



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

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Queen's Hill Primary



@QPrimary

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all so much for your continued support - for those of you who are getting used to the new drop off and pick up arrangements, for those of you who are very used to the system and being so understanding at having to wait a bit longer as the systems changes and to those of you who are continuing to manage learning at home.

I know many of you have been curious about how we will be managing transition this year.

Those new to Reception and Nursery are able to access an online film and powerpoint to explain some of the routines for September. For all the pupils who will be with us in September, their new teacher will be recording a story and setting an activity which will be shared with them via either Tapestry (for current EYFS children); Seesaw (for current Y1-Y4) and Google Drive (for current Y5 - a new online learning platform that they will be using in September). Their current teachers will continue to set the children's learning, either at school or online.

In all year groups we have either a teaching assistant or a teacher moving up with the cohort. This will support a smooth transition to the next academic year in these unusual times.

Like me, many of you are also wondering what September will look like for Queen's Hill Primary School! As this newsletter is being written the government guidance has just been released. Whilst it includes many answers to some of our questions, there are still many aspects we are unsure of. At the moment in time we are still unsure if we still need to have staggered drop off and pick up times, how we will manage staff absence if adults are not able to work in different class bubbles on consecutive days, whether children be able to eat in the lunch hall etc. We have already had three skeletal plans in place for September : one for "normal" school; one for "bubble" school and one for "home learning and face to face" schooling. It may well be that we will not know which one we will be using until late August when we know what the R number is. I do know that the school staff will all work extremely hard to ensure that your child has the best learning opportunity that we can deliver in September, whatever the guidance restrictions may be.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support and understanding.

Take care and keep safe

Penny Sheppard

Farewell

At the end of this term we say farewell to Mr Emmens (Year 5 teacher) who is going to Bignold Primary School. I am sure you join me in thanking me for his hard work over the last few years, especially with his "Danger-Us" club.

After six years Mrs Diggins, our admin assistant, will be moving on to new adventures. I am sure you join us in wishing her the very best in the future. We will miss her cheery disposition!

We also wish Mrs Pointon-Melville (Y5 TA) good luck for the future and wish Mrs Rennie (Y1 TA) and Mrs Knight (Y6 TA) good luck as they start teacher training.

New Roles

Congratulations to Mr James (Y4 HLTA) to who will be starting teacher training with us in September. We are also really pleased that Miss Blomfield had a very successful teacher training year with us and will be a "fully fledged" teacher with us in September!

Maternity Leaves

This month we welcome back Mrs Carpenter and Miss Phillips from their maternity leave and we look forward to Mrs Howes returning to us in September. Mrs Spicker (who is currently overseeing home learning for the Early Years team) will be starting her maternity leave next month, we will let you know when we hear any news!



Newsletter JULY 2020

Summer Term Dates
20th April to 21st July

New Staff

We welcome two new teachers to the Key Stage 2 team: Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Pascoe. We hope they will very soon feel part of the team.

Covid Update

We are part of a local research project into the transmission of Covid in schools. This means a number of items in different pods and areas are being swabbed and tested each week for five weeks. Reassuringly, we have had no positive swabs to date.

Summer Break

The staff will be taking a well deserved break in the summer and will be preparing for the new academic year over the holiday period. South Norfolk District Council are providing a list of summer activity clubs that are available in the area and as soon as we have that information we will share it on our school website.

Community Support

With every space in school now in use it's "all hands on deck" with staff. This means that sadly, we will now not be able to support Foodbank deliveries. Huge thanks to the staff who have been doing this over the last few months and delivered to various parts of Norfolk. I know Norwich Foodbank has also been extremely grateful for all the donations the community have made. We will continue to put the table out until the end of term if you would like to make any non-perishable food donations. Nappies and baby wipes are also very well received.

Free School Meals

For families who are entitled to free schools meals, we will be in touch with you shortly regarding the Summer Food Vouchers.

Staffing structure for September 2020:

EARLY YEARS:

- Nursery: Miss Wright supported by Mrs Challen and Miss Greenfield
- Reception: Miss Compton (EYFS and Year Leader); Miss Butcher and Miss Smart supported by Miss Blakely, Ms Dugdale, Mrs Hayton and Miss Penton

KEY STAGE 1:

- Year 1: Mrs Carpenter (KS1 Phase Leader); Ms Stephens; Mrs Walden and Mrs Sims (Year Leaders) supported by Mrs Beevor, Miss Carver, Mrs Chester, Mrs Key and Miss Smith
- Year 2: Mrs James and Mrs Howes (Year leaders); Miss Keenan and Miss Phillips supported by Miss Cooke, Miss Hewitt, Mr Honour and Mr James (no relation of Mrs James!)

