

Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year. It's been so wonderful to welcome old pupils and new ones, catch up with existing members of staff and start to get to know new faces. We have had such a fantastic start back to school and it has truly been a pleasure to visit each class numerous times and witness the calm, focused and respectful learning environments as well as feel as excited as the children by the wide range of activities planned and delivered by our excellent teaching team. It's amazing how after over six weeks without children's voices ringing out in the classes and corridors, it feels normal again so quickly. I want to thank the staff for their hard work over the holidays preparing their classes (which all look so inviting), sorting resources and tidying ready for some exciting first term lessons. A big well done to our new reception children, they have settled so well and are enjoying the start of their new adventure! I am very much looking forward to seeing Ancaster continue to flourish and shine as this year progresses. As always, if you need to catch me, I will be on the school gate several times each week or a longer appointment can be made via the school office. Have a wonderful week and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Best Wishes, *Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)*

New Class Identities



Please be reminded that the new class countries are as follows;

Reception: Class Scotland

Year 1: Class Indonesia

Year 2: Class Morocco

Year 3: Class Tanzania

Year 4: Class Belgium

Year 5: Class Cuba

Year 6: Class Barbados

The children loved their Class Identity Day last week and we have seen so much creativity in their learning and play. Thanks to everyone who helped the children with their dressing up and understanding of their new Class Identity. We will revisit these theme days again next term as we aim to hold one Class Identity Day each large term.



*From everyone at Ancaster,
welcome back to school and we
hope that you join us in
supporting the school in being
the best it can be!*

New Curriculum Kitchen

Over the Summer break, we commissioned work to be undertaken to continue our ongoing improvements of the environment for all. Part of this work involved the relocation of the existing curriculum kitchen to the 'Community Room' that is located at the front of school.

To ensure our teaching spaces are maximised for the children, we have agreed with the Children's Centre that they will book the room from us and adapt our space to suit their needs rather than the other way round. As a result, we have been able to reimagine this space as a new and improved curriculum kitchen that can include more children and serve a multitude of needs for our school. Visitors to the school who have seen the space have been so impressed with the new facilities and the children are excited to be using it.

The old curriculum kitchen has now been transformed into a Leadership Office for Mr Eden, Mrs Moore and Mrs Woods to work in as the current space had become unworkable. Mr Eden and Mrs Moore's old office at the front of school is now a room for staff to work and a space to meet with parents when the need arises.

Over the summer break, we also had all external doors around the school and windows within the hall replaced. This has not only increased security for the main building but has updated the school environment even further. We hope you like the changes that have been made and look forward to you seeing them yourself.



Harvest Festival-8th October



Our wonderful Harvest Festivals will take place on the date above. As usual, we are now too big to fit everyone, including parents, into the church as a whole school, so we will hold 2 Harvest Festivals, which means double the fun-they will be led by Revd Georgie.

**Key Stage 2-9.30am-St Martin's Church
Reception/Key Stage 1-10.30am-St Martin's Church**

If you are able to walk with us to St Martin's church where the services will be held-we always appreciate your support-please speak with your child's Class Teacher.

As always, donations to Grantham Passage will be greatly recieved. This year, they have asked for a variety of non-perishable items such as Longlife Milk; Porridge Oats, Tinned Chopped Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Heinz Big Soup, Squash (orange or blackcurrant), Mars Bars or similar, Cereal Bars, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Cereal, Biscuits, Small Tins of Meat, Shower Gel, Shampoo, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Anti-perspirant deodorant, Men's Socks and Soap. **Thanks in advance for your kind donations.**

Individual School Photographs 1st October (AM)

Advance Notice of Date: Individual school photographs will be taken of the children on 1st October. We will also take sibling photographs whilst the photographer is in and these will be available for you to buy.

Inhalers in School



If your child needs to have an inhaler during the day it is important that they have one in school at all times. Please ensure that it is labelled with their name and that you have given clear instructions for use to the class teacher and filled out the relevant paperwork at the school office. For those who already have inhalers in school, please check that it has not passed the expiry date. Thank you.

Labelling Clothes



No doubt, your children's school clothes will have cost you money over the Summer break and we cannot stress the importance of labelling each individual item. As a school, we constantly remind pupils to put their belongings away, but most days there are cases of lost jumpers etc. **To ensure that the items of clothing can be returned to pupils as quickly as possible, we would ask that every item that you have bought for your child is labelled clearly. Thank you for your cooperation with this.**

Curriculum Maps and Letters

Each teacher in school has been busy planning their curriculum content and we have pleasure in providing you with a curriculum map and parent letter via Parenthub and paper for those not yet accessing the app. Please ensure that you read these documents as they will give you valuable information and keep you up to date with your child's learning. A copy of these documents will be placed on the school website. Should you require any additional information, please see your child's Class Teacher.

Governor Update

At the recent Full Governing Body meeting held in school this week, one of the agenda items was to vote for the Chair and Vice Chair of Governors. We are delighted to inform you that both Sally McDowall and Margaret Kirby will be continuing in their roles as Chair of Governors (Mrs McDowall) and Vice Chair of Governors (Mrs Kirby). We also welcomed a new co-opted Governor onto the Governing Body-Dr Jo Entwistle, who will now become a familiar face in and around school. More information regarding the Governing Body can be found on our website.

Cool Milk



Reception children are given milk in school as part of the Government's Milk Scheme until their 5th birthday. After Reception, or their 5th birthday- if you'd like your child to receive a carton of milk every day, please visit coolmilk.com to register and pay. **Please note, Free School Meals/Pupil Premium children will continue to be entitled to milk throughout their rime school-please ensure you let us know if your child wishes to receive this.**

PTFA Welcome Back Disco-Advance Notice of Date-27th September

Reception/Key Stage 1 at 5pm-6pm
Key Stage 2 at 6pm-7pm
More details to follow from the PTFA