



Homefield Church of England Primary School

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HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM 2017

Happy New Year!

I hope that you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. Thank you so much to all of the children and families that gave me gifts and cards – they were all gratefully received and appreciated.

Playground and Paths

With the wintry weather upon us, please be mindful that, although the playground and entry points into school have been gritted, it may still be slippery underfoot. Please be careful when entering school in the mornings and encourage your children to walk sensibly. It may also be beneficial for pupils to walk into school with more appropriate footwear and then change into school shoes once inside.

Breakfast and After-School Clubs

Our breakfast and after-school club provisions are available to all if needed. Please ensure though that children for after-school club are booked on in advance of the session beginning and all payments are made promptly.

Respectful Behaviour

We are continuing our drive to ensure our pupils show respect to adults, each other and themselves in school, so please continue to support us with this and mirror our expectations outside of school. Together I am sure we will maintain our outstanding grade for behaviour at Homefield.

Attendance

At this time of year, there are always lots of illnesses sweeping through the school. As always, we do our utmost to combat this by ensuring the school is cleaned thoroughly and key areas are disinfected, especially in the younger classes. We hope that this reduces the number of pupils absent from school through illness. To ensure our attendance figures improve, we will need everybody to be at school and on time this half-term.

Class Collective Worship

Last term, Years 1 and 3 held the first class collective worship of the year for parents. It was fantastic to see so many of you in the hall to see their hard work. It was also lovely for the parents to see what happens in a collective worship, especially as they are such an important part of our day. This half term Year 4 will be hosting their collective worship on **Thursday 26th January** from 10.15am.

House Shout

To initiate Homefield's next phase of improvement, we are going to be implementing a House Shout Competition. After such wonderful singing from all in the Christmas productions, it seemed a fantastic idea to further develop the musical and choral abilities of our pupils. Here House Teams will be selecting a well-known song, learning to sing it, rehearsing how to choreograph it and then performing it in front of a panel of judges. A local celebrity may also be invited on to the panel to offer their professional opinion. It will be amazing to make Homefield a school of musical renown.



Read, Share and Review Days (RSR)

Thank you to those parents, who took the time to return the evaluation forms after our Junior RSR Day last term. The over-arching opinion was that it was a success and a positive experience, but that you would like more notice. As a result, our next RSR Day is for the EYFS and Infant pupils and will take place on Tuesday 14th March 2017 from 2:45pm-3:10pm.

PTA Events

A massive thank you to all of the parents and staff that helped with the Christmas events. It was tremendous to see the school so alive and so much money being raised. The PTA will decide which areas of the school to assist with next, I am sure some of the funds will be assigned to develop our Reception outdoor area. The PTA have planned the following events this term, please contact the school office if you would like further information on them:

Valentine's Disco – Tuesday 7th February (times to be confirmed)

Easter Event Day (Bake Sale/Easter Egg Raffle and Bonnet Competition) – Friday 31st April (times to be confirmed)

Swimming

Swimming sessions will once again be starting at Great Yarmouth High School Academy. There is a letter out this week about swimming for Year 5. If you have not received this letter, please ask at the school office. **Swimming will begin on Monday 9th January for Year 5 pupils, so please ensure they have the correct clothing and equipment.**

Homework

Congratulations to all those who completed their homework tasks before Christmas; the exhibition showcased lots of effort and skill. Well done! We have a new Arcade Game Challenge Theme for this half-term, so let's see if the children can make it through each level.

Clubs

Look out for the clubs' leaflet, if you would like your child to access one of the many opportunities that we offer. We will adopt the same signing up system as in September as this worked so well before.

Academic Resilience

I am confident that Growth Mindset has been readily adopted by the children and is now embedded in all we do. To continue the positive impact this is having, the staff are receiving training on Academic Resilience. This will benefit all, but in particular those who find challenge or obstacle daunting. It will assist the pupils to overcome anxieties, to really persist with something and to find a solution. More information to follow.

Generations

This is our new initiative to for those families in receipt of Pupil Premium. As previous initiatives have been such a great success, we hope this is equally as effective. More information will follow soon.

Panto Season

On **Wednesday 11th January** we will be hosting our annual pantomime in the school hall. M&M Productions will be putting on their version of Dick Whittington this year for all of the children to enjoy. This event is free of charge and all classes will be coming along to join in the fun.

School Website and News

We are endeavouring to move away from paper copies of information, so please keep checking our school website and e-notice board for up and coming events. Remember we have a school news app, which you can download on to your devices to keep you up-to-date with all the latest exciting news and achievements. Improving how we communicate with you is a priority for us, so please feel free to let us know if you do not receive something and we will do our very best to rectify it. We also have our Facebook and Twitter Pages.

I hope you all have a good term,



Bradley Young
Headteacher

