



Drayton CE Junior School

NEWSLETTER Autumn 1 2023

Please go to: www.draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Where did the summer holiday go? Why wasn't it hot and sunny then? This week it's been really good to welcome all of the children back to school – my, some of them have really grown! I've loved hearing all about their holiday adventures, especially after bumping into a few of them at the Dinosaur Park and parkrun! As always, the start of the new school year brings fresh challenges and opportunities, sometimes a few butterflies in the tummy, yet we remain as passionate as ever about providing great learning memories for the children, starting on Monday with the Planetarium which always creates a buzz. You really can't beat watching the children's eyes light up and their excitement learning all about space. Best wishes, Mrs Read



What has been happening at Drayton Juniors?

WELCOME TO YEAR 3: What a lovely group of smiley Year 3s have joined us this week! Very quickly the children are adapting to new routines, getting to know different adults and children, settling in well. Thank you to those parents who have already been in contact to share information or ask questions. Mrs Read, Mrs Leigh and Mrs Clarke (Pastoral Lead) are on the playground at the start of the school day so please do come and speak with them if needed. For parents/carers wishing to speak with their child's class teacher in person, then after school is always best and much easier. If you would prefer to email information/query, please send it to: admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk and the email will be forwarded to your child's teacher. Please be aware that it is not always possible to open emails until mid morning when lunches have been ordered (10am deadline with the kitchen).

A special Year 3 Welcome service has been arranged at St Margaret's Church on Friday 29th September, at 9:30am. Parents/carers of Year pupils are invited to attend the service which will last approximately 30 minutes. Our SENCO, Mrs Lamb, has also arranged a SEND Café for Year 3 parents/carers on Friday 6th October, 9:00-10:00 to share SEND information, resources and processes that Drayton Juniors follows. It is hoped that this will be a valuable opportunity to learn more about provision for pupils with SEND in schools, as well as ask any questions in relation to SEND. Parents/carers of pupils with SEND needs in other year groups are very welcome to join this café. Refreshments will be available.

NEW PUPILS: A very special welcome to children who have joined DJS in other year groups. It can be tricky joining a year group on your own but please do rest assured that children at Drayton are very good at making new friends and being very friendly and welcoming.

Y5/6 FOOTBALL: After school Y5/6 Football Club restarts for the new academic year next Thursday, 14th September. Mr Craig Lambourne will continue to lead the sessions, supported by Mr John Arden.

STAFFING: This term we welcome Mr Liam Knight to Drayton Junior, as our new Swim Instructor, plus Mrs Sarah Fletcher, who joins us as a new member of the support team, based in 4P. Finally, the observant may have noticed that 5S has become 5Y, with Miss Sabbar officially becoming Mrs Yates last year.



PREMISES: Over the holiday period the school was a hive of activity, as many of you may have noticed! Four classrooms (4H, 5H, 5L & 5Y) received much needed repairs and redecoration, with the corridor being

painted too. It has made a huge difference to the learning environment for the staff and children. Also, the major adults' toilet refurbishment project has finally been completed, creating an additional toilet for staff. A special thank you to Mrs Clare Hughes, our Premises Manager, who has managed both projects seamlessly.



DJS Information Update

SICKNESS REPORTING: If your child is not in school please ensure that you inform the school office before 9:30am. The reason for their absence needs to be provided. If possible, please call 01603 867504 to report your child's sickness/absence rather than email. You can leave a message on the school answerphone. When the office is very busy at the start of the day, the reading of emails can be delayed and it is crucial for safeguarding reasons that we account for all children's whereabouts. Your support is very much appreciated.

It is essential that the school holds two emergency contact numbers for each pupil. If your number changed over the holidays then please provide updated details via email. Thank you.

END OF DAY COLLECTION: Please remind your child/ren that if the adult collecting them from school is not there, then they should make their way to the school office or speak to the adult on the playground at the end of the day. Although other parents/adults may be tempted to help by looking after the child/ren themselves, this can lead to confusion and worry. Only adults listed by parents as authorised contacts on the forms in the office are able to collect children from school. If you wish to add names to your child's authorised adult list then please contact the school office.

