



Have you made it on to the nice list?????

We are getting towards the end of a long, busy and successful term and the festive season is fully upon us; I'm sure that many of us are looking forward to the Christmas holidays!

On December 7th we held our annual Christmas carol service at St. Peter Mancroft Church, for the first time. Thank you to all the parents, relatives, staff and pupils who came to this very special event. We enjoyed the new venue and were made to feel very welcome by everyone at St. Peter Mancroft. The service was a wonderful occasion, as always, featuring some beautiful singing by our choir, and excellent performances by the orchestra, glockenspiel, brass and woodwind groups and Year 5 singers. The service was completed by a traditional nativity 'tableau' by some Year 3 children and some clear and confident readings by Year 6 pupils. Altogether, over 140 children were involved in this year's service. I was very proud of everyone and we were pleased to have lots of positive feedback from parents and relatives. Thank you to the many members of staff who came along and especially those who work so hard to make the carol service such a highlight of the school year: Miss Comfort and Mrs Eaton for their excellent work with the choir and above all, Mrs Penwill, whose expertise and enthusiasm are a huge factor in the carol service's success.

There have been lots of other events and activities going on too. On 23rd and 30th November, the PTFA held Bingo and Chips sessions for the children. There was a great turn out for both, with lots of fun and excitement. The bingo and chips sessions made a profit of £220. Thanks very much to the PTFA for organising and running these events.

On November 24th, our girls' football squad played a tournament at UEA Sportspark. They played very well, winning two, drawing two and losing only one of their group games. Unfortunately, this wasn't enough to see them progress into the knockout stages. On the same day, Y5 and Y6 football teams played friendlies against Taverham Hall. The Y5 team won 7-4 and the Y6 team won 8-3.

On November 28th, Premier Sport were in school to provide free performing arts workshops for the Year 4 children, based on their dragons topic. On December 4th, we took a mixed team to the sports hall athletics competition at UEA Sportspark (see report below) and on December 12th the choir visited Oak Court Care Home, to entertain the residents.

This week the children have been having their Christmas dinners, complete with crackers and drinks, courtesy of the PTFA. The children have been served by a team of Year 6 pupils, all of whom wrote letters of application for the 'job' of waiter or waitress. The team of waiters and waitresses also help to prepare the hall and clear up afterwards—thank you to all of them for doing such a great job and helping make the Christmas dinners such an enjoyable experience for all the children. Thanks also to Angel, Sarah, Angie and Donna in the kitchen for all their hard work preparing and serving the delicious food.

Next week we have the PTFA Christmas discos on Monday December 18th (details have already been sent out) before the last day of term, Tuesday December 19th.

We are very pleased to welcome a new teaching assistant to the staff team: Claire Craig started with us on December 8th.

Best wishes for a very happy Christmas and New Year, and a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas holiday.

Paul Stanley

Headteacher



Please note:



**The first day
of next term
is Thursday
January 4th.**

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

If your child arrives late to school can you please ensure that you have escorted them to the school office to sign them in and provide a reason for their lateness.

Many thanks.

Advance Notice



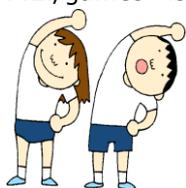
Brief interim reports for each child will be issued at the beginning of next term and our first learning reviews of the year have been scheduled for January 17th and 25th.

These will be an opportunity for the children to share and talk about their work with their parents/carers, and to discuss the interim reports and your child's progress and achievements. More details will follow early next term.

P.E./Games

We are having a bit of an issue with children not participating in games (particularly) and P.E. at the moment. It seems that some children are trying to avoid doing games lessons and/or are reluctant to go outside, so they ask their parents to write a note excusing them from games. Generally, if a child is well enough to attend school, they are well enough to take part in a PE/games lesson (unless of course they have an injury). In many cases, children provide notes excusing them from games lessons because of a slight cold, yet they are well enough to run around outside for nearly an hour at lunchtime, often without a coat!

P.E./games is a statutory part of the National Curriculum and every child should take part in lessons unless there is a very good reason for them not to. If a child is unable to join in with an outdoor games lesson, it follows that they should not be going outside at break and lunchtime, so we will be accommodating these children in the library at lunchtimes from now on.



Harvest Festival

Norwich Foodbank collection

We have been told that, as part of our 2017 Harvest Festival, we donated over 146kg of food to Norwich Foodbank.



Over the last few years parents/carers have generously donated a total of over 771kg to Norwich Foodbank. Based on the average weight of food boxes they supply, this would be enough food to feed more than 103 local people, who are in crisis, for 3 days. Sadly, Foodbanks are needed more than ever; in 2016/17, 1,182,954 3 day food parcels were given out. In 2008/09, the total was only 25,899.



