

FIRSIDE JUNIOR SCHOOL

September 2011

Middleton's Lane
Hellesdon
NORWICH NR6 5NF
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Headteacher: Mr. S. J. Fisher
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs R. Robinson



Dear Parent,

Welcome back – and a very warm welcome to all those parents whose children join us for the first time. The term has started really well and the children all seem to have settled well into their new classes (and school for the Year 3). The teachers have been busy, as you would expect, planning work to excite, challenge and hopefully inspire the children over the coming months. The main purpose of this first newsletter, therefore, is for us to tell you about those plans and to give you some important dates for the term ahead.

We all look forward to an exciting and rewarding term.

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER

The first three days in Year 5 have had a sense of déjà vu. For me it was great to meet all the children again, after the summer break. Mr Coe and I, as a new teaching team, are looking forward to a year where both teachers and pupils work together developing the Year 5 curriculum. Certainly every child has impressed both teachers with the enthusiasm with which they have returned to school, being prepared and ready to take part in all tasks.

Our curriculum gets off to a great start straight away with our trip to Holt Hall Study Centre and a study in North Norfolk of the River Glaven. This will provide the basis for our teaching about rivers and will provide a great example to refer to as we work through linked topics such as habitats, river energy flow, water cycle, settlement and natural features. As you will be aware Year 5 also plan a residential trip to Holt Hall in June, so this early experience acts a bit of a taster too.

Literacy is focusing on the work of Michael Morpurgo during the first four weeks, looking at a range of his novels before writing in his style ourselves. Later we will be moving on the stories from other cultures. Aborigine culture and traditional stories will be part of this study, as it works well with our teaching for Black History Month. I'm particularly looking forward to the art work which we hope to generate from this project.

Later in the term we focus on science. We will be learning about ourselves and how the body functions. We are keen to link this to P.E and ICT when we investigate links between exercise, healthy eating and fitness. Of course the school will be organising an end of term performance, which all children take part in. Hopefully more Year 5 volunteers will receive a part in this performance. We will all be singing!

We have an after school tea party on Monday 26th. September, 3:30pm to meet parents and introduce ourselves, as well as discuss the coming year. We intend to have regular cooking sessions during the year. In order to organise this I would like to ask for volunteer parents who could come in to school regularly for an afternoon each week. I will be sending out a letter to ask for cooking and reading helpers very soon.

All children in school have been given a learning journal. This replaces the contact book from last year. Pupils are expected to read every evening and fill in the reading section. If a child has a club or is unable to read one evening, they can fill in this space by catch-up reading during the weekend or at lunchtime. Mr Coe – PE leader – was very impressed with the smart turn-out of pupils for their Games lesson last week. Pupils will need Games kit on Thursdays and PE kit on either Wednesday (5T) or Friday (5C).

Debra Turner

Autumn Term Diary

September

19 th /20 th /23 rd	Year 5 trip to Holt Hall (small groups)
Monday 26 th	School Photographs (individual) N.B. CHANGE OF DATE
	Year 5 Parents Curriculum Information Event 3.30pm (room 5T)
Wednesday 28 th	'Grassroots Theatre' (whole school assembly & Y6 workshops)
	Year 3 Parents Event 9.30am in classrooms
Thursday 29 th	FOF AGM 3.30pm
	Year 6 Parent's Kingswood & curriculum plans information event 3:30 pm in 6m classroom

October

Thursday 6 th	Year 4 Parents Curriculum Information Event 3.30pm (room 4P)
Tues/Wed 11/12 th	Parents Consultation Meetings 3.30pm-5.30pm
Friday 21 st	Harvest Assembly (with Ian and Sally McBride from the Salvation Army)
Monday 24 th	Half term week
Monday 31 st	School re-opens

November

Tuesday 22 nd	Anti-bullying week - theatre group to visit in school
Wednesday 23 rd	Year 6 Newspaper Day

December

Tuesday 6 th	School Play
Wednesday 7 th	School Play
Thursday 15 th	Christmas school lunch
Friday 16 th	Last day of Autumn term

2011-2012 TERM DATES

Autumn	7 th September to 16 th Dec	Half term	24 th to 28 th Oct
Spring	4 th Jan to 30 th Mar	Half term	13 th to 17 th Feb
Summer	16 th April to 20 th July (Bank holiday 7 th May)	Half term	4 th June to 8 th June

REQUESTS FROM THE OFFICE

School lunch orders: Please try to place orders on a Monday at the office (envelopes available) and make cheques payable to Firside Junior School.

Contacts: please make sure the office has your up to date details in case of emergency - particularly phone numbers and email addresses.

Helping: if you are volunteering your help in school please talk to the office about CRB checks.

Uniform: please ensure that everything is clearly named so we can ensure lost uniform can be returned to the rightful owners.

Photographs: will now take place on Monday 26th September. We must have your photo consent forms returned by Wednesday 14th September please.

Redecoration of Girls Toilets

We would like to extend a huge 'Thank-you' to the Holiday Inn and their 'green-team' for the fantastic job they did over the summer, redecorating some of the girls toilets. Everyone knows how tight resources are in schools and without their help the much needed redecoration would quite simply not have happened.

Conservation Area Clean-up

We are also indebted to Shelley Logan and her team who worked so hard to rejuvenate the conservation area. Over the course of the second week of the holiday they got really stuck into their work, clearing out all the weeds and waste, and getting the area ready for the new term. Another huge 'Thank-you'!