

Newsletter 13.3.26

Wow another busy week at South View, we've had chicks hatching in EYFS, Year 2 families joined us for a lovely class assembly, and we've had a week full of Mother's Day fun. So many of you lovely Mums joined us for a memory-making breakfast. Thank you to the amazing kitchen staff who had an incredibly early start to ensure a delicious spread was put on, Lisa for ensuring the room was ready for you all, Red Wellies photography for taking some lovely photos, the office staff for ensuring it was all coordinated, and all the staff who started their day early to ensure another memorable event was shared. A HUGE thank you to our lovely mums, Mrs Bird and Miss Francis who rolled up their sleeves to clear tables away and pull chairs out, to ensure the hall was ready to welcome the next onset of visitors, it really was a team effort!

The efforts of FOSV have helped raise lots of funds this week whilst offering some great hampers and their beautiful Mother's Day Stall, thank you.



Great News



Just in time for Mother's day, we would like to wish Mrs Johnson a happy FIRST Mother's day with the safe arrival of baby Zac, congratulations to Mr and Mrs Johnson

School site and Parking

We have a strictly no smoking policy on the site, which includes e-cigarettes and Vapes and stretches as far as the D-Ring, which is also part of the school site.

Please do park courteously near the school. I'm sad to hear from local residents who have phoned and emailed in this week to say they were blocked in on their driveway by inconsiderate parking and met with rudeness when the driver was asked to move.

Attendance

Wow! What a smashing week for attendance. It looks like the appearance of the sun has put to bed the common cold! Please can I remind parents that if you are reporting an absence, please ensure that you provide information into the illness and not just stating that your child/ren is ill. A reminder to parents/carers that absences lasting for 3 days or longer may require supporting evidence to be provided in line with our attendance and safeguarding policies. Failure to provide supporting evidence may mean that the absence will be unauthorised.

Please ensure that you are using the Arbor app to monitor your child/ren attendance and report absences. Help guides have been sent out to parents/carers on how to navigate round the Arbor app.

If you are struggling or have any concerns surrounding your child's attendance, my door is always open. Please feel free to reach out to Mrs Saunders.

Nut Free School

We are a nut free school and preschool. Please be very vigilant when providing your children with snacks and lunches, we have a number of children and staff with severe nut allergies. Thank you

Food Bank Donations

Currently the local food bank is running low on the following items:

- Biscuits
- Tinned items including Soup, Vegetables, Meals and cold meat
- Rice pudding
- Coffee
- Squash



if you are in a position to donate. Donations can go straight to the food bank or brought into the school office to be passed on.

Supporting children’s vision and eye health

Healthy eyesight underpins so much of children’s learning and day-to-day life. Specsavers have shared a set of resources that families may find helpful, especially as children grow and their visual needs change. Their YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@Specsavers-Kids/videos> includes guidance on:

- How to balance screen time with reading and active play
- Ways to talk to children about looking after their eyes
- Everyday habits that support long-term eye health



For quick questions, their *Chat with an Expert* service is available every day from 9am–10pm:

https://www.specsavers.co.uk/help-and-faqs/ask-the-optician?utm_content=ask_an_expert&utm_campaign=O_dsWelcomeOnboarding1&utm_term=WOB_EM1_NP_UK_U11&utm_source=crm&utm_medium=email&ref1=N00806&ref2=73766PQL

Arbor Parent Portal

We are continuing our move over to Arbor, and EVERYTHING should be booked via the Arbor Parent Portal now. A reminder that if meals were booked previously on Parent Mail, we have these logged but they will not show in Arbor if you’re looking for them, but we have them booked. Any new bookings or payments should only go through Arbor

We ask that you familiarise with the portal (web based or app) and refer to user guides if needed.

We do appreciate your continued patience as we move across to this new system, we ask that you familiarise with the portal (web based or app) and refer to user guides if needed. If this does not help, please be kind and courteous with any requests for help from the school office.

Books for years 5 and 6

We are currently looking for some more challenging books for our year 5 and 6 readers. If you have any of the following books/book series you are able to donate, or would be kind enough to buy to donate to our library, we would be incredibly grateful!

Individual Books	Book Sets
https://tinyurl.com/ydcyp8u3 (£4.99)	https://tinyurl.com/6np8dz46 (£16.14)
https://tinyurl.com/4bnc38ur (£6.71)	https://tinyurl.com/ay8chcb3 (£16.99)
https://tinyurl.com/ye2ynbc4 (£7.59)	https://tinyurl.com/mrmw2mtw (£17.90)
https://tinyurl.com/yc58fykd (£7.35)	https://tinyurl.com/5xjpbwp (£18.99)
https://tinyurl.com/4kxxcsdt (£7.35)	https://tinyurl.com/6v5nn557 (£19.99)
https://tinyurl.com/mrhe2fnh (£12.25)	https://tinyurl.com/ytup8t89 (£22.95)
https://tinyurl.com/3sbdj7bu (£12.25)	https://tinyurl.com/mrea8yj8 (£24.99)
https://tinyurl.com/2mxyx5nn (£12.25)	https://tinyurl.com/yf5mf5rb6 (£25.17)
https://tinyurl.com/yf4da88d (£12.25)	https://tinyurl.com/yeynayab (£32.99)
https://tinyurl.com/4jh5vy2k (£12.25)	



