 19th April

27.4.22 - National Dental Survey for specific R and Y1 children

27.4.22 - SATS Meeting for Parents

29.4.22 - Lifeboat dress up day

2.5.22 - BANK HOLIDAY

3.5.22 - Main School rescheduled Spring Family Learning Day

5.5.22 - Nursery rescheduled Spring Family Learning Session

10.5.22 - Class Photographs

24.5.22 - Reception Height, Weight, Vision and Hearing Checks

25.5.22 - Year 1 Maths Café

26.5.22 - Reception Reading Café

27.5.22 - Jubilee Celebrations

HALF TERM 30th May - 3rd June

Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%.

Our current figure is 92.2%
The best Class this week was Leopards on 97.3%

Covid update

As I am sure that you are all aware, Covid rules are changing again on 1st April. This is the information that we have received as a school from the Department for Education.

Changes to measures and guidance for managing COVID-19 in education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1 April.

Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends on Friday 1 April.

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days

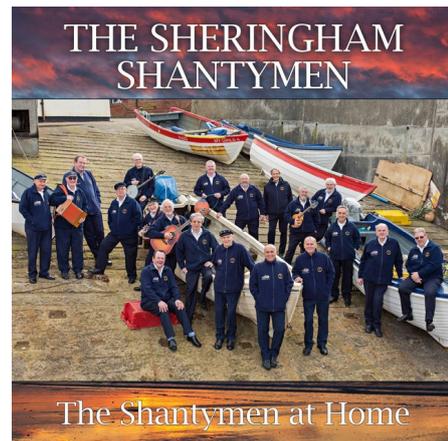
The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

We are to continue to manage the risk in schools by continuing with increased ventilation, hand hygiene and cleaning as we have been doing throughout this pandemic. We ask for your continued cooperation and the following of the above guidelines from the DfE.

RNLI

We were lucky enough to have the Sheringham Shanty Men come in to sing to the children this term and they do this without any charge to the school. This is obviously a fantastic opportunity to hear a live performance. The Sheringham Shanty Men raise money for the RNLI and so as a thank you for coming to perform for us we would like to support their charity.

Therefore, on Friday 29th April, we will be having a Lifeboat Dress Up day. We would like to invite the children to come in dressed in anything sea related and bring in a donation for doing so for the RNLI.



Breakfast and After School Club

Our Breakfast and After School Club is proving very popular this term, with many sessions being very busy. If you think that you need an ad hoc session please try to do this with as much notice as possible and be patient with staff as they plan whether we have space to accommodate.

Year 2 SATS

Mrs Farmer will be running a rescheduled SATS meeting for parents on Wednesday 27th April at 3.15pm. We will have a space in the Year 2 classrooms for children to wait during the meeting. There is no need to sign up, please just come along to find out what your child will be being asked to do.

Jubilee Celebrations

We are planning on some celebrations at school on Friday 27th May to mark HRH Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. We are still finalising our plans but it will almost certainly involve some dressing up with a royal theme and probably some food and a party.

More details to follow but feel free to start making crowns and tiaras!



Message from the Chair of Governors

I am sure that students and staff alike will be looking forward to the Easter holiday, when hopefully Norfolk will continue to bask in the lovely Spring sunshine that we have all been enjoying.

Just as we hoped that the Covid situation was calming down, it seems to have come back with vengeance, disrupting our learning environment, but hopefully not causing too much severe illness.

Our schools have all had a productive term, with students and pupils preparing for Summer term exams, and at last we have been able to return to more extra-curricular activities too.

At the High School, some students went on their first overseas trip for two years, this time to Iceland, which I gather was extremely enjoyable and useful. The high school has also welcomed two high profile county dignitaries this term – Lady Dannatt visited the school in early March and spent the morning looking at the work being done in the new construction building, as well as in the allotments and nurture centre. She also planted a tree to mark Her Majesty's platinum jubilee. This can be found at the exit gate in the main front car park. The High Sheriff also came to visit after his trip to the Paupers' Graves in Aylsham.

The under 16 rugby team is through to the Norfolk final on 30th March, so good luck to them.

At Bure Valley, World Book Day was celebrated in style with all the pupils dressing up, and thanks to our parents and carers for helping with this activity. I hope that the pupils are all enjoying the newly marked out play area, and many thanks to the parents and carers who have set up the new Friends of BVS.

At John of Gaunt pupils also enjoyed World Book Day, and the pupils there focussed on the work of Jill Murphy.

The Aylsham Learning Federation has had another very busy term and my thanks as always to our staff for all the hard work they put into the day to day running of our schools, and to our parents and carers, for supporting the children and schools throughout the term

I hope everyone is able to enjoy a relaxing and healthy much needed holiday

Jenny Youngs
Chair of Governors Aylsham Learning Federation



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



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



A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



PERFORMED BY
**AYLSHAM
HIGH
SCHOOL**
YEAR 8 STUDENTS



FRIDAY 10TH &
SATURDAY 11TH
JUNE 2022
6.30PM

OUTDOOR
PERFORMANCE
AT
**MANNINGTON
HALL**

TICKETS £12 ON SALE
FROM MAY AT THE MAIN RECEPTION
OF THE SCHOOL 12.35-1.15PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY
AND ONLINE FROM THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.