



April 2021 Newsletter



Welcome to the first newsletter of the summer term. It is lovely to have all our children back in school again and there really is a growing sense of school life slowly returning to some form of normality. We are hoping to be able to offer many fun activities for the children this term: we are pleased to already offer a range of clubs again and to have our sporting coaches in to support our curriculum delivery. This newsletter will give you a flavour of school life since the return from Easter, and also some of the events we are hoping to be able to offer during the rest of the term.

Gardening Donations

Our wellbeing gardening group was thrilled to receive two donation packs, one from Morrisons and the other from Emma at The Lovely Allotment to support the work they are doing to our school garden. The children were keen to get stuck in with their new goodies and cannot wait for their new seeds to grow. A huge thank you to both Morrisons and Emma from The Lovely Allotment for their very kind donations.



Gimme Hope

Before Easter, as part of our work around 'Hope' for Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge, the children joined together outside on the playground to sing and perform their version of Gimme Hope. A video of the performance can now be found within the Whole School Assembly section on Teams and it is sure to bring a smile to your face!



Oakes Court

Also as part of our work on Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge, we reached out to the local community, sending Easter messages and cards to a local care home, Oakes Court. The residents were thrilled to receive the cards and sent a thank you letter to the children. They also sent photos of each of them with the card they had received. This gesture brought some much needed joy to those most affected by the pandemic and we are hoping to continue to work with Oakes Court in the future. Here are some photos of the children holding photos of the resident who received their card.



Royal Mail Heroes Stamp Competition

The Royal Mail have launched a competition for children across the country to design a new stamp to honour the heroes of the coronavirus pandemic. All of our children will be given the chance to enter and we really look forward to seeing their designs. Wouldn't it be wonderful if one of our pupils could see their hero on a stamp?

Before School Club

Our Before School Club is proving to be really popular and numbers have increased since we returned from the Easter break. The club starts at 8am daily and offers a wide range of fun activities for the children to engage with. In certain instances we can cater for children at short notice, providing the club has space. If you are interested in your child attending at any point, please see our school website for more information, including prices and booking forms.

Lateral Flow Tests

We have been asked to remind parents that the regular rapid lateral flow testing kits available for parents should not regularly be used with children. For more information about testing, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Friends' Update

Balloon Race

As a fundraiser for the school, the Friends are inviting parents to buy a £3 balloon to enter in the May Day virtual balloon race. The race launches tomorrow on 1st May from St Petersburg, Russia and will last for 7 days. There are some fantastic prizes to be had. Thank you if you have already purchased a balloon and we wish you the best of luck!

Bingo Fun

Following the success of their first virtual Bingo night back in March, the Friends have organised another on Saturday 8th May. The last event was a really enjoyable evening for both children and parents and we are hoping that this one will be just as popular.

Sponsored Walk

Our annual Sponsored Walk will take place as usual on the last day of this half term, Friday 28th May. The children will complete the walk separately in their class bubbles and unfortunately we will not be able to invite parents into school to spectate. More details and sponsor forms will be sent out soon.

Bag2School

The Friends have organised another clothes and shoe collection with Bag2School on Friday 2nd July. So why not have a spring clean and fill some bags with unwanted textiles to help the Friends to raise money.

Sport Update

Tennis

We have been very lucky to secure 10 weeks of tennis coaching this term for our children in Class 4. The sessions are run by Jeremy Hodges from KES and are proving very popular with the children. Here are some photos of the children demonstrating their skills.



Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

This half term, Sam from KLCF (King's Lynn Community Football) has been coming into school every Tuesday afternoon to deliver the Healthy Body, Healthy Mind programme to Class 3. The programme aims to encourage the children to lead an active lifestyle and to eat healthily. Class 3 have been enjoying the sessions and are learning a great deal from them.

Multiskills

Throughout the summer term, Tom from NCSF (Norwich Community Sports Foundation) will be coming into school each Friday afternoon to deliver multiskills PE lessons to each of the classes. He has been working with Class 3 and Class 4 this half term and will work with Class 1 and Class 2 after half term. Here are some photos of the children enjoying the sessions.



