

Newsletter 13.2.26



Another term bites the dust! I think like the children, the staff are all on their knees and in much need of a break! Are you too? What a whirlwind term, and it's not even the summer one! Let's hope after half term the weather picks up and we start seeing a bit of sun!

Cross Country WIN!

Our lovely Year 3 and 4 Cross Country children competed in Pinchbeck this week and WE WON!! They came back victorious and covered in mud!



Farewell, but not Goodbye to Mrs Johnson



Today we say a temporary goodbye to our EYFS teacher, Mrs Johnson who will be starting her maternity leave. We wish Zoe and Jake all the best and can't wait to meet their new baby (who has, if you think about it, been in our EYFS setting for the last 8 months!)

Food Bank Donations

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

- Soup (popular, child friendly flavours such as tomato, vegetable, chicken etc)
- Biscuits
- Tinned veg
- Rice pudding
- Coffee
- Tinned meals such as meatballs, mince and onion, beef stew, chicken in white sauce etc
- Tinned cold meat (ham, corned beef)
- 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.

Uniform

We are moving to our new green uniform from September, and this will be ready to purchase from Total Clothing after Easter. However, please don't buy new uniform until you need to. Total Clothing currently have all stocks of the red uniform discounted, if you need any items now, you can grab yourself a bargain. If you'd rather go with green now, then any shop bought bottle green would be great!



So long, Farewell....

Today we say goodbye to our Teaching Assistant Mrs Ford. Good luck with your future plans Sarah!

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

Donations – toys, books, Not UNIFORM!

EYFS - We always appreciate the lovely donations you send in. As we will be setting up for a third EYFS class in September we would really appreciate donations of any of the following:

- Construction area: wooden building blocks, wooden Meccano, tool sets – wooden or plastic, children's building hats/hi-vis jackets, any toys for construction i.e diggers, excavators etc.
- Hairdressing/role play equipment: Role play hair salon resources, hairbrushes, hair bobbles, clips, headbands, plastic jewellery (necklaces/bracelets), tiara's or dressing up shoes
- Cars: Metal cars or any wooden car tracks/garage
- Barbies, magnetic blocks, counting cubes, wooden kitchen items, play mats, wooden threading beads, felt tips, playdough, marbles, wooden storage boxes, wicker baskets for storage.



Books - If you have any good quality reading books your child has finished with, we would be very grateful for them. Please can we ask you don't send in phonics specific books as we follow a very prescribed scheme so it would be unlikely we'd use them. Any donated books which can't be registered onto our reading scheme will be sold and money added to our school fund to spend on the children.



Attendance

Finally, we've reached half term! Thank you to all the parents and students that have worked with us to achieve great attendance this half term! You may have spotted that we have rolled out a new application that you can report and track your child/ren's attendance through. This will give you visibility to all of their attendance figures. Seeing an unauthorised absence can be alarming and if you are unsure on the reason for this, please do reach out to me and I will be happy to help. If we have concerns surrounding your child/ren's attendance, you will have already heard from me. Please note, having 1 session of unauthorised absence does not make you eligible for penalty notice fine. For further information on unauthorised, authorised absences and penalty notices please check our attendance policy which can be found on www.southviewprimary.co.uk

I hope everyone has a lovely half term break and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone after the break!

Mrs Saunders (Attendance Lead)

Road Safety



If you have a child who bikes to and from school and they cycle near or through Reform Street, please can you speak to them about keeping safe (we will be doing this in school also). A local resident has raised concerns over the safety of the children who are riding their bicycles the wrong way down the one-way street. They were travelling at speed and clearly were unaware of the danger this posed to themselves and oncoming drivers who would not expect traffic from that direction. A 'near miss' was witnessed, but luckily no one was hurt....this time!

MUD

If you are dropping your child off at the Key stage 2 gate, we politely ask that you use the concrete paths provided. We're having a lot of children and parents walking over the grass, and in this weather it's muddy, slippery and mud is being brought into school on shoes!



Please be respectful in your communications with us.