Volunteers



We have received some offers of support from adults who would like to come in to school and help make a difference to our children’s learning. We’re working hard to place you all with the right children and find you somewhere comfortable where you can enjoy the reading experience together. We would very much appreciate even more offers of help, no matter how short a period of time you can donate. If you can spare a regular couple of hours each week to pop in and support with reading, that would be amazing! Please contact Mrs Tomlins via enquiries@southview.lincs.sch.uk

Calendar of Events for Term 4

- 19th March - Year 6 swimming & Book Fair in school (more details to follow)
- 20th March - Red Nose Day – Dress down
 - Sunflower Growing Competition available till 12noon
- 23rd March - Rock Steady Concert for parents (2.30pm) communication via Rock Steady
- 25th March - SEND Arts and Crafts session (Flyers in Main Office)
 - Disco tickets and Easter Egg Competition available till 12noon
- 26th March - Year 6 swimming
- 27th March - School disco’s
- 2nd April - Year 3 & 4 Easter Production (Parents invited for 9am)
 - Year 6 swimming
 - LAST DAY OF TERM 4
- 7th – 10th April - ELITE Sports Easter Sports Camp at South View School (Details to follow)

20th April - Staff Inset Day (Children back on 21st)

21st April - First Day of Term 5

Term Dates are on our school website – please click [here](#)

Head Teacher Awards

Class	Childs Name	Awarded Reason
Catkins	Theo L	For showing such enthusiasm in his learning during science week when making his boat creation and learning how to recycle and reuse products. Well done Theo!
Acorns	Dexter H	For his enthusiasm when predicting what material would be waterproof. He was very engaged throughout and answered lots of questions whilst sharing lots of his own knowledge!
Hazels	Chidinma A	For showing a great understanding of sustainability, making a real effort to ensure our lights are switched off when they are not needed.
Maples	Evie D	For being so enthusiastic in Science sustainability week about saving electric.
Chestnuts	Thomas F	For his amazing teamwork skills when building a bug hotel and a nature picture during Science week! You were amazing!!!
Willows	Fern G	For showing great team work when building bug hotels and creating a fabulous poster about saving energy in our school!
Beeches	Joseph G	For his contributions to our debate about cruises or travelling to Antarctica, particularly thinking about how we can make travel more sustainable.
Aspens	Finnr C	For his thoughtful ideas and high-level discussion on how cruise companies could become more sustainable when visiting places such as Antartica to protect the environment.
Poplars	Toby D	For showing great knowledge Interest and enthusiasm in sustainability of the environment. Super confident and very passionate, well done.
Junipers	Genesis M	For showing fantastic curiosity in science and always sharing thoughtful ideas on how to look after our environment.
Laurels	Adrina A	For thought provoking poetry about the environment.
Elms	Harriet G, Leo J, Noah J, Ryleigh D, Charlie P	For your excellent group work; designing a sustainable eco-town using renewable energy, car-free living and self sufficiency.
Oaks	Harlow D	For showing strong arguments for and against the question 'Should countries do more to protect Antarctica from pollution and climate change?'
	Violet Q	For being a super role model and demonstrating a consistently strong work ethic across all areas of the curriculum.
Redwoods	Rosie G	For being a caring and mindful member of Redwoods when thinking about the environment and working extremely hard, especially when responding to feedback.
	Isaac H	Amazing effort in maths and English this week, resulting in amazing achievements

Mental Health Padlet



Children: If you are worried about your child's mental health, and would like information or signposting to help, Miss Stanojevic has created a suite of resources for you to look through. We hope you find them helpful: <https://padlet.com/zoestanojevic/f9n5vfk8qytx6c3b>

Adults: Likewise, if you are struggling with your own mental health or are just looking for someone to talk to, please see our new Mental Health for Parents/Carers padlet which has a wealth of local and national charities that you can tap into for support: <https://padlet.com/corrinemitcham/mentalhealthparents>

SEN Padlet

If you are worried about your child's additional needs and would like help, Mrs Mitcham and Mrs Henderson have created a suite of resources for you find them helpful: <https://padlet.com/corrinemitcham/SouthViewSENDSCO>



information or signposting to to look through. We hope you

Safeguarding Padlet



If you are worried about your safeguarding and would like information or signposting to help, Miss Turner and Miss Creasey have created a suite of resources for you to look through. We hope you find them helpful.

If you do see anything of concern in relation to a child, we ask that you make a telephone referral to Social Care by calling 01522 782111. This can be done anonymously. If you have a genuine concern about an adult in the local community, please telephone the police.