Forthcoming Events

Although there is still a great deal of uncertainty for schools regarding summer term events, we have already planned for a number of activities to take place should restrictions allow.

Bikeability – 4-7th May

We are really fortunate to have secured free Bikeability training funded via Norfolk County Council for all of our Y5 children next week. The Bikeability award scheme is the national standard for cycling which aims to encourage more children to cycle. The course is designed to equip cyclists with the knowledge, skill, and on-road experience to make a journey safely and confidently by bike on local roads. The children are really looking forward to taking part.

School Photographs – 11th May

We have arranged for Tempest Photography to come into school on Tuesday 11th May to take the traditional school photographs, both of individuals and siblings. Measures have been put in place to ensure that this can happen in a Covid secure way. If you do not want your child to have their photo taken, please contact the school office by Friday 7th May.

Walk to School Week – 17th-21st

To encourage our children to be more active, and to support our efforts to become an Eco-school, we are taking part in Walk to School Week from 17th-21st May. If at all possible, we would like to encourage the children to walk to school each day during this week, or if you live a considerable distance from the school for them to walk for part of the way. Each class will be recording participation and certificates will be awarded at the end of the week.

Sports Day – 22nd June

Our annual Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 22nd June this year. It will take a different format than normal with both KS1 and KS2 joining in with traditional races to avoid the mixing of bubbles. At this point, we do not know if parents will be able to spectate, but we will try to achieve this if at all possible. Should the weather not be kind to us, we have a reserve date for Wednesday 23rd June.

Eaton Vale- 28th and 29th June

With the government's roadmap now set out, school visits can now once again take place, although all things considered, we decided to transfer the Eaton Vale booking for our current

Y5 children onto next year when we hope that they will be able to gain the full residential experience, hopefully without any restrictions. However, we did not want our Y6 children to miss out on this opportunity, therefore we have arranged for them to attend 2 day visits to Eaton Vale on Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th June. The children will still take part in the same activities that were planned in the residential package and we are confident that these day visits can take place in a Covid secure way. A letter has already been sent out to all parents of children in Class 4. If anyone has any questions about Eaton Vale, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Parent Consultation Evenings – 14th and 15th July

We have decided to have our Parent Consultation Evenings towards the end of the summer term to give the children more time back in school with their teachers, and to enable us to carry out assessments enabling us provide accurate feedback about the children's attainment and progress. End of year reports will be sent out the week previously to allow parents to read these and have the opportunity to ask the class teachers any questions. Following positive feedback about the phone calls back in the autumn term, we have decided that these consultations will take place via Teams. More details will follow later in the term.

Denver Fun Day – 18th July

The Denver Fun Day this year will take place on Sunday 18th July. We are thrilled to have secured a slot for our school choir to perform and I know they are already busy preparing for this event. The Friends of Denver School will also have a stall. Denver Fun day is always a fantastic community event and we are proud to be involved this year. So put the date in your diary; we hope to see many of you there.

And finally...

We are constantly reviewing our risk assessments and the safety measures we have in place currently to look at possible changes that can be made as we reach the significant dates set out in the government's roadmap. We will continue to be guided by advice from the DfE and Norfolk County Council. In the meantime, please continue to support us with the measures in place as it would be devastating for us to have to close bubbles now. We truly are grateful for your continued support.

I hope you all enjoy the long Bank Holiday weekend – hopefully the sun will shine!

Dates for your diary- please keep for future reference:

Summer Term

May 2021	3 rd	Mon	School closed for Bank Holiday
	4 th - 7 th	Tue-Fri	Bikeability Y5
	8 th	Sat	Bingo 6pm
	11 th	Tue	School Photographs
	17 th -21 st	Mon-Fri	Walk to School Week
	28 th	Fri	Sponsored Walk
	31 st – 4 th June		School closed for half term
June 2021	7 th	Mon	Children return to school
	22 nd	Tue	Sports Day
	23 rd	Wed	Reserve Sports Day
	28 th – 29 th	Mon-Tue	Eaton Vale day visits for Y6
July 2021	2 nd	Fri	Bag2School collection
	14 th – 15 th	Wed-Thu	Parent Consultation Evenings
	18 th	Sun	Denver Fun Day
	21 st	Wed	Last day of summer term