There are many reasons you might want to communicate with the school or a member of staff at the school. This could be simply phoning in to report a child's absence or just informing the member of staff at the gate when you drop your child off that they have forgotten their PE kit or have been complaining of feeling a little unwell. These short conversations to impart information are entirely necessary. However please remember:

- How busy members of staff are during the school day, particularly first thing in the morning and where you need to speak with a member of staff, make an appointment to do so at a time when they can give you their full attention.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern by making an appointment to **meet with the class teacher in the first instance**. In the **second instance you would speak with the teacher's line manager**, which in our school is Miss Turner (EYFS), Mrs Baxter (KS1) or Miss Bell (KS2).
- If the matter is still not resolved, follow the procedure in the school's Complaints Policy which is available under the heading "policies" on our website. **Please do not 'demand' to speak to the headteacher, or 'expect an immediate response' ...a 'polite request' is more likely to get you an appointment!**
- If you wish to correspond by email this should be done through the school's central email address at enquiries@southview.lincs.sch.uk. This address is monitored regularly during the school day and emails forwarded to the appropriate member of staff or Governor. **We will endeavour to respond to you within 48 hours.**
- Ensure that all such communications are polite and that you are always mindful of the right of the recipient to be **treated with respect**.
- When meeting face to face with members of staff to discuss any matters concerning your child's education or wellbeing in school, approach the matter calmly and politely, as this will also ensure progress can be made to address any issues or concerns. Remember, if you wish to speak with a member of staff, it will normally fall to you to make a mutually convenient appointment.

Mobile Phone reminder



Year 5 and Year 6 pupils bringing phones to school must ensure that phones are appropriately labelled, and are stored securely when not in use in an area designated by their teacher. Please consider whether or not your child needs to bring a phone to school. Pupils must secure their phones as much as possible, including using passwords or pin codes to protect access to the phone's functions. **The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones that are lost, damaged or stolen on school premises or transport, during school visits or trips, or while pupils are travelling to and from school.** Any found phones should be returned to the school office. The school will then attempt to contact the owner.

Passport Applications

As we are nearing Holiday season again **(out of term time obviously!)** if you need your identity verifying in order to obtain a passport, please use the email enquiries@southview.lincs.sch.uk when applying. This will send us a code. In addition, you will need to email us (for the attention of Mrs Tomlins) your date of birth and place of birth as this is information we are required to input when we verify your application.



Mrs Tomlins must have known you and your children for a minimum of 2 years.

Arbor Parent Communication



You should all have now received details on how to set up your Parent Portal. Thank you to everyone who has logged in, been checking and updating information.

We now have 74% of Parents and Guardians signed up which is fantastic.

Please do check your email for sign up details if you haven't already. This will be the only way we communicate going forward, through the portal, or through emails sent via the portal.

We are still to turn on some activation parts and will communicate when things like booking Orchards and meals move over onto this. There will be a period of time where we will suspend booking or paying for items through ParentMail so we can move items over, but again we will communicate this to you.

Log in

Enter your email address

Enter your password

Log in

Remember me [Forgot your password?](#)

Parking

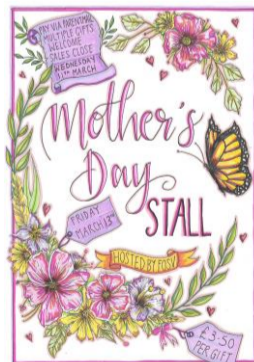


Please can I again remind parents and visitors to park respectfully and responsibly, when dropping children off at breakfast club in the mornings. This is a very busy stretch of road in the mornings with school buses and people traveling to work. The way that people are parking reduces visibility and is causing a nuisance!

PLEASE remember, it isn't only NO PARKING along the street from 8:30am to 9:30am and 2:30pm to 4:30pm, but also NO STOPPING is also in place



Mother's Day Stall



We are thrilled to be able to hold our Mother's Day Stall again this year.

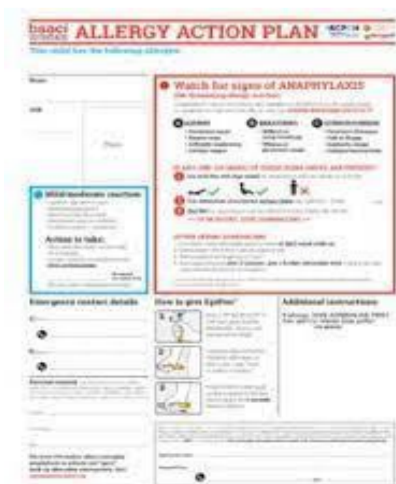
All items will be £3.50, this must be pre paid via your ParentMail account no later than midday on Wed 11th March. We welcome the purchase of up to six items.

On Friday the 13th March, each child that has paid will be walked through to the library to select from a beautiful range of gifts for Mum, Carer, Nanny or loved one.