<https://padlet.com/nikitacreasey/safeguarding-guide-for-parents-carers-z16tu0bjogxihhd>

School Leave of Absence Requests

- If you wish to seek approval for any request of absence for your child(ren) from school i.e. for a holiday, then you must apply either by;
- Requesting the school office send you a copy of the leave of absence form. This will be sent via ParentMail.
- Or you can apply:
- In writing, to Mrs Tomlins, the Head Teacher. In the letter you must state what you believe to be the exceptional circumstances requiring the leave of absence.

You should only then remove your child(ren) if the absence has been authorised, and notified to you in writing by the School.

If you then choose to take your child out of school during term time and it is **not** deemed to be exceptional circumstances and/or has not been approved by the School, then this will be coded as an unauthorised absence and a Penalty Notice may be issued for the period of absence. We are unable to authorise holidays during school terms. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may result in further legal action being taken against you.

We would like to remind all families of the legal framework surrounding term-time holidays and the issuing of penalty notices for unauthorised absences, in conjunction with advice from the Local Authority.

Please be aware that **there is no right of appeal** against a penalty notice once it has been issued. The decision to authorise or unauthorise an absence rests solely with the school. It is important to remember you should discuss any concerns you have with the school **before** a leave of absence is considered.

We understand that some employers may restrict when holidays can be taken, and that travel costs can vary significantly throughout the year. However, **neither of these factors constitutes an exceptional circumstance**, according to guidance from the Department for Education, [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](#) and [Resources for families | Children's Commissioner for England](#) and therefore cannot be considered, as a valid reason for authorising term-time leave.

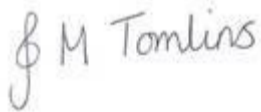
A Penalty Notice is a strategy used by schools to address the unacceptable levels of attendance of children in the term after they turn five at their school under the following legislation:

- Please note: A Penalty Notice can also be issued if your child is seen in a public place within the first 5 days of an exclusion from their school.
- Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places upon parents a duty to ensure that their child receives efficient full-time education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.
 - Where a child is a registered pupil at a school and the parent fails to ensure that child's regular attendance at school the parent is liable to be prosecuted for a criminal offence under Section 444 of the Education Act
 - In cases where this duty is not being fulfilled Section 444B of the same Act empowers the Local Authority to issue a penalty of either **£160 per parent, per child** if paid within 28 days or reduced to **£80 per parent, per child** if paid within 21 days.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring that your child's education remains a priority.

Please see attached additional information regarding Penalty Notices.

Yours sincerely,



Head Teacher
Mrs Tomlins

School Attendance and Absences



5 days of unauthorised absence

Penalty Notice fines may be issued for any term-time absences that are unauthorised (for example, a 5-day term time holiday) - whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 school weeks.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any 10-week period

Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any rolling period of 10 school weeks

**A school day has 2 sessions:
1 morning and 1 afternoon session per day**

An unauthorised absence threshold can be reached with any mix of missed sessions over 10 school weeks, even if those weeks span different terms or school years. These absences don't need to be consecutive and can include late arrivals after the register closes. A school week counts as long as there's at least one school session.

How do I request an absence?

To request an absence, please provide a minimum of 4 weeks notice, either by:

- Requesting the school office send you a copy of the leave of absence form. This will be sent via ParentMail.

Or you can apply:

- In writing, to Mrs Tomlins, the Head Teacher. In the letter you must state what you believe to be the exceptional circumstances requiring the leave of absence. **We are unable to authorise holidays during term time.**

What is a Penalty Notice?

A penalty notice is an out of court settlement which is intended to change behaviour without the need for criminal prosecution. If repeated penalty notices are being issued and they are not working to change behaviour they are unlikely to be most appropriate tool. Therefore, 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3 year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. Any further offences will result in criminal prosecution.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)
- Reduced to: £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

Second Offence

(in a 3-year rolling period)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days) There is no reduction in the amount.

Third Offence or Any Further Offences

(in a 3-year rolling period)

The third time an offence is committed for an unauthorised absence a Penalty Notice will **NOT** be issued but will be referred to Lincolnshire County Council for consideration of prosecution in a Magistrate Court for prosecution which may result in fines of up to £2,500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in a Magistrate's Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.'

Families are reminded that term-time holidays are subject to strict legal rules, and unauthorised absences may result in penalty notices with no right of appeal. Only the school can decide whether an absence is authorised, and factors like travel costs or employer restrictions do not qualify as exceptional circumstances. Please speak with the school before requesting leave, and thank you for prioritising your child's education.

Lincolnshire county Council have the discretion to issue Penalty Notice fines before the above threshold is met in cases where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the threshold, or for repeated absences for birthdays or other family events.

If you have registered your child as unwell and we are later presented with evidence which casts reasonable doubt over the reason given for your child's absence, and they were in fact taken on holiday, the absence marks will be retrospectively be altered to 'unauthorised' in the register. If this absence meets the national framework, this will be reported to Lincolnshire County Council.

Who is a "Parent"?

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines "parent" as:

- All natural (biological) parents, whether they are married or not;
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person;
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.