

Potterhanworth News

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2023/4 Term 1

September 2023

Welcome



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”!

We welcome our new Reception children and their families, who are already settling-in to school life incredibly well. And we also welcome children and families who have joined us in other year groups.

The children have made a wonderful start back, and it has been really heartwarming to see them settle so swiftly into their new classes.

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 2024.

Appointments are available between 9.30 and 11.30 am on:

- Wednesday 11th October
- Wednesday 15th November

Please call us to book your slot.



Harvest Celebration

Monday 9th October

Our Harvest celebration will take place in Church at 9 am—you are very welcome to join us.

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 9th October (or before), as the Community Larder will be collecting later that day. Thank you

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LIST OF MOST USEFUL DONATIONS.



End of Day—Parent Waiting Areas

Year 2 parents—please wait close to the Y2 exit door, to ensure that staff can see you.

Parents waiting at main wooden gate—we can only see you on the camera if you are in the vicinity of the gate.

With effect from 18th September, please could Y6 parents collect their children from the main memorial Hall doors.

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. The up-dates are due to be ratified at the next Governor meeting.

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. It has been wonderful to hear how they have settled into their new schools. As the years move on, we always love to hear feedback on their achievements and awards at secondary school.

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. 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.

Charity Fundraising

This year, we will be fund-raising for Cancer Research; they fund scientists, doctors and nurses to help beat cancer sooner and also provide cancer information to the public.

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 8.35 am. School officially starts at 8.45 am.

If you arrive after 8.45 am, please sign in at the Admin Office.

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

Macmillan Coffee for School Families

Our Year 6 children are hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Memorial Hall on the morning of Friday 29th September, from 9 to 10 am. Please join them for coffee and delicious home-made cake to support this very important charity. We would be very grateful for donations of cake, which should be brought to school on Thursday 28th September.

Collective Worship in Church

Collective Worship has resumed in Church on Fridays at 9.05 am. There is an open invitation for parents to attend.



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 25th September** to take individual and family photographs.



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.

A reminder that we are no longer allowed to use the Chequers car park.

Parents' Evenings

- Tuesday 14th November 3.30-5.30 pm (face-to-face meetings)
- Thursday 16th November 5.30-7.30 pm (Zoom/virtual meetings)

Staff Up-date

We welcome Mrs Nicky Collins, Teaching Assistant, in Reception Class and Mrs Burgess, Teaching Assistant, in Key Stage 2.

Mrs Nicholson has rejoined the lunchtime team!

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE & ILLNESS

Please 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.

Under no circumstances must a child return to school after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea until they have been free from symptoms for 48 hours. Please follow this link for the current guidance on Coronavirus : www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Children suffering from infections requiring treatment by antibiotics should not normally be in school until the course of treatment has been completed, and it is advisable for members of staff not to administer medicines in such cases. However, on appropriate occasions the Head teacher will make facilities available for a parent who wishes to come into school to treat their child, or for a member of staff to administer the medicine (NB: only if a permission slip is completed and the member of staff signs.)

Under no circumstances can we accept medication in unmarked containers. All medication must be handed to the Admin office (by an adult), and collected at the end of the day. Please do not put ANY medication in your child's bag.

COMMUNICATION

PARENT MAIL – all correspondence is sent electronically. If you are not already registered with Parentmail, or if you require any assistance, 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, and shorts of a reasonable length.
- Hair bobbles should also be in school colours—no large bows/decorative hair accessories.

Attendance and Absence Reporting

Attendance

- 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.
- **We wish to emphasise the importance of regular attendance at school.** School is a vital part of your child's academic and personal growth, and they enjoy the routine and sequences of learning that help them to thrive. Whilst we appreciate children may be absent due to illness, the school will not authorize any holiday requests unless they are deemed as 'exceptional circumstances' or meet the Department for Education criteria.

Absence Reporting

Children's absence should be emailed to school via their class email, as follows:

YearR@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

Year4@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

Year1@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

Year5@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

Year2@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

Year6@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

Year3@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk

These email accounts should also be used to inform us of changes to home-time arrangements—eg, your child will be collected by a friend/other parent etc

You will receive an automated response once your message is delivered. **Please do not use these email accounts for any other messages**, you should continue to send all other correspondence to enquiries@potterhanworth.lincs.sch.uk



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).

A reminder that our Communication Policy states:

It is not always possible for teachers to meet with parents on the same day that a request is received. We will always endeavour to meet with you within 2 working days whenever possible. (If it is not possible to meet within 2 days, we will contact you to explain.) In the event of a safeguarding matter, the teacher/designated person will see parents immediately.

We allow parents to take the opportunity to have a brief word with the teacher when they bring/collect their child from school, but please be mindful that we start our learning promptly at 8.45 am, and if more than a brief word is required we encourage the parents to make an appointment.

We are aware that there may be a more regular need to share information regarding our youngest children. Therefore, in the youngest class there is always a member of staff available to deal with any liaison you wish to share at the beginning/end of the day.

Flu Immunisation

A reminder that the immunisation team will be in school on **Thursday 28th September**.

If you have not already registered your child, please follow the link in the letter sent via Parentmail on 5th September (alternatively, you can visit their website: lincolnshireimmunisations.co.uk)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September

w/c 11th	Clubs began
25th	School photographs
26th	Y6 Construction Day at Lincolnshire Showground
28th	SAIS team in school to deliver flu immunisation
29th	School Macmillan Coffee Morning (Memorial Hall) 9 am -10 am

October

9th	Harvest Celebration in Church. 9 am
11th	9.30-11.30 am Open Morning for children starting school in September 2024
13th	3.20-4 pm Reception class Phonics "Stay and Play"
16th	Parent invitation to KS2 Greek Feast—3.15 pm (further information to follow)
20th	End of term 1
Tuesday 31st	Term 2 begins

November

6th	Charity Clothes Collection (see attached leaflet)
8th	3.30-4 pm Pre-School & Reception Autumn Afternoon (further information to follow)
9th	KS2 Visit to Bomber Command Remembrance Service
14th	"Face-to-face" Parents' Evening (3.30-5.30 pm)
15th	9.30-11.30 am Open Morning for children starting school in September 2024
16th	Zoom/virtual Parents' Evening (5.30-7.30 pm)
22nd	Y6 Visit to Pizza Express (further information to follow)

December

Tuesday 5th	Christingle (at 6 pm in St Andrew's Church)
12th	2.30 pm Year R and Key Stage 1 Nativity
13th	9.30 am Year R and Key Stage 1 Nativity
14th	2.30 pm Rock Steady Concert
20th	End of Term 2

<u>January</u>	Wednesday 3rd Term 1 begins
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