KEY STAGE 2:

- Year 3: Mrs Andrews and Mr Cross (Year Leaders); Miss Peek and Miss Hicks supported by Mr Fraser, Miss Wakeman and Mrs Varvadecker
- Year 4: Mrs Bowes-Mulligan (Year Leader); Miss Bettermann; Miss Hunter and Miss Stevenson supported by Ms Harwood and Ms Manuscka
- Year 5: Ms Taylor (Year Leader) and Mrs Pascoe supported by Ms Brown
- Year 6: Mr Jones (Phase Leader), Mrs White (Year Leader); Miss Blomfield and Miss Hunter supported by Miss Chamberlain, Miss Forrest, Mrs Macare Cook and Mrs Pomfret

Term Dates for 2020/21

Autumn Term : Monday 7th September 2020 to Friday 18th December 2020 (Half Term : 23rd to 30th October)
Spring Term : Monday 4th January 2021 to Friday 26th March 2021 (Half Term : 15th to 19th February)
Summer Term : Tuesday 13th April 2021 to Thursday 22nd July 2021 (Half Term : 31st May to 4th June)

Online Safety

Throughout recent months children have been spending increasing amounts of time online and using technology. The best way to help keep your children safe online is to continue having conversations around online safety, regularly check phone and app settings together, and manage time online.

We'd really recommend looking at the **NetAware** website (www.net-aware.org.uk) which has lots of information and videos to support families to help keep their children safe online. This is a great place to start when deciding if an app is appropriate for your child by using their search tool. They use the 'TEAM' principle, which stands for Talk-Explore-Agree-Manage' (see the summary table below).

Talk to your child regularly about what they're doing online and how to stay safe. Let them know they can come to you, another trusted adult or **Childline** if they're feeling worried or upset by anything they've seen. Why not play our Parents vs Kids game to help get the conversation started?

Explore your child's online activities together. Understand why they like using certain apps or games and make sure they know what they can do to keep themselves safe.

Agree your own online rules as a family. Use our **family agreement template** to help you get started.

Manage your technology and use the settings available to keep your child safe. If you need support doing this, you can call the O2 NSPCC Advice Line on **0808 800 5002**.

Taken from the NetAware website

Other useful websites for parents/carers include the 'ThinkUKnow' and 'Internet Matters' websites.

Free Summer Activities

We will be posting links on our Facebook page of any free summer activities ideas that are taking place in Norwich over the summer holiday as we are made aware of them.

Terrific Tuesdays will take place on the first four Tuesdays of the summer holiday but will be in a different format to normal due to the current circumstances. We will advertise more details once we have had confirmation - so look out for more details. Don't forget to sign-up to the Summer Reading Challenge to encourage reading during the holidays.

Sistema Music Lessons

Every student from Sistema has been signed up to Musico and they need to register on the site to access the online Sistema school. The registration email may go to a junk or spam folder. If you have any issues please contact Al Watts on al@norcasistema.org.uk



Our online music lessons continue to be really popular throughout the school and something which we are hoping to continue into next year. We know many children have really enjoyed seeing their music teacher online and it has been great to see videos and photos of you joining in at home!

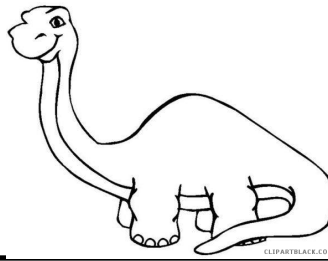
If you have not done so already, please do watch our latest video which includes some brilliant artwork from across the school, alongside a beautiful backing track sung by staff and pupils. <https://bit.ly/2D2iz3T>

Nursery:

We have really enjoyed welcoming back lots of the nursery children this half term and finding out what our home learners have been doing!

The children have been fantastic at learning to read and write initial letter sounds and have enjoyed playing phonics games with 'Fred the frog'.

We have had lots of opportunities for outdoor learning with our friends and even went on 'A Dinosaur Hunt'!!!



Reception:

Lots of Reception children have been busy settling back into school life over the last month, whilst some are still continuing with super learning at home.

