



## 2022 Spring Term Newsletter

### Key Dates

13/02/22	ITFC Coach sessions with all years
14/02/22	Last day of Spring Term 1
21/02/22	Spring Term 2 starts
21/02/22	Online parent evenings this week
02/03/22	Y6 Forensics Day
04/03/22	World Book Day
18/03/22	Comic Relief
23/03/22	Quicksticks Hockey
31/03/22	Ditchingham Easter Service
01/04/22	Last day of Spring Term 2

### Contacting Us

The school number is: 01986893277

In case of an out of hours' emergency please phone 07376299193

MyEd Message: This is regularly checked by our admin team and can be a useful way of getting an answer to a minor query

Email: [office@ditchingham.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@ditchingham.norfolk.sch.uk)

### Today's Prayer

Listen or read to the Prayer for the Day and join in with thousands others saying these words each day  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer/todays-prayer>

### Activities

East Norfolk Sixth Form Football Camp  
Monday 14th February and Tuesday 15th February.  
The days are suitable for children aged between 5-12 and run from 10am-2pm. The cost of each day is only £10 which includes a hot lunch.

### Headteachers Message

Welcome to the Spring Term! This term is short but very busy, with activities such as Safer Internet Day, Number Day, World Book Day, Comic Relief and our Easter celebrations to look forward to. I am sure that the children will make the most of all the activities offered to them, this week already, I have been really impressed by how well the children have settled back in to learning routines following the Christmas break; I have seen great evidence of our values of friendship, creativity and respect in all aspects of our school day. Well done to all of our children and a huge thanks to all of you for your continued support.

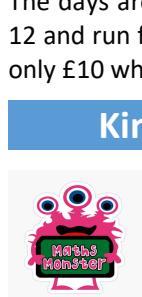
### COVID-19

Mrs Brand continues to monitor government updates and advice, and will advise any necessary amendments to the operation of the school day accordingly. As you will be aware there are some changes to testing and isolating requirements - see attached sheet for a summary. Please ensure that you keep us updated with your contact information by emailing [office@ditchingham.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@ditchingham.norfolk.sch.uk)

### School Uniform

All children are expected to wear clean, neat clothing selected from the list below. We are very grateful that many of you have donated uniform items that your child no longer needs, please do contact us if you need any uniform items and we can arrange for you to have a look through the items we hold.  
<http://www.ditchingham.dneat.org/school-life/school-uniform/>

### Maths Monster



Mondays after school club this term is Futsal (miniature football). The cost is £20 payable via Parentmail. Collection time is 4.20pm

Thursdays after school club this term is Circuits. The cost is £14 payable via Parentmail. Collection time is 4.00pm

### Kingfisher Reading Wings and Math's Monster

We want our pupils to be confident speakers, readers, writers and mathematicians. We encourage and support all children to read a variety of genres and authors, and learn to use adventurous vocabulary in their speech and written work. We place a significant emphasis on arithmetic, including learning basic number facts and multiplication. Your child should have a reading wings bookmark in their reading record book. We are encouraging children to make sure that they read with an adult before a Thursday morning and have the corresponding week numbered feather signed by that adult. Children will be encouraged to participate in a variety of arithmetic activities in school and at home, children from Y1 will have a log in to Times Table Rock Stars - we are encouraging children to access this at home as well as at school. Each week, the class with the most people that have had their reading wings signed and the class with most engagement in arithmetic activities, will get some extra break.

# Robins Update

Welcome to the start of a new term. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break!

I would just like to thank all the parents again for all your help and support throughout the last few months.

## **English**

In English we will be continuing with our phonics scheme; Read Write Inc. This teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step. We will also be completing a larger piece of writing towards the end of the term.

## **Maths**

In maths, we will be concentrating on addition and subtraction. We will be using our maths scheme 'Whiterose' in order to support our learning.

## **Science**

In Science we will be continuing to learn about everyday materials. introducing new materials, along with testing some of their uses.

## **Religious Education**

During our RE lessons we will be retelling stories connected with Easter and understanding why these are important to Christians. We will also discuss what happened at the last supper and how the Easter story turned from sad to happy.

## **Computing**

Computing lessons this term will focus on teaching the children all about E-Safety. We will learn how to safely search for images and stay 'SMART' online. We will also be learning about what an email is, as well as the importance of applying our safety knowledge to help others make good choices online.

## **P.E**

PE lessons will continue to be on a Tuesday and a Thursday, and both lessons will be indoors. Our topics this term will be gymnastics and dance. Please could all children arrive at school wearing their PE kits. It is expected that they will stay in them for the duration of the day.

