



# Withernsea



# Primary School

'All- Aspire and Love Learning'

## January 2016

## Newsletter

Happy New Year and Welcome back!

We start the New Year with a thank you to all our parents for supporting our Christmas activities which included - visits to Churches, lovely concerts and busy activity mornings. It is always a busy time but thank you for all your support. We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and a successful 2016.

### **Pupil progress**

In the first week of this term Mrs Harper will be holding meetings with each teacher to discuss the progress of individual children in each class. We will discuss what was going well for each pupil last term and identify strategies to support pupils to continue to make good progress. We will share this information with parents at our Parents Evenings this term, and ask for parent opinions and contributions and also input from the children ensuring all children are making the best possible progress. We will have specific targets for pupils with special educational needs and also pupils who are making slower than expected progress or are behind where we would expect them to be for their age. We will complete support plans together at parents evening.

It is also a pleasure to share the good progress and good efforts that are being made and celebrate these together as well. Appointment letters will be sent out shortly; please see the date section further on in this newsletter.

Thank you to all parents who completed a parental questionnaire last term.

An impressive 35% of you did and your feedback is really useful. The full feedback is at the end of this newsletter - thank you for your help.

## Attendance for December

Thank you for good attendance, congratulations to **3LF – Mrs Feeney’s class (97.0%)** for very impressive attendance during the month of December.

Class	Percentage		Percentage
<b>F2CG</b> – Miss C Good	86.2%	<b>3BH</b> – Mrs C Bagnall / Mrs L Hilton	93.0%
<b>F2SA</b> –Mrs Sansam / Mrs K Appleton	95.2%	<b>4CC</b> – Mr C Cundy	94.5%
<b>F2SN</b> – Mrs S Noble	91.4%	<b>4CW</b> – Mrs C Wright	95.6%
<b>1ES</b> – Miss E Smith	88.5%	<b>4FS</b> – Miss F Seager	95.5%
<b>1CN</b> – Mrs C Neale	94.5%	<b>5ML</b> – Mr M Lindgren	94.5%
<b>1JT</b> – Miss J Teall	95.4%	<b>5SC</b> – Mrs H Peachey	95.9%
<b>2HT</b> – Mrs H Todd	93.3%	<b>5KB</b> – Mrs K Banks	95.5%
<b>2TH</b> – Miss T Harrison	95.4%	<b>6LH</b> – Miss L Harrison	92.7%
<b>3RE</b> – Mrs R Egan	95.5%	<b>6MP</b> – Mr M Pawson	94.6%
<b>3LF</b> – Mrs L Feeney	<b>97.0%</b>	<b>6RL</b> – Mrs R Lindgren	96.3%

## Play session 0 - 3year olds

These are held every Tuesday from 8.45 – 10.00 am in the South building school hall.

The play sessions are arranged in conjunction with the Children’s Centre who, bring a variety of toys. All pre-school children welcome.



## Christmas Fair

The School Christmas Fair was a great success and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, students, parents, carers, family and friends for the support given. You were all very generous with either, donations for stalls, or for attending the Fair. Also a big thank you to Father Christmas and his elves!

A special thank you to Tesco for their generous donations towards the refreshments, this was very much appreciated. Thanks also go to Aldi and the Factory Outlet store for their contributions.

We are pleased that approximately £1800 was raised from the Fair and this will go towards School Fund to assist in providing extra resources for the children.

Thank you all once again.

## American Themed Menu – 21<sup>st</sup> January



Home Made Southen Fried Chicken

Chips

BakedBeans

BBO Sauce



Ice Cream Roll, Cream and Mallows



# Healthy School Page



## Bicycles and scooters

The school cannot accept responsibility for any pupils or parents personal possessions. Please do not bring items of value into school. If your children choose to come to school on their bicycles or scooters, please make sure they are locked up in the designated area inside the railings at the back of the kitchen area in the North building playground.



## Lost property

Please put names on all items of clothing especially PE kit. Last term we were able to reunite clothing with its owner due to names on labels. However, we had several bin bags full of clothing with no names on just from the North building alone which accumulated over for the autumn term. We have asked the children to look through and claim any items. Parents are welcome to come to the North Hall on Friday 8 January at 8.40 – 9.00 am to look through and claim any missing items.

## Lunchtime

Could we please remind you that we are a health promoting school and ask if you would support us with this and bring a healthy lunch to school.

Please do not bring sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks.

## Lunchtime Clubs include :-

Starting this term – Active Play sessions for all Year groups – more details to follow.



## Mobile Phones

If you were lucky enough to receive a new telephone recently, please make sure you have notified school. Please contact the South office to make any changes to your contact details, or if your work number has changed or your emergency contact details have changed please don't forget to let us know - many thanks.