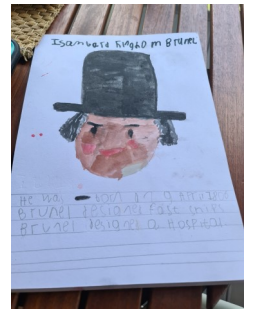
We have really enjoyed getting stuck into our topic of growth and the children have watched in amazement as our bean plants have grown. They have immersed themselves in the magic of learning and have loved listening to traditional tales and are eagerly awaiting finding out whether castles really do grow at the top of beanstalks!

Reception staff have been blown away by the excellent progress children have made in phonics with their reading and writing and how eager the children have been to get stuck back in at school.



Year 1

It's been another brilliant month in year 1. Those pupils who have joined us back in school have settled in so quickly to the new routines and we continue to be impressed with the amazing learning that is happening at home. This month we have been learning about the engineering accomplishments of Isambard Kingdom Brunel and explored what life might be like onboard the international space station as part of our topic on 'space'. Our new 'live storytime' sessions have been a daily treat in school, and pupils have really enjoyed hearing stories and asking and answering questions from some of the year 1 staff!



Year 2:

We have loved to see how creative our Year 2s can be. They have made amazing junk model animals during our virtual cafe, designed their own beach huts on our Cromer beach trip day and created their own obstacle courses to practise PE skills. Lots of Year 2 children have enjoyed returning to school, seeing their friends and learning in the classroom again. We have felt so proud seeing the children settle in quickly and happily!



Year 3:

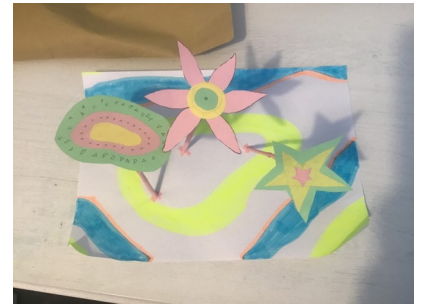
It has been another busy month of home learning for Year 3 pupils and their families. Again, thank you to all our year 3 families for their continued support. It has been so lovely to see children's learning continue at home and the progress they have made. It appears that our year 3 cohort are becoming fantastic musicians! The year 3 teachers have enjoyed listening to the music that children have composed and performed using pans, pencils, tins and home-made instruments. If they've not been making music, they've been scientists, artists, writers, mathematicians, athletes and keen videographers!

Year 3 should have visited the Norfolk Show this year (hopefully they'll get to visit next year!) and we are excited to see the artwork that children are going to submit linked to the competition that the Norfolk Show shared before lockdown. Year 3, we are so proud of how you have adapted to online learning in the last few months! Well done for being resilient too!



Year 4

Year 4 have continued to work their socks off in all areas of the curriculum. Some children have returned to school part time whilst some children have continued to work from home. We have been thinking a lot about the planet and looking after our environment. Some children have written some wonderfully persuasive letters to Boris Johnson. The children have also been creating some beautiful artwork in the style of Michael Brennand-Wood. As we come to the end of the school year, we are starting to think about our goals and aspirations for the future.



Year 5

Year 5 children have continued to produce some amazing work this half term. Whether creating fitness circuits in PE, writing about the Tudors in topic or delving into ratios in maths, it has been clear to us that the love of learning is still very much alive at home! As ever, creative tasks such as the drawing of different marine creatures or construction of games using software on Purple Mash have delivered a wealth of quality work and showcased the talent which is so rife amongst this group of pupils. Although we are saddened that the academic year will not end as we had hoped, the whole Year 5 team would like to remind each of you how unique your talents are, how proud we are of the resilience you've shown during lockdown and how much we look forward to watching you continue to go from strength to strength in Year 6.



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Year 6:

Year 6 pupils have been busy this month, with lots of children learning in school and some continuing diligently with their studies at home.

As the term draws to an end, the Year 6 pupils have been thinking a lot about their transition to High School, which for many has been feeling quite daunting given that they are not able to take part in transition days and weeks in quite the way that they had perhaps imagined. We have been spending time in class and online completing transition work and preparing for the changes that lie ahead; the Year 6 team have been so impressed with the children's reflections and mature attitude.

The children also had a fantastic time earlier this month taking part in our 'Eaton Vale Day' and 'French Day' from home. We are so proud of you all!



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