## **Break time**

We are unsure when our free fruit scheme will continue, therefore please continue to bring in a healthy snack for break times. Break times will be outside, please can children bring in a waterproof coat and a spare pair of outdoor shoes.

## **Adults**

The class teacher will be Miss Harris. Who will be teaching the majority of the time.

Mrs Watson and Mrs Hadingham will be the classroom assistants. We are lucky enough to have Mrs Bradford teaching art on a Friday, and Mrs White teaching P.E on a Thursday. Our topic in art this term will be printmaking.

Water bottles need to be in school every day. Please can they be filled prior to arrival, and taken home at the end of the school day.

## **Home Learning**

Our current phonics scheme requires children to be issued one book per week. This means, new books will be issued on a Monday and need to be returned on a Friday. This book, along with your child's reading record do not need to be in school any other day. Paper copies of our book read in class during the current week will be issued on a Friday and will require returning after the weekend, on the following Monday.

## **Reception**

Tapestry builds a very special record of a child's experiences, development and learning journey through their early years of primary education. Parents are able to view online their child's progress and how much fun they're having, whilst also uploading their own comments and media. We would love to share your child's learning and view your comments and pictures. Please ensure that the office has an up to date email address that can be allocated to your Tapestry account. We will then send you a link to create your own account, this can be accessed easily on your mobile phone/tablet/PC. If you have any quick queries, we are happy to speak at drop off or collection times. Alternatively, you can book a phone call appointment with the office.

Miss Harris

# Woodpeckers Update

Welcome to the start of a new term. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break!

## **Maths**

This term we are going to continue mastering multiplication and division; Year 2 are learning rapid recall of their 2, 5 and 10 times table and using these to solve problems. If you would like to continue their learning at home this term, then please follow this link <https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources> and click on these units: Year 2- Autumn Block 4- Multiplication Spring Block 1 Division and Spring Block 2 Statistics.

Year 3 will continue to explore their 3, 4 and 8 times table and look at multiplying and dividing two digit numbers. If you would like to continue their learning at home this term, then please follow this link <https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources> and click on these units: Year 3- Autumn Block 3- Multiplication and division Spring Block 1 Multiplication and division Spring block 2 Money.

## **Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)**

Both year groups should try to play games and improve their scores regularly – at least for 15 minutes each time.

## **English**

This term Talk for Writing groups will look at the text Sulius, which is a warning narrative. Children will explore typical features found in this type of text, and focus on using adverbs and the power of three to create description.

The guidelines from Read Write Inc. state that Year 2 children should be finished, and to have moved on to Literacy lessons by now. We understand the last few years of education have been different, and we are so proud of how far the children have progressed. The one thing that is keeping children from moving on to Literacy lessons is their pace of reading, children are required to read a certain amount of words a minute and answer questions about the text, so it is crucial children are reading their RWI books and/or library books every day for at least 10 minutes.

## **History**

This term we are looking at the Vikings, focusing on who, what, when and where.

## **Science**

In our science lessons we will be looking at animal habitats, looking at different types of animals, living things, things that once lived and things that have never lived.

## **R.E.**

Our R.E lessons will be focussing on special meals, looking at Passover, Christmas and other special religious meals.

## **P.E.**

In P.E we will be improving our balance and coordination through gymnastics and dance. (Mondays and Thursdays)

## **Art**

In our Art lessons children will be printmaking, learning lots of new ways to create prints of different sizes, patterns and colour.

If you have any quick queries, we are happy to speak at drop off or collection times. Alternatively, you can book a phone call appointment with the office.

Miss Evans

## Barn Owls Update

Happy New Year to you all and a very warm welcome back to school to you all during this chilly January week. It has been lovely having the pupils back in and Mrs. FB and I are looking forward to lots of great work and fun as we head towards the warmer days of spring and summer.

### **Homework**

The expectations will stay the same for homework. Pupils have log in details for Ed Shed and TTRS.

Reading. Pupils need to read OUT LOUD to an adult for a short period of time (5- 10 minutes) at least two times a week. Please can an adult sign this off (your child can fill in the details) and this will count towards our 'Reading Wings' award and our class based reading progress chart. Reading records will be collected and reviewed on a Thursday morning as before so please check the record on a Wednesday evening.

### **Spellings**

There are two options. Pupils can choose either and can swap from one to the other each week.

1 - Ed Shed games remain available online for the current week's words. Pupils need to play the games twice a week for 15 minutes. The words change over each Sunday evening so there is a full 7 days to get this done.

2 – Write sentences or definitions. A document with the spelling words will be on Google Classroom each week. Pupils can write the meanings or a sentence using the word here.

### **Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)**

Pupils should try to play games and improve their scores regularly – at least twice a week for 15 minutes each time.

