

Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year. Wow, what a wonderful start to the academic year it has been. After a turbulent few months of such uncertainty, the pleasure that being open again has brought has allowed for us to feel the true benefits of being back together as a school community once again. All in all, with changes to staffing and movement to teaching arrangements, the building feels fresh and ready for our new start and the children have responded beautifully to being back together with everyone exhibiting exceptional behaviour every day! I am so happy to see everyone and I look forward to seeing you all during the morning and evening collection periods. As a reminder, this newsletter is published every 2 weeks, but please do keep checking ParentHub, the school website and our Facebook/Twitter pages to keep up to date with more specific news coming from the school. Best Wishes, *Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)*

Governor Update

At the recent Full Governing Body meeting held in school, one of the agenda items was to vote for the Chair and Vice Chair of Governors. We are delighted to inform you that Dr. Jo Entwistle will take on the role of Chair of Governors this year and Julia Nadarajah will undertake the role of Vice Chair of Governors. We also welcomed a new Local Authority Governor onto the Governing Body-Mr Adrian Reed, who will now become a familiar face in and around school.

You will notice that Sally McDowall is no longer our Chair of Governors having stepped down from her Governor roles and responsibilities at the end of the last academic year. Having given many years of service to our school, please join us in thanking her for her time and dedication to Ancaster and wishing her all the very best for the future! More information regarding the Governing Body can be found on our website.

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**

*Welcome Back from
everyone at Ancaster!*

PTFA Disco-24th September



Our wonderful PTFA are kickstarting their events with a welcome back disco on Friday 24th September. This will be their first fundraising event in over 18 months and we cannot wait to celebrate in style with the children! There will be 2 discos so that we can stagger the amount of children on site at any one time.

Reception/Key Stage 1: 5pm-6pm
Key Stage 2: 6.15pm-7.15pm

Entry is £2 per child and there will be an opportunity to purchase sweets and novelty items so please send your child with additional money which the adults (school based and PTFA volunteers) will help the children make sure they get the correct change etc. We will not be making a space available for parents to wait whilst the disco is taking place so please drop off and pick up at the times above.

We look forward to seeing the children in their best party clothes ready to dance and party with friends.

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 time school-please ensure you let us know if your child wishes to receive this.**

Social Media



Facebook and other networking sites are a main stay of modern culture. However, can parents and carers please be reminded that this form of communication is in the public domain and any comments about the school or staff will be investigated. We have a simple policy on this; we will ask you politely to remove comments and/or we will refer it to the Lincolnshire County Council Legal Services and/or the police. As a school, we would never post personal comments about families or your children as this would cause great offence and goes against our professional principles as educators working with you to help your child be the best they can be and therefore we would like the same courtesy to be shown to the school and its staff.

Photographs/ Videos

If you have any photographs/videos that you have taken at school events please do not put them on social media if they include other children or staff.

Concerns

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher to resolve any issues. Social Media is not the place to air concerns and we always ask that you discuss these with us as soon as possible.

Individual School Photographs 21st September (NEXT WEEK)



Individual school photographs will be taken of the children on 21st September. Whilst we expect children to look smart in their uniform every day- please ensure that your child is in full school uniform on this date.

Parent Letters from Class Teachers

Each teacher in school has been busy planning their curriculum content and we have pleasure in providing you with a 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 are also placed on the school website. Should you require any additional information, please see your child's Class Teacher.

New Class Identities

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

Reception: Class England

Year 1: Class France

Year 2: Class Morocco

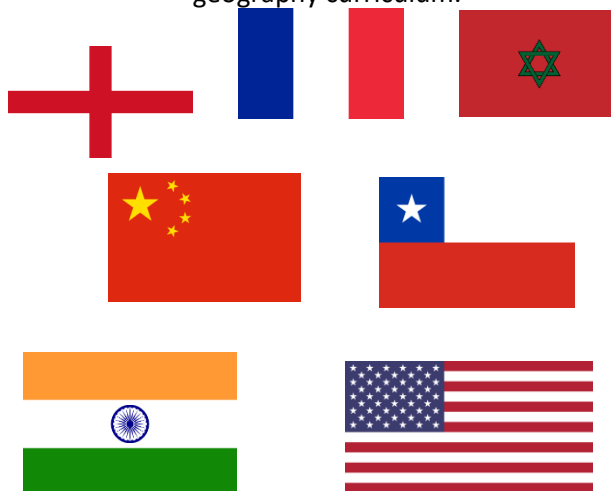
Year 3: Class China

Year 4: Class Chile

Year 5: Class India

Year 6: Class USA

The children loved their Class Identity Days last week and we have seen so much creativity in their learning and play linked to their country. These class names are the same as those last year as they will not change now that they are linked closely to our geography curriculum.



Any additional learning your child undertakes at home can be shared with their Class Teacher who will then celebrate this in class.

Homework



Homework has been sent today for all children in Years 1-6. We are delighted to once again provide age standardised workbooks that will complement the curriculum being taught in the classroom for English (Reading and Writing) and Maths. We have, again, invested heavily in these books and we will ask that children take good care of these and ensure that they are free of drawings or doodles etc. Please note that should they be lost by a child, parents may be asked to incur the costs of replacements (£5.99 each). Additional items of homework such as reading, spelling etc will also be sent out each week and more details will be provided on your child's year group ParentHub. Homework for Reception looks different as the children have just started with us-Mrs Dickinson will provide more information as the children become more settled.

New Reception Superstars

Well done to our 27 wonderful new starters in Reception who began with us last week. They have shown huge amounts of resilience and determination returning each day looking incredibly smart in their full school uniform with a smile on their face! Keep up the great work children, we are so lucky to have you as part of our school family!

Safeguarding



Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone!

If you believe that a child may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty call Children's safeguarding - 01522 782111 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm). This is Lincolnshire Children's Services who will take the information and log the details you wish to share.

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.

Harvest Festival-19th 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 2-9.15am-St Martin's Church

Reception/Key Stage 1-10.15am-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 received. 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. **Thank you in anticipation of your kind donations.**

Celebration Worship

We have resumed our Celebration Worships in which we celebrate children from each Key Stage each week. If your child is selected to receive a certificate, you will be contacted and offered the opportunity to join us and celebrate your child receiving their certificate. These very special occasions are a real treat and opportunity to make memories and we look forward to sharing these with you. We are so blessed that we are now in the position to welcome parents back into school and look forward to seeing you soon.

Clubs

Now that the school is in full operation, we are working on our extra-curricular enrichment offer which includes after school clubs. We have Mr Mowbray working in school this year as our PE/Sport Apprentice and we are busy training him to deliver sports-based sessions which will start after half term. We are also working as a wider staff team to put together a comprehensive plan of clubs for children to join that is a mixture of free and paid for services from outside agencies. As you can imagine, demand for these services is high and many are not available until Term 2. More details for clubs at Ancaster from Term 2 will be sent out in due course as well as how to book onto these ahead of the term starting.

Staff Emails

At the point of the lockdowns, we relaxed the use of staff email so that parents could easily contact their child's Class Teacher. Now that school is back in full operation, we will now revert to the usual channels of communication in order to communicate with you. We are happy that parents still email teachers if the request is urgent but would appreciate the vast majority of queries to be directed via the school office as per our usual protocols. At Ancaster, we recognise how high communication is on our list of priorities when it comes to ensuring the best educational experiences for our children and find that streamlining communication via the school office ensures that messages are not missed.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Church School Values

Friendship Achievement

Respect Creativity

Honesty