



Newsletter

Issue 5 Spring 2024

Message from Mrs Toplis, Headteacher

That's another half term done!
This first half of the Spring Term really has flown by and not just because it has been really windy!

Our Nursery children continue to love their environment and have enjoyed spending lots of time in the woods doing Forest schools.



Our reception children have loved their superheroes topic and have met some 'real life' superhero's too with visits from both the Police and Fire Service.

Year 1 have enjoyed learning about why some places are hot and all about seasonal weather patterns. They are also looking forward to their visit from the Fire Service this week.

Our Year 2 children have been explorers and have enjoyed learning about the North and South Poles and about compass directions as well as finding out about Nelson.

All that is of course on top of lots of RWI, English, Maths, stories, Music, PE, Science etc. The children's days really are full.

Next half term is a really short one, just 4 and a half weeks before we break up again for the Easter holidays. We have lots of events planned for those few short weeks and it will end with our Spring Assembly and also our annual Easter Hat competition. Why not use Half Term to get creative and start your Easter hats off. Remember it is the children's hats though!



Wishing you a Happy Half Term.

CE Toplis

Dates for your Diary

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 28th March - Friday 12th April 2024

Summer Term starts Monday 15th April 2024



Attendance Watch

Our target school attendance figure is 96.0%. Our current figure is 93.9%

The best Class this week was Elephants with 97.3%

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.

Reception sharing assembly is at 9.15am on 15th March 2024

World Book Day

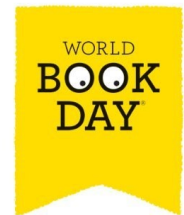
This year "World Book Day" is Thursday 7th March. It is also the same day as our Family Learning Day.

We are inviting the children to come in for world book day dressed as a book character. Please, please don't feel the need to go and buy something new for this. Scour the dressing up box or charity shops as homemade outfits are great.

For the family learning part we are asking children to bring in their favourite book from home and then these can be shared in the sessions with you and then there will be an activity from this.

We are hoping for some super artwork to frame for the new library!

We really hope that you can join us for this.



Parking

I seem to always have a segment in the newsletter about this but here is another one.

It has been reported to me that some parents are parking on the yellow zig zag lines and blocking the entrance to the school. We are all aware that there is not enough parking and there never will be unless those that can, walk to school.

The yellow zig zag lines are there for safety and blocking our driveway prevents emergency service vehicles accessing should they need to.

Please park with safety and consideration in mind please.

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.**

Uniform

Just a reminder that school uniform is compulsory and that this includes footwear. Footwear should be black and should only be different on PE days.

Children should be wearing a school coloured jumper or cardigan, black, grey or navy trousers, skirts, dresses or shorts and a white or light blue polo shirt or shirt.

On the odd occasion where this is not possible please speak to Mrs Toplis to explain the circumstances. Many thanks.

FoJoG

We have been without a friends group for a while now after all our previous volunteers moved with their children to BVS.

We have managed to recruit a couple of willing volunteers and I know they would like more to join their merry band. There is a newsletter from them later on in this newsletter. Please consider whether you can offer a few hours occasionally to support.

The friends primary role is to raise funds for the school to buy things which the school budget otherwise does not stretch to and at the same time providing the children with extra curricular activities. We would love to restart the school discos which the children used to love.

Please take time to read their newsletter and consider whether you can also support their vital work.

Parents Evenings

Parents Evenings for the Spring term are during the week beginning 18th March. Teachers offer different nights during this week so it will not be the same for all classes.

We have (after much discussion) decided that we will once again run these electronically via school cloud. The electronic system works really well and ensures that these meetings run to time and you are not having to juggle a trip to school with tea time, bath and bedtime!

However, we recognise that it doesn't give you the opportunity to come in to school to see your child's work. We have therefore booked a date for a drop in straight away after drop off time for you to come in to sit with your child and look through the school work together. Tuesday 26th March is the date as a first opportunity for you to do this and we will set further dates for other opportunities as the year progresses.

Here is the link for booking your child's parents evening appointments, however, the booking system does not open until 6pm on Friday 8th March and it will close at 6pm on Thursday 14th March.

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





Friends of John of Gaunt News Update

Welcome to our first Friends of John of Gaunt (FoJoG) update! We are delighted to be relaunching FoJoG, aiming to support the school by raising funds to provide additional fun and educational experiences for the children.

March Miles!



Our fantastic year 2s are excited to launch our fundraising efforts with a sponsored fun run, running **a mile every school day throughout March!** And, of course, the teachers will be joining in too... Who has the most stamina? We look forward to finding out!

All money raised from this fun run will be used to benefit all year groups. Please look out for sponsorship forms in book bags.



What does a Friends Association do?

Friends work with the school to put on fundraising events such as discos and fairs that raise money for **extra equipment, trips and visits** that the children otherwise would not have access to.



We need you!

We need as many volunteers as possible to help plan events, decide how we spend the funds or who can just spare an hour or two. Please email the school office if you can help. We'd love to have you!

