



November Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents,

We have had a great start to this half term with some really positive feedback from parents and visitors. We have just had our whole school audit report from the Trust and they were really pleased with the progress and improvements seen. The following are some really encouraging extracts:

'Attendance procedures are robust and attendance was above national last year. Communication with parents is swift and followed up quickly to ensure pupils attend and learn. There is a strong culture of attendance at the school and processes and procedures are followed. This is much improved and is showing significant improvement in children's attendance.'

Behaviour in classrooms is generally good. There are some strong strategies in place to ensure pupils are working in an expected manner. This has improved greatly since the last review and pupils are much quicker to settle when strategies are used by staff.

Overall, pupils have a positive experience of the academy. They recognise the improvements that have been made in their learning, the environment and in some pupils behaviour in recent times. Pupils feel they get recognised for the good work they do and they appreciate that the academy is a friendly place where they enjoy coming.

Pupils are confident that the academy has taught them how to look after themselves on-line as well as how to make and maintain caring friendships. This is evident in the way that they play and work together around the academy.

They were very clear about the academy values and could talk about these; they were also fully aware of the British Values and how these affected daily life. They were pleased to have a School Council, who could listen to them and talk to School Leaders about things that they were concerned about.'

We do have a few areas to further improve and most of these are about 'consistency' which is definitely growing now that we have a well performing, permanent staff team on board.

Thank you for completing the questionnaires at parent consultation evenings. These are so positive and we are very proud of what we achieve each day and of our children. One common response was that our website is not something parents use a lot – I would urge you to have a look and access plans for your child's class, from the classes page, or each subject from the curriculum pages. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher for any further information about what is being taught or any aspect of school. To contact me, Mr Parrish, Mrs Shanks or Miss Morgan, please do so via the office; the staff there will always 'find me' if I am not at Southery that day.

Advent is almost upon us, so enjoy the festive season as we gear up for some Christmas fun.

Mrs Huntington

Upcoming dates

Monday 4 th Dec	FOSA Christmas Pop up shops—lunchtime
Friday 8 th Dec	FOSA Christmas Pop up shops—lunchtime
Friday 8 th Dec	OMNES Games Volleyball—selected children only
Monday 11 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Carol Service 5.30pm at church
Tuesday 12 th Dec	Wrens and Lapwings Christmas performance— Busy, Busy Bethlehem
Wednesday 13 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day—donation to Southery church
Thursday 14 th Dec	Wrens and Lapwings Christmas performance— Busy, Busy Bethlehem
Thursday 14 th Dec	Swans forest school trip to Willow Woods
Friday 15 th Dec	Dental survey (5 year olds)
Monday 18 th Dec	FOSA making Christingles
Monday 18 th Dec	Christingle Service at church 1.30pm
Tuesday 19 th Dec	Pantomime trip – whole school, payments due by 15 th Dec
Wed 20 th Dec	Last day of school
Thurs 4 th Jan	Back to school

Reminders:

Attendance in school remains important, this includes getting to school on time. School gates open at 8:35am and remain open until 8:45am. More advice around school attendance can be found here www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/attendance

Consent forms—If you have not yet returned the school consent and permission forms for this academic year, please return these to the school office as soon as possible. New copies of the forms are available if needed.

PE—All children with long hair must have it tied up on PE days, for safety whilst taking part in activities. Earrings must also be removed.



This month's spotlight is on Kingfisher Class:

In Kingfishers, we are always very busy each day completing lots of learning! It has been great to experience something a bit different in school this week. We were lucky enough to have a visit from Tony who works for Rolls Royce and spent 29 years in the RAF. We spent the afternoon learning all about engineering and how planes are able to fly. We managed to see first hand some components of an engine and a plane, we then managed to create our own plane designs, focusing on the intricate details of the engineering side of things. We are looking forward to future events like this, to really enhance our learning.



There have been some wonderful achievements recently from some of the children in Kingfishers. These include Poppy and Gyte representing Southery Academy at the WNSSP Cluster Cross Country finals and the football team of Sonny, Freya, Rafe, Will, Charlie, Rome, Jayden, Stanley and Jacob securing a third placed finish in the recent Downham Cluster Football Tournament. We have had a tremendous start to life as Year 5 and Year 6, the class as a whole work really hard and are putting a lot of effort into their learning day to day. We have seen some incredible progress across the board but particularly in maths where the class have continued to increase their Arithmetic test scores each week, edging closer to their target. It has been a very positive start to the year and as we approach Christmas, we are looking forward to continuing this positivity and enjoy the festivities!