RECEPTION TEAM: We are incredibly fortunate to have a dedicated reception team at Drayton Juniors who always go above and beyond to share information, solve problems and take excellent care of the pupils that come their way. On a Monday & Tuesday plus Wednesday morning Mrs Terrington leads in Reception, with Mrs Hastings doing the same on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please help us to look after this valuable team by being respectful and polite at all times. Whilst we fully understand the frustrations that parents may feel on occasions, remaining calm and respectful is always the best way to resolve an issue. As adults it is important that we model the behaviour we expect from the children.

Note: Verbal abuse towards all school staff will not be tolerated and may result in restricted access to the building and school staff.

PASTORAL LEAD: As mentioned previously, Mrs Clarke is our new Pastoral Lead, available two mornings a week to provide support for our families. You may have already seen her on the playground in the morning or even received a phone call from her. Mrs Clarke is another contact point for parents/carers. We are keen for her to support those experiencing difficulties with their child's behaviour or anxieties. This term she will be attending training as part of the 'Working with Worries' project before rolling it out with parents at DJS. If you would like to speak with Mrs Clarke then please see her on the playground before school or contact the office – admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk



PE KIT: All pupils should wear the correct PE kit – navy/black shorts; white/light blue top; plain school coloured blue/navy sweatshirt or hoodie. No others coloured clothing should be worn and no football kits. The children have looked great so far this term – thank you for your support.

FRIENDS OF DRAYTON JUNIOR: Are you keen to help the school provide additional resources/opportunities to support the children's learning experience? Do you want to get to know other parents/carers? Just a few hours can make a massive difference and it can be good fun too.

The Friends of Drayton Junior are keen to get new fundraising projects off the ground and really need the help of other parents/carers to make this possible. If you are interested please contact the school office admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk with your contact details and The Friends will be in touch.

COMMUNITY GOVERNORS: If you know of a member of the community keen to contribute to the governance of Drayton CE Junior School then please contact office@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk
Governors bring vital skills and perspective to a governing body, supporting the school's growth and development, providing both support and challenge.

DATES LIST 2023/24

September	
Mon 11th	Y5 Planetarium visit (school hall)
Thur 14 th	ASC Y5/6 Football starts 3:15-4:30
Wed 20 th	Y4 Sea Life Centre trip (all classes); 5Y Intergenerational Choir starts with Badgers Wood
Thur 21 st	Rev Marc leading DJS Harvest Collective Worship
Wed 27 th	Y6 Height and Weight (in school)
Fri 29 th	Y3 Welcome Service at St Margaret's Church – Y3 parents welcome to attend, 9:30 – 10:00am
October	
w/c Mon 2nd	The Kindness Challenge, NSPCC week
Fri 6 th	9:00am SEND Café led by Mrs Lamb, SENCO for Year 3 parents and parents of other pupils with SEND needs
Thur 12 th	Parents' Evening 3:20 – 6:00pm; Taverham High School Open Evening for Y6 parents/carers, 18:00 onwards
Tues 17 th	Parents' Evening 5:00 – 7:30pm
Wed 18 th	Y3 watch 'The Witch and the Egg' production, hall, a.m
Fri 20 th	Y4 Maths Café for parents/carers 9:00-10:00am End of Term
23 rd – 27 th	HALF TERM WEEK
Mon 30 th	Term starts
November	
Thur 2 nd	KS2 Cross Country@Langley 10am, more details to follow for children attending.
Fri 3 rd	Y5 Maths Café for parents/carers 9:00-10:00am
Mon 6 th	Flu immunisations (letters to follow)
Wed 8 th	Individual photos a.m
Fri 10 th	Y6 Maths Café 9:00-10:00

Tues 14 th	Y3/4 & Y5/6 Football, more details to follow for children attending.
Fri 17 th	Y3 Maths Café 9:00-10:00
December	
Wed 13 th	10:30 Intergenerational Choir Christmas performance – 5Y parents/carers invited to attend at Badgers Wood
Sun 17 th	18:30 Carols by Candlelight@St Margaret's Church
Mon 18 th	Norfolk Music Hub Pantomime
Tues 19 th	Evening: Norwich Philharmonic@St Andrew's Hall, Norwich – more information to follow
Wed 20 th	Christmas Service@St Margaret's 9:30 Y6 and parents/carers; 11:00 Years 3,4 & 5 pupils only.
21 st Dec – 3 rd January	HOLIDAY – Term starts Thursday 4 th January 2024

Please see the Norfolk County Council 2023/24 School Calendar for further details.