

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to thank you all for your continued support this half term in getting your child back into school safely and for the support you have given to staff and children in these challenging and unprecedented times.

We have been randomly chosen to have a visit from HMI health and safety next week. This visit is to ensure the procedures we have in place are being adhered to and are sufficient to ensure everyone's safety. We have endeavoured throughout this period to take a relaxed but safe approach to enable the children to have a positive experience in school. Therefore can I please ask that you adhere to the timings etc that we have put in place for the beginning and end of the day. When on site please remember only one member of the household should be on site, keep left on the paths and leave the site as quickly as possible. I have had to remind some parents of this guidance recently which can be difficult and appear "bossy" but this is for everyone's safety and not intended to offend. We really do not want to change what is currently working so well. Thank you for your support.

Water bottles do need to come into school already full to minimise the use of the communal water filling stations. The minimum amount of touching of these areas is clearly the safest approach.

This week we held the annual **PTA AGM** and I am pleased to report that we have a full committee as a result of the meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to say a very sincere thank you to last year's committee for their hard work and enthusiasm raising money for the school. *A separate email containing the PTA report will be sent this afternoon.* In the report the PTA will outline what they have raised and how it has been spent.

Parentview is the OFSTED window to our school. Many of you kindly filled this in last year but the data is deleted at the beginning of each academic year.

Many of you have spoken of your high regard for the school, particularly during these difficult months. It would be lovely to see this reflected on the survey which takes around 2-5 mins to complete and can be found [here](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you what to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19:

If your child develops either a new continuous cough, a temperature or a change/loss to their normal taste or smell they must not attend school and the whole household (and support bubble if you have one) must isolate. Anyone with symptoms is eligible for testing and this can be arranged [here](#). Please remember to ring the absence line each day to keep the school updated. If you, your family or anyone you have contact with, has symptoms please do not mix with others or come into school until you have the test results. Please continue to follow government guidance to keep everyone safe.

We have been overwhelmed by the quantity and quality of **head boy, head girl and house captain** applications from our year 6 children. The staff have cast their votes but due to the number of applicants and the lack of clear winner we have decided to shortlist today and then interview on Wednesday morning next week. The governors will be involved in this process to ensure a fair and open system.

We will announce the successful applicants on the 1st Monday back next term.

Winning house - I am pleased to announce that **Birch** are the winning house for this half term and as a reward, the children are being invited to come to school on Wednesday 21st October in non-uniform.

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

Bev Theobald

Head Teacher

UKE club - due to current restrictions we are offering this club to year 2 only and it will be starting after half term. Details have been emailed to year 2

parents/carers this morning but we'd like you to please note that places are limited to 10.

Rocksteady - Rocksteady Music School is back teaching in-school rock and pop band lessons. It's an amazing opportunity for the children to join their very own rock band and learn to play the songs they love on either drums, guitar, keyboard or vocals (no experience necessary). Band practice takes place in school time every week and boosts children's confidence, supports their progress at school, while enhancing their wellbeing along the way. If they are interested in becoming a drummer, guitarist, keyboard player or singer check out the letter below with more details. Lessons are delivered in-line with government guidance and our own school's policies. Places are limited and available on a first come, first served basis. Please be aware extra restrictions on places apply in order to keep year group bubbles separate. If you would like to book your child's place sign up as soon as you can.

Sign up online [here](#) and please see letter [here](#) with further information and how to book.

Norfolk Library Service - we have been asked to share the information below from the library service:

[Accessing Norfolk Libraries](#)

45 of Norfolk's 47 libraries have now reopened! Information about branch opening times can be found by clicking the relevant branch from this page on the libraries website ([click link](#))

When you come in, you will notice that things are slightly different and this is because we are following the Government guidelines to ensure that we are COVID safe.

The library has limited capacity for customers allowed in to make sure we can maintain social distance. This also means you may be asked to queue outside before we can allow you in.

We are taking test and trace details on entry and we have a QR code on display outside if you would rather use that. You will be asked to wear your face covering and sanitise your hands on entry and then follow the one way system

inside. All our staff are wearing masks and are frequently washing and sanitising their hands too.

When books are returned, we are quarantining them for 72 hours so that they are safe for our customers to borrow. All of our touch points and self-service machines are kept clean throughout the day.

What can I borrow?

For children, we have a limited amount of stock available for browsing. We also have a wide selection of “Grab and Go” bags, which are ready packed with our best stock for you to be able to take away and enjoy; why not try a couple?

For adults, we’ll shortly be introducing grab and go bags as well as having stock available for browsing. You can still borrow DVDs and audio books too.

We’re keeping borrowing limits to 20 books for everyone!

Is your child waiting for the latest bestseller? Chapter books can be reserved online and reservations are free for children. Just browse our catalogue to place your reservation. Lots of great new books are being published in the coming weeks and months, and we’re still buying just as much as usual – please come and borrow it! You can visit the Norfolk Libraries catalogue here ([click link](#))

I’m not a member yet, how can I join?

The easiest way to join is online. Just use this link to receive your card in the post (your details will also be emailed to you to allow immediate access to our online services: ([click here](#)))

What about events?

We are not able to offer events and activities in the library at the moment, but we have lots happening online: check out our what’s on page to see what we’re offering ([click link](#)).

There’s also our Facebook page for Children and Families, with lots of useful information too: www.facebook.com/NorfolkLibrariesForFamilies

You’ll find author events, story times, bounce and rhyme time, Lego club and storywriters club as well as book recommendations and links to our newest stock.

How about eBooks?

If you haven’t given it a try, why not take a look at our eBook library? Download

the Libby app to get started, and log in with your library card and PIN number. Our eBooks include picture story books, early readers and longer stories as well as audio books for all ages. It's free and you'll never get overdue charges.

Can't find a book in our ebook library? Search for a title at

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you need any help with using our ebooks, please email

libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk and we'll be in touch to help.