



Autumn Term 2016

Friday 14th October

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big congratulations to Vanessa Leeson as she has a new full time job as Designated Teaching Assistant at Laxton Junior School which is both an exciting new role for her and also means she can work at the same school as her daughter. This means our first week back after half term will be a mix of welcomes and goodbyes for us as we will be saying goodbye to Vanessa on Friday 4th November, alongside Mrs Zoe Taggart who will also finish on 4th November, hopefully to have a few weeks of rest before the arrival of her baby! We will be welcoming Mrs Dawn Oram to her role as Robins class teacher on 1st November and she will spend the first week team teaching with Mrs Taggart so there is a really smooth transition. We also look forward to welcoming Vanessa's replacement on Monday 7th November.

As Barn Owls is a large class, it is extremely highly staffed, e.g. for the daily phonics session each morning, there are four adults in the class and twice a week, there are two teachers for the maths sessions to allow a really detailed focus for our Year Ones and Twos, particularly during the Autumn Term when Year One children are making the transition from EYFS. However, we are taking this opportunity to build the capacity even further and so Vanessa's replacement will be full time, mainly supporting in Barn Owls. You may also have seen some other faces around school as we currently have several volunteers helping regularly in school, particularly in Robins and Barn Owls.

Thank you to everyone who completed and returned the Travel Plan to the school office. The results of these will be collated over the next couple of weeks. Please can I respectfully remind parents that the staff car park is only for staff, **not for parent drop-off**, unless it has been agreed with the school, e.g. for pupils with physical disabilities.

I look forward to welcoming parents to our Harvest Festival on Monday 17th October, 2.15pm, at St. Leonard's Church, Glapthorn. Our Harvest Festival will be led by Rev. Jema Ball and has the theme of Harvest around the World. As I have said previously, at the end of the service there will be the opportunity to share some of our Harvest allotment produce that the children have been busy cooking into a delicious Harvest Feast!

Children should bring any Harvest donations to school in the morning. Please can you **limit it to a tin or packet** that children can easily carry to the church. If you would like to donate more, please can you take that directly to the church (or bring it to school) to form part of our donation to go to Corby Food Bank. The food bank doesn't want fresh fruit and vegetables because they cannot easily distribute them. If anyone is able to drive the donations to the food bank, your help would be gratefully received. Please speak to Mrs Sawyer in the school office.

Katherine Towns, Head

Clubs

After half term, Boxercise will become 'Fitness through Games'. It is open to all children from Y1-6 at a cost of £4 per session. If you would like your child to be involved and they are not already, please let Joanna know in the office as soon as possible as if there are not more children attending the club, it will not be able to continue.

Similarly, the EYFS/KS1 Football club only has a few children going along. If you are interested, please let Mrs Sawyer in the office know as if we don't have more children, we may not be able to continue it.

Please do not take photos at the Harvest Festival as photos of children have appeared on social media sites without the permission of their parents.

As I have said previously, we have children in this school that do not have permission for their photos to be used for their own protection and in view of this, we need to say that no photos can be taken.

We will build in time at big events, e.g. nativity, for parents to come and take photos at the end of their child(ren) and we are also looking into taking official photos that can be made available after the event. If anyone would like to help with this, do speak to either myself or a member of FOGS.

Dates for the Term

Harvest Day and Harvest Festival: Monday 17th October

Parent Evenings: Tues 18th October, 3.30-5.15 p.m. and Wed 19th October 5 - 7.15 p.m. Bookings should be made via the school office.

Rights of the Child Assembly - Friday 18th November, led by KS2 children. Parents invited.

Christmas Nativity Performance: Tues 13th December, 2 p.m. and Wed 14th December, 6 p.m. (Dress Rehearsal 12th December)

End of Term Carol Service: Tuesday 20th December, 2 p.m.

Personalized Christmas Cards and Calendars

FOGS are organizing the opportunity for children to design Christmas cards and calendars and have them printed, as in previous years. Cards will be designed in curriculum art during the school day and FOGS will arrange a calendar workshop one day after school, date to be arranged. Please look out for the calendar workshop date and order deadline dates, which will be emailed out to you in the next few days.

Bonkers for Conkers

This year's World Conker Championships which took place in Southwick last Sunday will feature on Countryfile's Autumn Special programme on Sunday 23rd October.

School Admissions

Year 6 Parents

On-line admissions are now open for parents with children currently in Year Six, moving on to secondary school in September 2017. Applications must be completed by **31st October 2016**. If you have any questions, do ask either Mrs Coulthard or Mrs Towns.

Reception Starters

If your child turns 4 between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, you need to apply for a school place for starting school in September 2017. On-line admissions are now open and applications must be made by **15th January 2017**.

We have already started showing prospective parents around the school so if you know anyone who is interested, do tell them to contact us to make an appointment.

To apply for either a primary or secondary place, follow this link:

<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/school-admissions/Pages/default.aspx>

School Diary		
Day	During School	After School
Monday 17 th October	Harvest Day Harvest Festival at St. Leonard's Church, Glaphorn 2.15 p.m. - Parents welcome	Art Club
Tuesday 18 th October	Gardening Club	EYFS/KS1 Football Club Coding Club Parent Evening (detailed times attached)
Wednesday 19 th October	Interviews for Teaching Assistant Signing Club Strings lessons	Boxercise Club Parent Evening (detailed times attached)
Thursday 20 th October	School Council Elections	Cluster Yrs. 5 & 6 Football Tournament, PWS, therefore No Football Club in School Knitting Club
Friday 21 st October	French Club Woodwind and Brass lessons	Rugby Club
HALF TERM		
Monday 31 st October	SCHOOL CLOSED (Staff training day)	FOGS Halloween Event
Tuesday 1 st November	SCHOOL REOPENS Miss Oram starts in Robins class Gardening Club	EYFS/KS1 Football Club No Coding Club
Wednesday 2 nd November	Signing Club Strings lessons	Fitness through Games Club
Thursday 3 rd November	Nasal Flu Vaccinations Y1/2/3	KS2 Football Club Knitting Club
Friday 4 th November	French Club Woodwind and Brass lessons Last day for Mrs Taggart/Mrs Leeson	Rugby Club
Sunday 6 th November	9.15 a.m. Family Service at St. Leonard's Church, Glaphorn	
HALF TERM		
Monday 7 th November	Interviews for Ms Gregory's Maternity Cover	Art Club
Tuesday 8 th November	Gardening Club	EYFS/KS1 Football Club Coding Club
Wednesday 9 th November	Signing Club Strings lessons	Fitness through Games Club
Thursday 10 th November	Nightingales Class visit Peterborough mosque	KS2 Football Club Knitting Club
Friday 11 th November	French Club Woodwind and Brass lessons	Rugby Club
Saturday 12 th November	FOGS Dads' Big Tidy Up	