

Potterhanworth News

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2021/22 Term 1

September 2021

Welcome



Whilst it may seem a while ago now, we do hope you all had a lovely summer break and managed to have some quality family time together.

We are really grateful for the kind words and gestures received at the end of last term—so a huge “thank you”!

As we head into week 3 of the new academic year, our hopes for a return to 'normality' have been somewhat upskittled! However, as always, our children and staff continue to come into school with a smile, and we are confident that we can navigate our way through any challenges across this next academic year. We are aware that we have such a strong school community, and we are continuously grateful for everyone's support.

Open Mornings

We welcome parents who wish to come and have a look around our school prior to registering their child for a place in September 2022.

Appointments are available at 9.30 -10.15 am, and 11-11.45 am on:

- Tuesday 19 November
- Wednesday 3 November
- Monday 8 November



Please call us to book your slot.

Harvest Celebration

Monday 4 October

This year, our Harvest celebration will be via a Zoom Collective Worship—all children will participate and pictures will be shared via Twitter.

Harvest gifts will be donated to Lincoln Community Larder (providing support for people in need). They would be grateful (more so than ever, in these challenging times) for donations of:

- Store cupboard foods (tins/jars/packages)
- Toiletries

Please bring items into school in a carrier bag on the morning of 4 October (or before), as the Community Larder will be collecting on the afternoon of 4 Oct. Thank you



Safeguarding Information

It is a statutory requirement that we include our Safeguarding Policy on the school website & is available to all parents. Please visit www.potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk— select the “Policies” tab, and you will see our **Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy** included in the list.

Mrs Challinor is our Safeguarding Lead should you have any concerns.

Year 6 Leavers

We wish our Year 6 leavers well in their new schools, and look forward to hearing about their achievements.

Charity Fundraising

This year, we will be fund-raising for **Breast Cancer**

FOPPS

Friends of Potterhanworth Primary School (FOPPS) would like to welcome new and returning friends to the school this year.

For those new to the school, we are a small team who organise events in order to raise much needed extra money to support opportunities for the children. These have included film nights, raffles, coffee mornings, sponsored runs, walks and personal individual challenges: with the profits going towards outdoor play equipment, school trips, leavers gifts, new arrivals book bags, support for the Forestry School approach to learning, extra books for the library as well as book cases to put them all in.

We are always looking for new members and will need some innovative ideas for this year to help us provide those additional opportunities which the school budget does not always cover.

We are all busy juggling various commitments and so we do not expect everyone to be able to commit to every event, meeting or bake sale. However, in order to remain compliant we do need a minimum of 5 members, and the fundamental roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary must be filled. If you would like to get involved or you have some ideas for events please do contact us either on Facebook or speak to the office who can pass on your details.

The first date for the diary will be a **virtual AGM**. More details to follow.

"Housekeeping" Matters

- A reminder that our policy states that we require a week's notice (whenever possible) of any appointments your child has during school time. Please complete a form (available from the office) if your child will be attending dental/medical/other appointments.
- Please let us know if your child has permission to walk home unaccompanied.

Playground Routines and Safety

It is important that children arrive in school on time to start their learning. Please be punctual. Children can enter their classrooms to start their learning when they hear the school bell at 8.50 am. School officially starts at 9 am.

Thank you for supporting school safety by waiting in class lines at the end of the day.

Please can parents keep pre-school siblings close to them whilst they drop-off and collect their children.

For everyone's safety, there must be **no** running on the playground during this time, and no bike riding/scooters etc on the playground.

At the end of the school day, please could the last person leaving the playground close the gate.

Thank you

Contact Information and Medical Details

Please ensure we have up-to-date contact details and permissions — you are welcome to come to the Admin Office and check current information.

Please also check that your child has up-to-date medication in school (for those children who have regular medication such as inhalers/epipens). This is parental responsibility.



CoolMilk supply milk to our school. Milk is free for all children until their 5th birthday. After that, you can order milk directly from CoolMilk by logging on to their website: www.coolmilk.com

Please come to the office for further information/help with this.