## Dates for your diary

**Parents Evening** – Tuesday 2 February 3.30 – 6.00 pm - (Letters to be sent out shortly)  
Thursday 4 February 3.30 – 6.00 pm - (Letters to be sent out shortly)

**Robinwood Residential visit – Monday 22 February – Wednesday 24 February 2016**  
**Robinwood Parent’s meeting – Monday 11 January – 3.20 pm North hall (to discuss the itinerary for the forthcoming visit and to answer any questions you may have).**

## Term Dates – 2015/2016

### Spring Term 2016

Close – Friday 12 February

Re-open – Monday 22 February

Close – Thursday 24 March at **2.20 pm**

*Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on Thursday 24 March.*

### Summer Term 2016

Open - Tuesday 12 April

Close for May Day - Monday 2 May

Close for half term - Friday 27 May

Re-open - Monday 6 June

Close - Friday 22 July at **2.20 pm**

*Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on Friday 22 July.*

**SATS WEEK** - week commencing 9 May 2016



## Term Dates – Academic Year 2016/2017

### Autumn Term 2016

Open - Tuesday 6 September

Close for half term - Friday 21 October

Re-open - Monday 31 October

Close - Friday 16 December at **2.20 pm**

### Spring Term 2017

Re-open – Wednesday 4 January

Close for half term – Friday 17 February

Re-open Monday 27 February

Close Friday 7 April at **2.20 pm**

*Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on Friday 7 April.*

### Summer Term 2017

Open - Tuesday 25 April

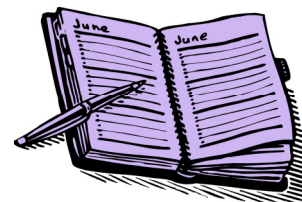
Close for May Day - Monday 1 May

Close for half term - Friday 26 May

Re-open - Monday 5 June

Close - Tuesday 25 July at **2.20 pm**

*Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on Friday 21 July.*



## Blogs

You can now follow our main blog updates via twitter. Just search for @wps\_academy or Withernsea Primary. We will put children's work on our year group Blogs please look at what they have been doing and enjoy their work.

Main school blog -

<http://withernseaprimarblog.blogspot.com/>

Foundation stage blog –

<http://wpsfoundationblog.blogspot.com>

Year 1 blog - <http://wpsyearch1blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 2 blog - <http://wpsyearch2blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 3 blog - <http://wpsyearch3blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 4 blog - <http://wpsyearch4blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 5 blog - <http://wpsyearch5blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 6 blog – <http://wpsyearch6blog.blogspot.com/>



**Parental Questionnaire Results Autumn 2015 - A big thank you to all parents who completed the questionnaire last term- here are the results and feedback.**

We had questionnaires completed that represented 182 of our children – 35%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My child is happy at school	60%	39%	1%	
My child is well looked after	69%	30%	1%	
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	55%	36%	1%	
My child is taught well	67%	31%		
The school responds well to any concerns I raise	65%	34%	1%	1%
I get information about my child's progress	56%	35%	2%	1%
My child is making good progress	59%	35%	2%	1%
My child behaves well or is being supported effectively to improve their behaviour	63%	36%	1%	
My child feels safe in school	71%	26%	1%	1%
The school is well led and managed	65%	31%	1%	1%

**We asked parents to tell us something the school does well or has done well recently - they said –**

The blogs, removed my child; behaviour chart, encouraging learning, imaginative learning in the classrooms, security, looked after everyone, responded to my concerns and acted upon them, managing complaints, helped my child like maths and reading, good tasty school dinners, great teachers and good teaching assistants, settled new children well, starting the mile run, addressed my child attention difficulties, happy with the support my child is getting, met my child needs well, teaching my child well, help them make good progress, school trips, nurture room provision, supported medical needs well, supporting behaviour, speech and language provision, checking what my child has eaten, helped my child been confident, good communication, cooking and gardening initiative, improving spelling, fit for fun, getting children to go to help in the south building, helping my child settle well in the morning, effective targets and rewards, good reading books, praise children when they have done well, photographs in their work, homework, teachers approachable and understanding, lessons are enjoyable and fun, filming and work with ipads, school productions and Rock Challenge, special theme days and charity events.

Good information in plenty of time, highlighting the importance of attendance, reward certificates, transition EYFS to Year 1, excellent inclusion, improved handwriting.

**We asked parents if they had looked at the school Blog and what they thought about it.**

40% said they had, 14% said they hadn't, and 46% didn't answer the question.

Good idea would like a little more information on the pictures, shows pride in their work, good to see what they do in school, a really good idea, struggled to get on to the blog, get to see things that you wouldn't normally see, interesting, good to see more of what happens in school, fantastic, try and make sure all the children are on the blog, update them more, got sorted immediately, blogs are well managed, not easy to leave a comment. – *Thank you and we take your suggestions for further improvements.*

**We asked parents if they felt their child had been bullied in the Autumn Term - 7% felt that they had.**

We also asked if it had been sorted out or what parents would have liked to have happened. Parents said....

It got sorted out, resolved well, able to discuss at parents evening, the school handled it very well, could have done with more information about how it was dealt with, not sorted out- still going on.