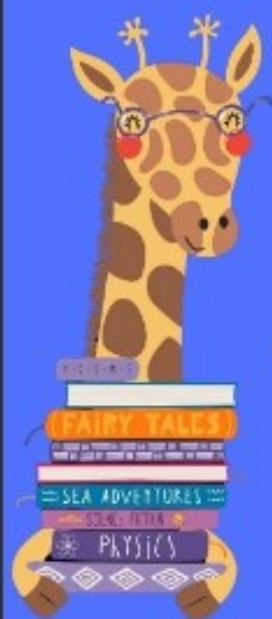


John of Gaunt Infant and Nursery School

Family Learning

As part of our World Book Day celebrations
please join us for
Family Learning activities on

Thursday 7th March



- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 9am - 9.30am | Zebras |
| 9.40am - 10.10am | Otters |
| 10.20am - 10.50am | Giraffes |
| 11am - 11.30am | Elephants |
| 1.30pm - 2pm | Turtles |
| 2.15pm - 2.40pm | Leopards |

Grandparents, aunts, uncles and
younger siblings welcome





Aylsham High School
Thursday 14th March
6 pm - 7 pm
UPVC Windows and Doors



During this free workshop Paul Lane will demonstrate and offer useful maintenance tips to help you keep your UPVC windows and doors in good working order. Including how to replace a broken window/door handle, and the door lock barrel.

- Repairing/replacing window and door handles
- How to replace a door lock barrel
- Lubricating window and door lock parts to help them function effectively and keep them from rusting.
- Cleaning window tracks and seal edges to help prevent mould growth



Please book your place by completing the booking form.
For further information please e-mail Monica Harding
mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk or text 07780887348.

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

**SKILLS
FOR LIFE
MULTIPLY**



Aylsham High School
Thursday 14th March
7pm - 8pm
Vegetable and flower seeds, plants and bulbs



During this FREE workshop Ollie Howes will demonstrate and offer a hands on experience with hints and tips on how to successfully plant and nurture vegetable and flower seeds, plants and bulbs for tubs and borders.

Discover how to keep your them happy, healthy and looking good.



Resources such as compost, pots, tomato/cucumber/sweet pea seeds will be provided.

Please book your place by completing the booking form.

For further information please e-mail Monica Harding
mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk or text 07780887348.

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? CLOTHES SWAP



Monday 19 February 2024

**AYLSHAM TOWN HALL,
Market Place, NR11 6EL**

Drop-off: 12pm to 1.45pm, Swap: 2pm to 3.30pm

SWAP RULES

- 10 items maximum, quality books and clothing only -
 - No stained or torn items -
 - No accessories or shoes -
 - Children and Baby size only -
 - No underwear, nightwear or swimwear -
- Bring your own reusable bags to take items home -

southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/reuse-recycling-events



**Good for your
wallet and the
planet!**

CHILDREN'S HALF TERM ACTIVITIES AT AYLSHAM SPORTS HUB

All Stars is back for half term with the usual fun mixture of mini sports and activities designed for younger children which may include dodgeball, football, hockey, and parachute activities as well as musical and playground games.

Children aged 4-8

Only £20 per child per session

Tuesday 20 February - Archery with Discover Outdoors

Thursday 22 February - Swimming with Aylsham Swim Academy

Please book via
our website,
see details below

AYLSHAM
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
ALL STARS



FAMILY SWIM SESSIONS

Family of 4 - £13

Adult - £5.50

Child - £3.50

Under 3's - Free



**SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
ON OPENING TIMES**

**Family swim sessions
every day**

Lots of inflatables,
games, balls and toys
in the pool
to choose from

aylshamhigh.com/aylshamsportshub

Email: info@aylshamsportshub.co.uk Telephone: 01263 738 966





HALF TERM SWIMMING TIMETABLE AT AYLSHAM SPORTS HUB



AYLSHAM
SPORTS
HUB

Saturday 17th Feb	06:30-08:30 Lane/individual swimming		15:00-17:00 Family fun swim	
Sunday 18th Feb		11:00-13:00 Family fun swim	14:00-17:00 Family fun swim	
Monday 19th Feb	06:30-08:30 Lane/individual swimming	08:30-09:15 Aqua Aerobics	15:00-17:45 Family fun swim	18:30-21:30 Lane/individual swimming
Tuesday 20th Feb	06:30-09:00 Lane/individual swimming		15:00-17:45 Family fun swim	18:30-21:30 Lane/individual swimming
Wednesday 21st Feb	06:30-09:00 Lane/individual swimming		15:00-17:45 Family fun swim	18:30-21:30 Lane/individual swimming
Thursday 22nd Feb	06:30-09:00 Lane/individual swimming		15:00-17:45 Family fun swim	18:00-18:45 Aqua Zumba
Friday 23rd Feb	06:30-09:00 Lane/individual swimming		15:00-17:45 Family fun swim	19:00-21:30 Lane/individual swimming
Saturday 24th Feb	06:30-09:00 Lane/individual swimming		15:00-17:00 Family fun swim	
Sunday 25th Feb		10:00-13:00 Family fun swim	14:00-17:00 Family fun swim	



Members - Free Family of 4 - £13 Adult - £5.50 Child £3.50 Under 3s - Free

Memberships are available from £18.50 per month per adult

This means that if you swim more than 3 times a month you can save money by becoming an Aylsham Sports Hub member

All aqua classes can be booked via our online booking system, please see our website to book. Aqua classes - £3 for members, £6 for non-members

aylshamhigh.com/aylshamsportshub

Email: info@aylshamsportshub.co.uk Telephone: 01263 738 966

Aylsham Sports Hub, access via Bure Meadows Estate, NR11 6FN

