



Withernsea Primary School

'ALL- Aspire and love learning'

September 2015 Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a good Summer holiday and have returned refreshed and ready for a new school year. We welcome new staff and also new children to our school and hope that they have a happy experience with us.

Our school vision continues to be:-

**ALL –
Aspire
Love
Learning**

We hope that parents can support this ideal and support their children in their learning and hopes and dreams for the future.

School Attendance

School attendance is extremely important. Days off mean learning opportunities are lost and we can never have that time back again. We work hard in school to promote good attendance and reward good and excellent attendance.

The Government has changed attendance classifications and Persistent Attendance classification has been moved from 85% to 90%. Attendance below 90% means children will have missed nearly 4 weeks off in a school year. It is really important that children do not fall below the 90%. Last Year we had 28 children who were persistently absent and had attendance below 85%, but 80 children who had attendance below 90% so this is clearly an area we need to improve upon and we need parents/carers help to do this.

If you have any queries or problems regarding attendance do come and talk to Mrs Huteson, Mrs Heath or Miss Leech so we can work together.

If a child is clearly unwell and needs to stay off just let us know - if they have a minor complaint and you are uncertain please bring them to school – we can always contact you if they become worse but its best to try and come wherever possible. For some reason last year, East Riding had 5% more illness absence than England as a whole; again it is something that the County is looking to tackle as hopefully this is a healthier place to live than many places in England!

We no longer have the statutory powers to authorise holidays. Exceptional Circumstances forms are available from the school office in the South building.

Premises Updates

We strive to provide high quality learning for all our children and constantly try to make improvements to our environment. We are really proud of how the school looks and work hard to maintain this.



In the South building we have had further windows repainted as part of the continued refurbishment. We have also had a couple of new carpets in the north building, some repainting and Year 1 and Foundation have had additional features added to their classroom learning environments. A big thank you to our premises team who work extremely hard to ensure we have a high quality learning environment.

We will also be extending children's learning more to include the outside learning environment. Groups of children will work in the Forest School area and also the vegetable garden and the wildlife areas. Letters will be sent to parents so that the children can bring a change of clothes and footwear as they may get muddy.



South Building – rebuild or refurbish?

The Department for Education came out and took photos etc. to prepare a feasibility study as to what would be the best way forward. We expect the results of this study at some point during this term and then we will have a better idea of timescales and plans. We will keep you updated when we have more information.

Healthy Schools Page



School Dinners

Menus have gone out for the start of term. You can order dinners on a daily basis; please ensure they are paid for each day. The cost of school meals are £2.10 per day / £10.50 per week. (Please make cheques payable to Withernsea High School) – thank you.



Delays re dinner provision

We apologise for the delay at the start of the term in the provision of hot meals, this is due to the delays in the building works at the High School. The High School have confirmed that hot meals will be provided from Monday 14th September – Monday's menu will be sausage, potato, baked beans and yoghurt. From Tuesday 15th September the menu will be as close to the printed menu as possible.

Site Regulations

To support Health and Safety and keeping children safe, parents are reminded the school is a no smoking site (this includes e cigarettes); also please do not bring dogs, (except guide dogs), or other animals on to the school site – thank you for helping with this.



Water bottles

We have cooled water for children available all day. Y3 – Y6 children are able to purchase water bottles from the school at a cost of 30p, or if they prefer they can bring one from home.

Foundation Stage – Y2; class teachers make provision for the children.



Please no other liquids – just water.

Headlice reminder

Back to school usually means headlice return as well. If all parents are vigilant and adopt our 'once a week - take a peek' and treat as necessary as it keeps this problem down to a minimum. However in order to be effective, **everyone** needs to do this.

Please ensure one night each week you have a look and a check and we avoid getting lots of headlice problems.



Dance Opportunity

East Riding Youth Dance is recruiting new dancers to join their community dance programme. For the first time they are inviting children in Years 5 and 6 as well as older children to join them. The youth dance group will take place for 12 weeks in five different areas of the East riding - Withernsea being one of the areas.

For further information please contact- East Riding Youth dance company on 01482 395320 or look at their website www.eryd.co.uk

Staff Updates

We welcome Mrs Peachey and Miss Seager as new teachers to our school; we also welcome Mrs Moyse to our Finance and Administration team. We are delighted to welcome them to Withernsea Primary School and hope everyone makes them feel very welcome.