All infant children receive fruit each day (free of charge). Juniors are invited to bring a piece of fruit from home to enjoy at break time (dried or fresh fruit only—no fruit flakes, or chocolate covered fruit)



School Meals

Our meals are provided by Good Lookin' Cookin'. All infant children are entitled to a free school meal—parents order meals in advance, using Good Lookin' Cookin's website.

If you think your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please see a member of the office staff. It is very easy to check.





Please make sure you do not send your child with any items containing nuts, for example:

- Cakes
- Biscuits
- "Fruit" snacks
- Packed lunches

Photographer

The photographer will be in school on the morning of MONDAY 22nd November to take individual photographs.

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer family photographs this time—this is due to safety measures relating to Covid 19.

Thank you for your understanding.



Please can dog owners leave the pavement clear for children coming to and from school. If you bring your dog to/from school, please can you wait on the Memorial Hall drive.

A reminder: dogs are not allowed on the school premises.

Thank you.

PARKING

PLEASE can we ask everyone dropping off/collecting children to park carefully.

It is everyone's responsibility to keep our children safe.

Thank you for your support.

Parents' Evenings

In our 'dates' section, you will notice that we are offering a face-to-face or a virtual meeting (via Zoom) for our Parent's Evening meetings in the Autumn term.

We will keep this under review, and should circumstances change then we will up-date you.

Staff Up-date

Mrs Kerr will be taking maternity leave from Monday 15 November.

We are in the process of recruiting cover, and will confirm details in the near future.

CORRESPONDENCE

Please use the red post box for all correspondence from home.

PARENT MAIL – all correspondence is sent electronically. If you are not already registered with Parentmail, please see Julie in the office.

New parents should have received an invitation to register with Parentmail.

School Uniform

A reminder of our school uniform policy is attached—please take a moment to re-read this.

- Please can all children wear socks with their footwear.
- Skirts/dresses should be knee-length or longer.
- We advise that PE kits should be of school colour.
- Hair bobbles should also be in school colours—no large bows/decorative hair accessories.

Science Quality Mark

We are delighted to have just received the accredited 'Silver Science Quality Mark'. Primary Science Quality Marks are awarded to schools to celebrate their commitment to excellence in science teaching and learning. Please see attached.



Twitter

Do please continue to check-out Twitter, as this is a means of seeing what is happening in school and an opportunity to celebrate the children's learning.

We are Here to Help

Do please contact us if we can help with anything.

If you have any queries or concerns about your child, please speak with the class teacher in the first instance. If this is of a confidential or sensitive nature, please ask if you can arrange a time to chat (either in person or over the 'phone).

The Big Ask (a message from the DfE)

The Children's Commissioner's The Big Ask...and The Big Answer

Earlier this year, The Children's Commissioner asked all children in England to complete a survey, to show the true voice of this generation. The results are in and The Children's Commissioner would like to say thank you. Over half a million children responded, the largest survey of its kind in history, and at a landmark moment for young people growing up in this country.

At a critical time, as we emerge from the pandemic, children have told us how the past year has affected them and what needs to happen now to put them at the heart of the recovery. Despite the sacrifices they have made, the majority of children say they are happy.

Children were united – they told us they want to get back to school, to get on, and do well. To have fulfilling lives. Children cared deeply about their family, their communities, their wellbeing and are an ambitious, excited generation. They want to make a contribution to a better world, a greener world, rooted in fairness of opportunity for everyone. The Children's Commissioner is now making sure children are being heard.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September

22nd Fitness Day

23rd Swimming begins for Y5/6 (postponed until further notice)

25th Potterhanworth Autumn Festival at the Pavilion & Playing Fields, 2-6 pm

October

4th Harvest Zoom at 9 am

21st (Thursday) end of Term 1

November

1st Term 2 begins

9th "Face-to-face" Parents' Evening (3.30-5.30 pm)

11th Zoom/virtual Parents' Evening (5.30-7.30 pm)

22nd Individual Photographs (morning)

23rd SAIS team in school to deliver flu immunisation

December

6th Early Years Nativity*

Christingle (at 6 pm in St Andrew's Church)

8th Key Stage 1 Nativity*

17th End of Term 2

** Due to our growing numbers, we are excited that children will be performing two separate Nativities this year (Early Years and Key Stage 1). Further information to follow.*