### **English**

We will continue to follow out Talk4Writing, working towards our own versions of descriptive stories, persuasive arguments, reports and explanation texts. Year 5 will be reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and Year 4 will be reading The Iron Man by Ted Hughes.

Maths. We will continue to enjoy numbers and other Maths topics, thinking about how they link together and how we can use all kinds of Maths every day to solve problems and help us.

### **Science**

This term we are focusing on forces. There will be investigations into friction, air and water resistance and we will ask and answer questions about how forces affect our everyday lives.

### **History**

History We will be investigating the Anglo Saxons, thinking about why they came to England in 400AD, how they lived and what parts of their language and culture are still part of our current language and culture.

If you have any quick queries, we are happy to speak at drop off or collection times. Alternatively, you can book a phone call appointment with the office.

Mr James

## Golden Eagles Update

### **PE lessons**

PE lessons are on Wednesdays and Fridays. All children will need to come to school wearing their PE kits on these days. We will be doing indoor PE so children will either be participating with bare feet or in clean trainers. Please ensure that children have a spare change of shoes for break and lunchtimes.

### **Our learning this half term**

This half term in English we will be writing a finding tale and a discussion text. We are continuing with Wonder in guided reading and in maths we will be learning about fractions, decimals and percentages and measurement. We will also be covering a wide range of learning in the afternoons. This will include gymnastics and dance in PE, Europe and Greece in Geography and the circulatory and respiratory systems in science.

### **Winter weather**

Children will need to bring in a coat daily and should also bring in a spare pair of shoes to keep in school for when they go outdoors.

Water bottles need to be in school every day. Please can they be filled prior to arrival and taken home at the end of the school day.

### **Reading books and home learning**

Children have a weekly library slot where they are given time to browse the library and change their books. If they finish their books during the week, they can inform an adult in class who will be able to help them change their book at some point during the day.

All homework is communicated weekly through Google Classroom. This is also where any self-isolation work is uploaded.

Please record reading at home in reading records which should be brought into school every day. Children should be reading at home with an adult a minimum of three times a week. Don't forget to sign the reading wings bookmark!

### **SATS club**

Our weekly SATS clubs will be starting next week. These are drop-in sessions and there is no need to book. More information about these has been sent out in a separate letter.

As usual, if you have any queries then please don't hesitate to get in contact with me. We are happy to speak at drop off or collection times. Alternatively, you can book a phone call appointment with the office.

I look forward to another exciting term with Golden Eagles class!

Miss Campbell

# COVID-19 Guidance: The Key Changes

As you will be aware, **from Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**, the guidance regarding testing will change. This information sheet has been designed to provide an overview for parents and carers.

## **Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow test results**

The rules on confirmatory PCR tests following a positive LFD test are going to temporarily change.

Under the new guidance anyone who develops **COVID-19 symptoms** should **continue to take a PCR test**.

From **11th January** in England, people who receive **positive lateral flow results for COVID-19** will be required to **self-isolate immediately** and **won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test**.

Anyone who develops one of the **three main COVID-19 symptoms** should **stay at home, self-isolate and take a PCR test**.

Under this new approach, anyone who receives a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result should **report their result on gov.uk** and **must self-isolate immediately**. After reporting a positive LFD test result, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace so that their contacts can be traced and must continue to self-isolate.

## **Isolation rules for those testing positive**

It is now possible for those who have tested positive for COVID-19 to **end self-isolation after 7 days**, following **2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart**. The first LFD test should **not be taken before the sixth day**. If **both** these test results are **negative**, and you **do not have a high temperature**, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result.

If you take an LFD test from the sixth day of your isolation period, and the test result is positive, wait 24 hours before you take the next test.

If you are isolating because of a positive test result but did not have any symptoms and you then develop COVID-19 symptoms during isolation, the period of isolation resets with day zero being the day your symptoms start. You should obtain a PCR test. You can arrange to have a PCR test by ordering it online or by calling 119.

## **Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19**

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an **LFD test every day for seven days** (or for **10 days if they live in the same household**) and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.



# WANTED

*It could be YOU! We are looking for  
valued school Governors*

DITCHINGHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY ARE LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE THE TIME AND SKILL SET TO HELP, GUIDE AND BE A LISTENING EAR TO THE TEACHERS.

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A PARENT AT A SCHOOL, OR A PARENT, JUST SOMEONE WHO HAS THE TIME TO GIVE TO THEIR COMMUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
FULL TRAINING AND SUPPORT IS GIVEN.

If you would like more information

visit <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/schools/governance/the-role-of-school-governors/> or email: [governance@donesc.org](mailto:governance@donesc.org)