Thank you all for your continued support as all our events help raise much needed funds for the school.

FOSV

Allergies and Medical



If your child is diagnosed with a severe allergy or Asthma, could we ask that you please ensure the school has a copy of their most recent medical plan from your GP or relevant clinic please. This will ensure we can give the correct medical care if needed in school



Headlice

We have had a number of cases reported of headlice this week.

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They are not caused by dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.

Please see link for NHS guidance for how to spot and deal with headlice. [NHS Advice for headlice](#)

Parking over dropped kerbs and across drives



We have been made aware that some visitors to the school are parking across resident's driveways or in front of dropped kerbs. We have been notified of instances where residents have been unable to leave their properties, as they have been blocked in. If you see someone parking irresponsibly, please take a note of their registration and, if possible, take a photo and upload to:

[Report nuisance parking | Nuisance parking – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

Clothing bank

Just a quick reminder that we have a clothing bank in school for which the school receive much needed funding per tonne of clothing. This is located near the KS2 entrance. If you're having a clear out of clothes after Christmas, please think about using our clothing bank. Thank you



Crowland Amateur Dramatic Society

If you would like to purchase LAST MINUTE tickets for the Little Mermaid production that will take place **tonight and tomorrow** please click [HERE](#)

Packed with side-splitting jokes, dazzling costumes, and unforgettable musical numbers, this fun-filled adventure is guaranteed to make a splash! Get ready for plenty of audience participation, boos for the villain, and cheers for our heroes!

Book your tickets now for a tidal wave of family fun!

Calendar of Events for Term 3

(Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th – CADS Pantomimes in School Hall)

Start of Term 4

23rd February – First day of term

24th and 25th February – Parents Evening

26th February – Dance Performance at the Cresset

3rd March – Class Photos

5th March – Year 5 Assembly & World Book Day

12th and 13th March - Mother's Day Breakfast and Mother's Day Stall – Information to follow

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

Head Teacher Awards

Class	Childs Name	Awarded Reason
Catkins	Noah P	For consistently being amazing. Thank you Noah for always trying your best in everything you do. You are a pleasure to have in Catkins class.
Acorns	Maddie J	For listening carefully to adults, making a great effort to impress with her attitude and work, and making fantastic contributions to lessons.
Hazels	Danas S	He is in a new Phonics group but you wouldn't notice, he tries his best, hes a great partner and his focus is entirely on his learning, well done Danas
Maples	Aura A	Aura has amazed us this week by using her pre cursive handwriting in her English book.
Chestnuts	Arlo D	For working so hard on his handwriting this term. Keep it up Arlo, it is beautiful!

Willows	Felicity P	For a lovely piece of instruction writing and becoming confidently in independently editing your work.
Beeches	Eliza O	For working hard in all areas and making good progress especially her reading. She is confidently reading aloud in GR and beginning to grow in confidence when answering inference questions. * :)* *
Aspens	Henry H	For putting 100% effort into every lesson this term, which has led to Henry making great progress and for always being incredibly kind to others in the classroom - keep it up!
Poplars	Theo W	For always working hard in everything he does - his work, answering questions and offering help to adults and children alike. A great role model. You are a star. *
Junipers	Joshua M	This week Josh has worked so hard on his instructional guide in English, using all of his own ideas to create a wonderful piece of work! Well done Josh, you are such a ray of sunshine in the classroom!
Laurels	Elizabeth M	For having a constantly calm, kind and responsible presence in Laurels.
Elms	Alec B	Alec is a pleasure to teach. He is always ready to learn, puts a lot of effort into his work and has a calm presence in the classroom. He is a great role model for others. Well done Alec :-)
Oaks	Rosie P	Rosie is showing an increasingly mature attitude, putting exceptional effort into all areas of the curriculum and using her knowledge to support others.
Redwoods	Kamsirochi C	For achieving amazingly across the curriculum this term, especially in her writing. Kamsi is an amazing role model who demonstrates that excellent behaviour, participation and effort leads to brilliant progress being made.

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 Mrs Mitcham and Mrs Henderson have created a suite of resources for you to them helpful: <https://padlet.com/corrinemitcham/SouthViewSENDCO>



information or signposting to help, look through. We hope you find

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:

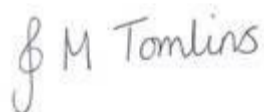
Please note: A Penalty Notice can also be issued if your child is seen in a public place within the first 5 days of an exclusion from their school.

- 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.