



Ancaster
Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 7

26th March 2022



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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 7. I hope this communication finds you well. I cannot quite believe that we are end of another fantastic term and about to head into the Easter break-the recent sunshine has certainly helped to feel as though the depths of winter is behind us and fingers crossed this continues for us throughout the break-I hope you all have a wonderful period away from school and will certainly look forward to hearing all about the children's holiday adventures on our return.

Best Wishes, **Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)**

Childline-It's not just a phone call!



The Childline website has lots of valuable information including an area called 'Calm Zone'. The activities aim to help support children when they are feeling anxious, scared or sad. Children could be encouraged to visit the website themselves but the techniques and activities can also be used with an adult. Why not take a look with your child(ren)?

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/>

Wonderful WOW Days

Last term, as part of the school's history curriculum, the children undertook a wide range of learning opportunities and one of the ways we plan the activities that take place around a theme/topic is to space out when and how we assess the children's retention of knowledge on a key concept.

Through our revised curriculum, a much greater emphasis is placed upon allowing time to pass between the point of teaching and when we look to assess. We then build in retrieval opportunities in a variety of different formats allowing us to see how much information has been retained and to put the learning into a different context to strengthen what they now know and improve related facts and information. Since we have moved to this way of working, we have seen a vast improvement in the links the children make to their associated knowledge and they can explain and detail their knowledge in so many more ways than ever before. The WOW days that the children are undertaking on Monday 28th March relate back to their previously taught content in history last term-please ask them what they have learnt in these areas and be prepared to be bombarded with such incredible information!

Attendance Matters

As a school, we have a responsibility to promote and encourage good attendance and report where levels drop below that of expected standards outlined by the Government. The expected standard for attendance in a primary school is **96%** which means that around 8 days of absence (authorised or unauthorised) over the course of the year will meet this attendance figure. We appreciate that we are still in unprecedented times and absence rates due to Covid-19, and other health issues, have still been/continue to be an issue affecting attendance.

However, there are growing numbers of requests for holiday related absences coming into school and as per our policy, we are unable to grant an authorised leave of absence for children for holidays. Whilst we appreciate that there have been a number of factors over the past two years that have affected holidays taking place, we do need to encourage parents to book holidays in the 13 weeks where school is closed.

When children are away from school, they miss crucial new learning and essential retrieval opportunities that strengthen key understanding. We are still working hard to ensure that the gaps in learning created from Covid-19 are filled and hope that families are able to work with us to ensure that each child's attendance figure is as high as possible and holiday requests are reduced.



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.

Easter Church Services
Wednesday 30th March 2022



As part of our Easter Enrichment week taking place on Tuesday-Thursday next week, children will be visiting St Martin's Church in the village to take part in our Easter services. As always, we will have two separate services for children in EYFS & KS1 and KS2. The times for these services are;

KS2 - 9.30am start

EYFS & KS1 - 10.15am start

It would be lovely if you are able to join us and take part in our Easter celebrations. Class teachers will also be asking for 'walkers' for the walk to Church. If you are able to do this, please let your child/ren's class teacher know. We look forward to you joining us on Wednesday morning!

Tuesday 19th April-School Closed

As part of the celebrations for the Queen's platinum Jubilee, an additional Bank Holiday has been planned which takes place during the May Half Term break.

As this additional Bank Holiday is already when the school is closed and forms part of a planned school closure, provisions for this additional Bank Holiday need to be given at a different time for school staff to ensure that they have the same amount of 'additional days' as everyone else. For this reason, Lincolnshire County Council have informed us that the additional day will be given to all school staff on **Tuesday 19th April** meaning school will be closed on this day. This is a change to the original school term dates that were published in September and our website has been updated to reflect this. ancasterprimary.org.uk/Term.asp Please be aware that school closes for the Easter break on Thursday 31st March and will then re-open for Term 5 on **Wednesday 20th April** at the usual times.

Red Nose Day-Thank You!



Thank you for sending your children into school in non-uniform for Red Nose Day. We used the opportunity to think about charity and consider how we can help others around us. We also discussed the work of Comic Relief and looked at what they do to provide help and support to those that need it. If you didn't get the chance to donate directly to them and you are still wanting to do so, then please use the link available on their website.

PTFA Dates

Thursday 31st March - Non-uniform day in exchange for an Easter chocolate donation.

Wednesday 13th April - Easter Fayre & Trail.

This event is open to everyone in the community. There will be a trail around the village, trail sheets will be able to be purchased from the school on the day at £1 per child and children collect stamps along the trail in exchange for a prize at the end. There will also be a Fayre in the school grounds where refreshments will be on sale along with a number of Easter themed traditional Fayre games

World Book Day Fun



Thank you to everyone who took the time and effort to help celebrate World Book Day. We had a wonderful day exploring a multitude of books and characters as well as allowing children to work across the school in mixed age groups to solve reading challenges. We loved the day and know that this focus allows memories to be made and children to become inspired through a love of books!

Happy Easter Everyone! School closes on Thursday 31st March (Friday 1st April is an INSET day and school is closed)- we hope you have a wonderful break and look forward to seeing you all when we return to school on 20th April 2022.



Wisdom Courage Respect