We are also working as partners to the Riding Forward Teaching School and Hull University and have a School Direct teaching placement student – Mr Welbourn.

Mr Welbourn will be with us for the academic year 2015 - 2016 and we hope he has an excellent experience at our Primary School.

We also welcome Miss Wardman and Mr Towse as new additional support staff.

Mrs Carroll is on secondment as Acting Headteacher at Thorngumbald Primary School for the autumn term. We welcome Mrs Jennings to our Senior Management Team for two days a week in Mrs Carroll's absence. Mr Sutherland will be Acting Deputy Headteacher and also Child Protection Co-ordinator for this term.



Year 1

Mr Kidd is unfortunately not able to join us for the autumn term so Mrs Tague has kindly agreed to stay on and teach in Year 1.

Internet safety

We teach the children how to use the internet safely however it is good to work together so attached to the newsletter are internet safety rules that you could discuss with your child and also keep near the home computer so children get a consistent message about internet safety.

My internet safety rules



We all have the right to feel safe all the time - and that includes when we are in cyberspace. Just listen to my friends for some sensible advice...



I will not tell anyone things such as my address/telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' or guardians' permission.



I will tell a trusted adult right away if I come across anything that makes me feel uncomfortable.



I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring my mother or father or guardian along.



I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents or guardian.



I will not respond to any messages that are mean or make me feel uncomfortable. If I receive a message like that, I will tell my parents or guardian right away so that they can contact the online service.



I will talk with my parents or guardian so that we can set up rules for going online. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online, and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not break these rules or access other areas without their permission.



I will not download anything from anyone I don't know.

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Keeping Children Safe

At our school we recognise that your child is our responsibility and concern.

We want to work in partnership with you and discuss with you any concerns we may have, or that you may have. It is a priority to inform and involve you at every stage in your child's time at the school.

Since the first priority is your child's welfare, there may be rare occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you.

The East Riding Safeguarding Children Board has laid down the procedures we follow, and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of all.

If you want to know more about our procedures, or the policy, please contact Mrs Huteson, Home-School Liaison.

Mr Sutherland is the designated Child Protection Co-ordinator.

Mrs Harper is the Deputy Child Protection Co-ordinator.

Mrs Medlicott is Safeguarding Support

Mrs V Taylor is the named Governor for Child Protection.

Keeping children safe is all our responsibility. If parents have their own concerns or concerns outside school they can telephone the East Riding Council switchboard who will then pass them on to trained advisors who can listen to their concerns and provide appropriate advice and/or action.

Dropping off and picking children up

Foundation children, Year 1 and Year 2 children must be collected from school by an adult or a person 16 years and over.

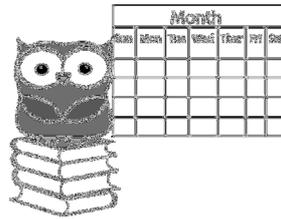
If parents have children in both buildings, the oldest child should be dropped off and collected first. Y1 and Foundation Stage teachers are aware of these arrangements; we will keep children until parents arrive – thank you.

Year 1 and Year 2 teachers request that they bring children out and check they are handed over to an adult – please be patient as this takes a couple of minutes but we want to keep them safe.

Year 3 upwards – as they are a bit older they come out of their nearest pupil entrances - please make your end of day expectations clear to your child/ren so they know who is meeting them and where to meet them. We tell children to report to the staff on duty on the playground or return to their teacher if whoever is meeting them is not where they expect them to be.

Forthcoming dates for your diary

- 20th and 22nd October – Opening Evenings (More details to follow)



Term Dates – Academic Year 2015/2016

Autumn Term 2015

Close for half term – Friday 23 October

Re-open – Monday 2 November

Close – Friday 18 December at **2.20 pm**

Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on – Friday 18 December.

Spring Term 2016

Open – Tuesday 5 January

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

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://wpsyear1blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 2 blog - <http://wpsyear2blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 3 blog - <http://wpsyear3blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 4 blog - <http://wpsyear4blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 5 blog - <http://wpsyear5blog.blogspot.com/>

Year 6 blog – <http://wpsyear6blog.blogspot.com/>

