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AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2015

21ST October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

I can hardly believe that we have reached the half term holiday already! It feels as though the last 6 weeks have flown by. All of the pupils have settled into the new school year very well and have been busy working hard all term.

When we return from the holiday pupils will not be permitted to go to the school office and ask Mrs Nickerson-White to call home unless in the case of extreme emergencies. Therefore pupils who forget their PE kits or homework etc. will not be able to ring and ask you to bring them in for them. Likewise pupils who forget their packed lunch will be provided with a school lunch and a note will be sent home informing you of what has happened and how payment can be made.

Tucasi is now fully up and running and all trip money and dinner money can be made online through this system. Please contact the school office if you have any difficulties at all with Tucasi.

When we return to school after the holiday could you please make sure that if your child wishes to play on the school field at lunchtime they bring with them a complete change of clothes – tracksuit trousers, trainers and top to wear whilst on the field. Please note that they should not be using their PE kit for this.

I hope that you all have a lovely half term and well deserved break. We all look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 2nd November.

Mrs R Robinson

Head of school



Christmas performance

This year, the school's Christmas performance will be in form of celebration of carols, singing you through the Christmas story. The whole school will take part in a single performance on **Tuesday 15th December 2015** at 1.30pm. This will NOT be at school this year. Instead, we will use the beautiful setting of **St Catherine's church in Mile Cross**. An invitation to the event will be sent out separately to you. We will need to initially restrict seats to 2 per family. Please let us know as soon as possible how many seats you will require, including if you are unable to attend. This will help us to gauge whether we can release more tickets for families. If you are able to come to the performance, you may collect your child/children from the church and accompany them to the church hall for a mince pie and hot drink. Any children not collected from the church will be taken back to school to be collected from there.

As in previous years, we will be supporting the Buckingham Sugar appeal (BEFA) and would ask that that for each ticket you ask for, you donate a bag of sugar.

Road Safety

Can we please draw your attention to road safety around the school. As we are sure you are aware, Middletons Lane is a very busy road and we are concerned about the way some children are crossing the road. Mr Oakey is there at the crossing to help your child/children cross the road safely. Therefore could you please encourage your child/children to walk the extra bit further and cross at the correct place.

Also, can we ask you to remind your child/children to cross the road safely by walking not running.

Music

Does your child love listening to and playing music? Have you thought about arranging music lessons for them? Instrument teachers at Firside currently have places available for individual or group lessons in piano, guitar and drums for years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and, additionally, in clarinet, flute or saxophone for years 4, 5 and 6. If you don't have an instrument of your own, it's not a problem. You can borrow one from the Norfolk Music Service whilst they are learning at school (not applicable to drums or piano!). Once children are competent enough, they can join the school ensemble for some extra practice and fun at no cost to you. Many of our young musicians have gone on to join the Hellesdon High School band and have reached a very good level of musicianship. So if you would like to give your child this wonderful opportunity, contact Mrs Nickerson-White at the school office for further information and an application form.

Sports

On 5th October, 16 year 6 pupils went to Hellesdon High School to take part in a tag-rugby tournament. It was themed on the Rugby World Cup and our group played as two teams, South Africa and Ireland. Just like the real team, South Africa were really strong and won all their games to win the competition. Ireland also managed to win 3 of their 5 matches. We enjoyed it when we played New Zealand (a team from Horsford Junior) as they were also a strong team. It was a real challenge and we won the game by 3 tries to 2. Soon we will be playing in another tournament and we hope to do well again.



by Emily Cullingford and Paige Winter

This year we have been enjoying the challenge of playing 9-a-side school football for the first time. We have 14 in our squad. In recent weeks we have played Horsford, Woodland View, Sprowston and Angel Road. The scores were 4-0, 5-0, 2-5 and 2-0. With 3 wins, we are at the top of the league! We have also got through to the quarter final of the Cup competition with an exciting win on penalties against Angel Road.

by Lucas Cater and Eddie Eastall

