



Newsletter

Issue 2 Autumn 2023

Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Wow! And just like that the half term is over. It seems impossible that it was almost 7 weeks ago that we returned to school after the summer holidays. It has been a busy but brilliant half term.



Well done to all our reception children who have completed their first half term at school. They have made such a strong start and are thoroughly enjoying their learning. They are naturally very tired now having done all day everyday for so many weeks and they deserve a good rest next week.

Thank you to all those who came and supported our Harvest Festival yesterday. It was lovely to see so many families able to join us. I was so proud of how well the children did, they sang beautifully and Year 2 did an amazing job with their poem and reorganising Harvest!

The building work is progressing really well. We have had a slight extension to the works (these things usually take longer than planned!) but it is looking hopeful that they will be finished by November 17th and then we can move into our new space and the main school entrance and reception area will move. I have been fortunate enough to see the building work from the inside and it is very exciting to be nearly there. Thank you all for your patience whilst we have had this work going on. Phase 2 is likely to start around Easter time next year so a few months breather before it does.

May I thank you all for your continued support for our school and wish you all a very restful half term break. See you all at 8.50am on Monday 30th October.

CE Toplis

Dates for your Diary

23rd - 27th October is HALF TERM

2.11.23 - Coffee, Cookies and counting Maths workshop with Mrs Simpson (2nd date option)

10.11.23 - Y2 Sharing Assembly

13.11.23 - 15.11.23 - Parents evenings online

17.11.23 - Children in Need

24.11.23 - Y1 Sharing Assembly

28.11.23 - Main School Family Learning Day

5.12.23 - Flu Immunisations

7.12.23 - Christmas Jumper Day

7.12.23 - JBN Family Learning Session

18.12.23 - Panto at BVS

Christmas dates in a separate box later in the newsletter

School finishes for Christmas at 3.10pm on 20th December

Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%. Our current figure is 96.8%

The best Class this week was Elephants with 97.7%

Sharing Assemblies

We are delighted to be continuing our sharing assemblies this year with just a little change. Instead of class assemblies these will now be Year Group assemblies so both classes together rather than individually.

Year 1 sharing Assembly at 9.15am on 24th November

Year 2 sharing Assembly at 9.15am on 10th November

Reception children will do their first sharing assembly in the Spring Term.

Reminders

Just a couple of reminders:

- **John of Gaunt is a non smoking site and this includes vaping**
- **John of Gaunt and Bure Valley are dog free sites (please do not tie dogs at the gates either)**
- **Please do not park in the entrance to the nursery car park (before the barriers) it stops vehicles being able to access the car park including the bin lorry and emergency vehicles.**

Emails

Please could I politely request that all communication to school is sent via the office email. The office will then re direct emails as necessary to class teachers.

The office email is office@johngaunt.norfolk.sch.uk

Thank you for your cooperation.

New Staffing

Following interviews Miss Kim Owen is now the Teaching Assistant in the Elephant Classroom. Miss Owen was already part of our staff team but in a different role so I am sure she will already be a familiar face to most of you.

Tesco Tokens

Just in case you have not seen John Bear's Nursery is currently in the Tesco token scheme so that we can buy lots of lovely new outdoor equipment for them. Please if you can collect a token (especially if you use the self checkout!) and pop it in the Nursery slot we would be really grateful. If we win Nursery gets £1500 and we have already identified how we want to spend the money.

We are in for October, November and December.



Parents Evening

This year we will once again be using school cloud parents evening. Although times have changed 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 **Monday 13th November, Tuesday 14th November** and **Wednesday 15th November** for your diaries but an email inviting you to book an appointment will be sent out in due course.



Christmas play dates

It seems very early to mention the C word but I know that it helps if you have dates for your diaries. Our Christmas Performances will be as follows:

Monday 11th December

2pm - Reception Performance

Tuesday 12th December

9.15am - Reception Performance

2pm - Year 2 Performance

Wednesday 13th December

9.15am - Year 2 Performance

2pm - Year 1 Performance

Thursday 14th December

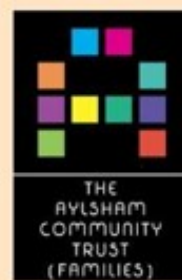
9.15am - Year 1 Performance



You are welcome to attend either of your child's year group performances but ask that due to space you do not attend both. Other family members are also welcome to attend but please be mindful of numbers!



Coffee, Cookies & Counting



TACT(Families) would like to invite all
John Bear's Nursery parents/carers
to join us at one of our maths workshop's
led by Mrs Simpson on either

**Thursday 5th October or
Thursday 2nd November
1.30pm - 3pm**

at John of Gaunt Infant and Nursery School

This workshop is designed to help increase
confidence and knowledge in maths
using simple fun activities which can be
shared at home with your child.

At the end of each session, you will take
home a selection of resources,
boxed board game
and £5.00 Tesco voucher.

To find out more and book your place on any
of the cluster schools sessions please
contact our Family Learning Co-ordinator
Monica Harding on 07780 887348 or
mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

We are delighted to be working in partnership with Norfolk County
Council to deliver a range of learning opportunities for our families
through a new government-funded programme called Multiply which
aims to support adults to build confidence with numeracy skills.

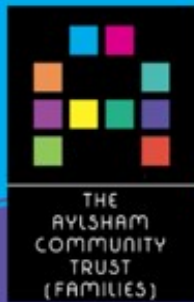
**SKILLS
FOR LIFE
MULTIPLY**



Norfolk
County Council

**SKILLS
FOR LIFE
MULTIPLY**





Rehoming Winter Coats

Has your child outgrown
last year's winter coat?

TACT (Families) are starting a
winter 2023 project to help
families sustainably recycle
their old warm and waterproof
coats.

- REDUCE - landfill waste
- REUSE - rehoming good
condition coats
- RECYCLE - coats which have
plenty of life left in them

Thank You for
Your Donation...

Please Donate

Clean, warm and
waterproof coats of any size
or colour will be accepted
from toddler to adult.

Coats will be rehomed in
TACT (Families) schools
from nursery to high school.

Please take any of your
coats for donation to your
child's school office, where
they will be taken to a
central distribution point.

For further information, please contact
Monica Harding
TACT (Families) Development Officer
& Family Learning Co-Ordinator
07780 887 348





From Trash to Treasure

Who doesn't love something for nothing!

As our household budgets continue to be squeezed making gifts and cards for friends and family can not only save you money but each one is totally unique. Come and enjoy making lovely cards and gifts that cost you nothing but time 😊

Where: Emmanuel Church, Cawston Road, Aylsham

When: Wednesday 8th November 10am to 12.30pm

To book your place, contact

Lisa Whatnall

Email: lisa.whatnall@clarionhg.com

Phone: 07770704740



CLARION
FUTURES



Aylsham Methodist Church invites you and your family to join
us -

On **Saturday 21st October** as we celebrate

**‘The Good Earth’
3 – 5 pm**

Crafts – games – story – songs

The event will end with a meal consisting of jacket potatoes
with various fillings followed by fruit and yogurt.

Please contact Corinne either through her Facebook page, via
Aylsham Tiny Tots

Email: thehouldens@btinternet.com or phone 01263 733047