

# OLD FLETTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2019

Spring has sprung! Well I have seen some daffodils and my new glasses are turning to 'shades' when I'm out on duty, so there is definitely some sunshine. This also means we are 2/3rds of the way through the year, it never ceases to amaze me how time flies in education.

The curriculum review is well underway with subject champions (teachers who lead a subject) beginning to make real inroads on enhancing all that we offer. This review is leading us to consider the best way to ensure we implement our curriculum across the day/week/block and year. I will keep you informed through the weekly updates and, of course, once everything is finalised we will publish the entire curriculum on the website.

Bar modelling training is still taking place with a consultant from Cambridgeshire County Council and alongside this we are considering the purchase of a whole school maths scheme called 'Maths No Problem'. This would be a huge financial investment, so we are waiting for a date from the company to come and present to all teaching staff to ensure there is a consensus. As with the curriculum I will let you know in the weekly updates.

## Staff Update

We have successfully recruited an experienced teacher for Year 4 - Miss Downie will be starting on 3rd June, after May half term. I would like to thank the class and parents for being so understanding during this very turbulent year.

Mrs Dakin has announced her retirement at the end of this year and I would like to thank her for her service. Miss Forster will be joining the Old Fletton Family in September.

## Governors

Governors will hold a Governor Day on 19th June where they will have the opportunity to experience the daily workings of the school and see how their policies and vision are implemented on a day to day basis.

Your views are really important to our school Governors and, as I mentioned in the weekly update an online questionnaire has been set up and will be available after the Easter holidays.

## School Communication

Weekly Updates - Hopefully you have been receiving the weekly updates throughout this last term. I took the decision that as there is so much happening in school, so very quickly, that a brief update is better than waiting for a longer termly newsletter from me.

School App - Another consideration under review at the moment is a school App which may also help with even more effective communication. I do however have to keep an eye on workload and manageability for everyone too.

Parentpay - If you are not already using Parentpay you should have recently received a letter giving you details of your user name and password. We have been sending out the weekly update and most letters electronically so would ask you to register an email address of your choice. It is important that you register as soon as possible to ensure you receive all electronic communications keeping you informed about school matters whilst we meet our GDPR obligations. Full details are included in the letter but if you require additional help or information please speak to Mrs Wallace or Mrs White in the school office.

**After Easter, children return to school on Wednesday 24th April**

## Attendance - Year To Date

National: 96.0%

Raising attendance is still a priority in school and we do appreciate your help in working with us to achieve this. You can see from the figures below that several classes are at or above the national average and a few more are very close to achieving this. We need to continue to work together to keep these figures as high as possible.

RCH	94.2%
RSK	94.1%
1AC	95.9%
1HM	95.0%
2LM	96.9%
2MF	96.0%
3BM	97.2%
3CP	96.2%
4LD	95.8%
4HV	96.2%
5JP	94.9%
5SM	96.4%
6RT	96.2%
6SB	96.5%

## Term time holidays

Please can I remind you that as a local authority maintained school we have to follow the local authority policy on term time holidays.

This means that I am unable to authorise holiday requests during term time. I need to be consistent and fair to all families with holiday requests. Please book any visits away during the school holidays - our term dates are on the school website and also available from the office.

## A plea to Years 4-6 parents & carers

Due to the ever increasing numbers of pupils on roll we find ourselves full to over-flowing. So, unless you need to speak directly to the teacher in the morning could you please drop-off in the playground and let your child enter the school independently. This would help ease congestion and allow the children to feel more 'grown up'. Thank you.

**Data Protection** - our policies and privacy notices are available on the website (in the About Us section) and also from the school office.

## Mobile Phones in School

We discourage pupils bringing mobile phones into school, however I am aware of a number of children who do so.

If you do allow your children to bring their phones, they must follow the school rules:

- Pupils must hand their mobile phone to the class teacher upon arrival at school and collect it at the end of the day.
- Pupils must not use their mobile phone on school premises.
- If a pupil is found to be in possession of a mobile phone during school hours it will be confiscated.

Please refer to the Acceptable use of Mobile Technology Policy which can be found on the website or is available from the office.

## Diary dates

24th-26th April - Celebration of Science  
6th May - Bank holiday  
13th-16th May - Year 6 SATs  
27th-31st May - Half term holiday  
22nd June - Summer Fete  
26th-28th June - Year 6 PGL trip  
2nd July - Upper School Sports Day  
3rd July - Lower School Sports Day  
12th July - Pop Mime Final  
18th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly  
19th July - Last day of summer term  
More dates can be found on the school website