



# Newsletter

## Issue 4 Autumn 2023

### Message from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Just like that and the Autumn Term is over. It seems impossible to think that it was only a few weeks ago that we were welcoming everyone back to school after the long summer holiday and now here we are at Christmas.



Our/Your children are truly wonderful and have conducted themselves extremely well over this last term and especially so last week when we had our visitors from Ofsted. Those that were asked to speak to the inspectors did so with confidence and eloquence and I was extremely proud of them all.

We hope that you all enjoyed the wonderful nativities we had this year. The children (and staff) worked so hard to put these on and the children gain so much in terms of their confidence and speaking and listening. Thank you all so much for providing lovely costumes for the children and we hope that you will cherish the memories and the photos.

Within this newsletter are dates for the new term including sharing assemblies, cafés and family learning events. Please do add these dates to your diaries and calendars.

We will also have our next parents evenings in March and in the new year I shall be asking your opinion on whether you would prefer these to remain online or move back to being in person so watch out for the survey on this to be able to give your opinion. I would strongly urge you to attend parent evening appointments as this is your opportunity to understand where your child is at, in terms of their learning and ways in which you can help at home.

May I wish you all a very Happy and restful Christmas with your families and send best wishes for a happy and healthy 2024.



See you back at school on Thursday 4th January 2024.

*CE Toplis*

### Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%.  
Our current figure is 94.5%. The best Class this week was Leopards and Turtles both with 96.8%

### Dates for your Diary

**School reopens after the Christmas holidays at 8.50am on Thursday 4th January 2024**

26.1.2024 - 9.15am Year 2 Sharing Assembly

02.02.2024 - 9.15am Year 1 Sharing Assembly

09.02.2024 - 9.00am Year 2 Writing Café

13.02.2024 - 9.15am Year 1 Maths Café

14.02.2024 - 9.15am Reception Reading Café

**Half Term Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February**

27.02.2024 - John Bears Nursery Family Learning Event

07.03.2024 - World Book Day

07.03.2024 - Main School Family Learning day

15.03.2024 - 9.15am Reception Sharing Assembly

w.b. 18.03.2024 - Parents Evenings

27.03.2024 - 9.15am Spring Assembly at BVS

**School closes for Easter at 3.10pm on Wednesday 27th March 2024**

**Easter Holidays Thursday 28.03.2024 - Friday 12th April 2024**

**Summer Term starts Monday 15th April 2024**

## Sharing Assemblies

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

Year 1 Sharing Assembly - 9.15am on 2nd February 2024

Year 2 Sharing Assembly - 9.15am on 26th January 2024

Reception Sharing Assembly - 9.15am on 15th March 2024

## Cafés

Our Spring Term sees the return of our lovely Cafés, which represent an opportunity for you to come in and work with your child around either Writing, Maths or Reading.

Our Cafés are a lovely event and see a time for learning but also a time for drink and biscuits! And they are all based around a story to start.

Reception have a Reading Café on 14th February 2024

Year 1 have a Maths Café on 13th February 2024

Year 2 have a Writing Café on 9th February 2024

## Road Safety

There have been a couple of near misses recently on Hungate Street with cars and bikes. Fortunately no one has been hurt but this needs to be a warning to all car drivers to really be mindful of their surroundings. Hungate Street is extremely busy at drop off and pick up times because so many people use their cars. Once again I ask that where you can walk to school please do so for the good of our environment, for our roads outside of school and most importantly for the safety of our children.

I also ask those families crossing the Norwich road to get to the Nursery/School to do so safely with the crossing patrol and then walk along the path rather than trying to cross the busy road directly opposite the Nursery.

## 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.**

## FUND RAISING AT JOHN OF GAUNT



It was so lovely to see all the wonderful outfits the children wore for Children in Need in November.

We managed to raise a fantastic

**£181.30**

So Well done everyone!

Thank you to everyone for taking part in our Christmas Jumper day to raise money for Save the Children.

We raised a super total of **£95.90**.

Thank you all for supporting this Charity and thinking of others.



Following our Christmas Performances we had a retiring collection for EACH and managed to raise

**£276.63**

Thank you very much for all for your donations.



# RECEPTION



# SANTA DASH!

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

We are absolutely amazed by the generosity from our community to raise money for our Reception outdoor area.

The children raised a total of:

**£1,111.66**

Thank you to all of those who donated cakes, sponsored the children, bought teas and coffees and to those who came to watch.

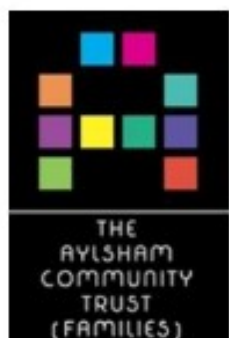


## Eat Well, Stay Well

Come and join us for this 'hands on' session and discover how to make healthy, affordable and delicious meals on a limited budget. The workshop will include recipe tastings and practical preparation of ingredients to take away and cook at home. Then take home your FREE SLOWCOOKER and put your new found skills into practice 😊

**Where: Emmanuel Church, Cawston Road  
Aylsham, NR11 6BX**

**When: Wednesday 7th February  
10am to 3pm**



To book your place, contact  
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