*Again we are pleased we have positive comments but also do take your comments re further communication on board and the one ongoing case- please do contact us if there are any problems that start up in the Spring Term.*

We are reviewing our after school provision – we asked what after school clubs you thought you child would enjoy..

Art, football, girls football, dance, cooking, sports, music, cubs, karate, gymnastics, gardening, choir, drama, science, netball, piano, reading, ICT, board games, sewing and knitting, films, extra writing, rugby, after school and breakfast club, athletics,

66% of parents were prepared to pay for clubs, 25% were not.

We asked if there was anything we could do to help support parents with their child's attendance .....

Make parents aware of illnesses that can be in school e.g. conjunctivitis – *thank you for this suggestion we will include this in the February newsletter*

Holidays should be allowed for those with good attendance and parents not able to take leave in the holiday - *holiday absences are not able to be authorised this was a law passed by parliament removing this power from all headteachers – all we can suggest is you write to your MP*

Bonuses/rewards for good attendance - we praise pupils weekly for good attendance and award certificates at the end of each term - *research has shown that tangible awards would not improve attendance over the long term – in fact may even demotivate and make attendance worse.* Pupils are worried appointments will affect their attendance.

Be considerate to those with attendance issues. *With both these comments we do want to work with families so do please contact us.*

PARENTS COMMENTS	Our Response
More supervision at lunchtimes	We do have the right number of supervisors and we have just taken on some additional support at lunchtime in order to ensure our lunchtime clubs are able to run- if we are 'short staffed ' then these clubs are suspended in order to have the right number of supervisors. Again it would be lovely to have more but we are working within the constraints of school budgets and future budget restrictions.
More children's work on the walls	Our walls are 'working walls' and support children who are visual learners so whilst we do display some good work we also use the display to encourage and support children's learning
Meals for vegetarians more accessible	The kitchen is able to supply vegetarian meals if they are pre- ordered as every school meal is pre - ordered.
Longer than 7 mins for parents evening	We find this is okay for most parents however if you feel you would like a little longer please state it on your appointment slip and we will do our best to accommodate you
We have to pay for trips but you call them voluntary contributions	We ask for voluntary contributions because it is voluntary however as the lowest funded local authority in the country the school budget will only stretch so far so we ask for contributions so we can take the children out more and further afield.
More after school activities	We have asked about clubs and interest in this so hopefully we can complement the wide range of activities available for children already in Withernsea that happen after school.
Security – my child could leave the school building, doors can be opened	We are not a secure unit but particular provision is made for the younger children and for all children registers are kept and checked.

Breakfast Club /after school club	We could not use the main school budget to subsidise child care so any after school provision would need to be cost effective and at present there is not enough demand – our local child carers do have vacancies and through FISH we can point you in their direction.
Hold a parents evening at the end of term	We hold the autumn and Spring meetings in the middle of term so it gives us a chance to have feedback and work with children – the last parents evening is always at the end of term.
Communicating with other professionals	We try hard to communicate with a wide range of professionals unfortunately they do not always communicate with us well – however multiagency working is the way forward so we will continue to establish effective means of communication
Tell parents how spellings their child gets right	The class teachers will take this on board and look at different ways to effectively communicate this with you.
Monitor what children eat	We do try especially with hot school meals as we monitor trays at the end of meals but will look at further strategies- if there is a particular problem please contact us.
Have to pay for music lessons	All children have music lessons as part of the curriculum but we do offer guitar and keyboard tuition and these do have to be paid for.
Help parents help children with their homework	Miss Harrison in Year 5 has trialled a parent’s maths group with some successful feedback so we may be able to extend this.
School dinners – choice of food	Unfortunately this is not possible as the right amount of food is cooked for the number of dinners ordered- either more food would need to be cooked and the price would need to rise to account for the waste or children last to receive their lunches may have to have food they didn’t want which would also cause problems.
Headlice	A perpetual problem- we do need all parents to work on this – please ensure you check your child’s hair at least weekly.
The drive gates	We do need to close the gates to stop any traffic at the start and end of the day to keep children safe – if we were to open them it may encourage people to drive up when it would be safe.
Deal with problem kids better	We work hard with children and parents to overcome any poor behaviour choices that children may be making

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Punctual to let children in/out	We will check the timings of the bells. Some children do seem to take longer than others at the end of the day to get all their things together but we will continue to try to ensure they are all ready on time.
On line calendar of all events	A good idea and we will add to our current updates
No custard	We understand this is being addressed by the High School and hope custard will be back on our menus shortly
When a medical reason is given for absence include this on their record	We do put these on their attendance records- unless they have poor attendance and we have asked for a medical appointment card to be stamped and this has not been the case.
More parent and child activities together	We know our activity and reading mornings are popular so will have a think to see what we can do to have some more opportunities
The lollipop lady holds up traffic for too long and makes long congestion	It is important that everyone crosses safely and we would encourage as many to walk to school as possible or to park and walk – so please be patient at the start and end of the school day.
Assessments seem broad, need more information	We are all getting used to a new system and we have some new target ladders to introduce in the Spring parents evenings so hopefully we can continue to address this.