Sportshall Athletics Finals

On Monday 4th December, a team of 18 enthusiastic and talented athletes from Years 5 and 6 departed for the UEA Sportspark to compete in the annual inter-school athletics competition. This competition gave the children of TJS the opportunity to test their speed, agility and strength against 10 other large schools in a variety of indoor track and field events. The team demonstrated a superb attitude throughout the event and showed great team spirit when supporting each other. We witnessed some incredible speed from the duo of Logan and Dylan and the awesome foursome of Megan, Lily, Gemma and Zoe performed fantastically in the obstacle relay. There were also convincing heat victories in the 4x1 girls and boys relays, starring our speedy team of Millie, Maddy, Lily, Aaliyah, Ronnie, Isaac, Logan and Dylan. The girls' victory was particularly pleasing after a second leg fumble with the baton, the girls showed incredible determination to claw back and then claim victory. There were disappointments and tough challenges throughout the day but our team showed great resilience and joy for the sport. After all the events were completed, we were delighted to discover that TJS came second overall. After an enjoyable and successful day, our team is already excited about the June and July outdoor events.

Social Media

Unfortunately, despite verbal and written communication about the issue, we are still hearing about parents posting pictures and video of pupils on social media. Any photos taken of pupils at the school should be for personal use only and not posted on any social media platform. The school has written consent to post photos of most pupils for particular purposes; parents don't, and to do so amounts to a data breach under the Data Protection Act/General Data Protection Regulations (which replaces the DP Act in May 2018). There are good reasons why some children should not be photographed, usually to do with safeguarding.

There are also some parents still using (or attempting to use) the PTFA Facebook page to have a moan about the school. The PTFA page is for questions and communication about PTFA events and activities only. If you have a question or an issue that you would like to discuss with the school please do so, by asking in the office, making an appointment to see your child's teacher or speaking to a member of staff on the school gate. It's often worth checking a few facts before going online, rather than relying on a bit of gossip or rumour!

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Domestic Abuse Champions

I have recently completed two days of training to become the school's 'Domestic Abuse Champion'. On average, 1 in 5 children in the UK are exposed to domestic abuse and schools are in a prime position to both recognise domestic abuse and support children who might be affected by it.

The training I've completed gives professionals in schools an understanding of domestic abuse and the power and control methods perpetrators use on victims. Domestic Abuse Champions know how to support victims of abuse, how to develop policies and procedures on domestic abuse and what support they and colleagues are entitled to. We have been given advice on how to support victims (both children and adults), resources that can be used in schools and details of local support agencies.

If you are being, or have been affected by the issue of domestic abuse, please contact

me by phone or email. Any calls, emails or conversations will of course be treated as strictly confidential.

Thank you.

Paul Stanley

Tackling the Spread of Infection

Stomach bugs, sickness and flu can spread very easily at this time of year, and all schools in Norfolk have recently been affected by a number of nasty viruses and sickness bugs.

The Director of Public Health for NHS Norfolk and Waveney says:

"We urge parents of children who fall ill with sickness and diarrhoea to ensure their children do not return to school until 48 hours after they were last sick or had diarrhoea. We understand entirely how difficult this can be for families, with the pressures of work and issues of childcare to juggle. However it is probably right to say a child who is sick might well have caught the illness from someone who was sent back to school before the infectious period had passed. Our aim, with this advice, is to prevent illness spreading within schools and causing more families distress."

If your child is sick, it is highly likely that it is the result of a sickness bug and they will still potentially pass this on to other children and staff if they return to school less than 48 hours after they were last sick (even if they appear to be well). Recently a number of children have been sent back to school less than 48 hours after the last sickness episode and we have had to contact parents and ask them to collect their child from school. We realise that this is inconvenient but unfortunately it is likely that sickness bugs have spread because children have come back to school too soon.

In some cases when children have been sent into school before 48 hours have passed, we have tried to contact parents only to find that they have been unobtainable, so we have had to isolate the pupil to reduce the risk of infection.

This is unfair on the child and it is irresponsible of parents/carers to send children into school before 48 hours is up merely because it is inconvenient for their child to be at home. Sadly some parents even tell their children not to tell us they've been sick, so that they can send them to school; fortunately, the vast majority of children are honest and usually spill the beans!

We are not medical professionals and can only apply the advice and guidance that the experts give us; we ask parents to respect this advice and work with us, for the good health and wellbeing of all. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Teachers2Parents App

You can now download the new Teachers2Parents App to get up-to-date school information about school events, text messages and school dates.



PTFA Christmas Disco- Monday 18th December

(Year 3/4: 6pm-7pm; Year 5/6: 7.15pm-8.30pm)



Please pay £2.00 on school money, tickets will then be issued to your child on Monday. You can still come along without a ticket and pay £2.50 on the door.

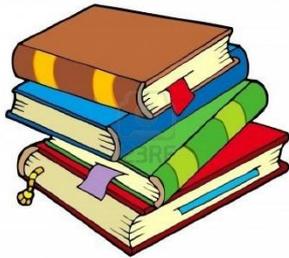
School Absence

If your child is off school ill could you please provide a specific reason. Unwell, poorly, ill is not sufficient. Please leave your message on the absence line stating your child's name, class and reason for absence.

Thank you for your co-operation.

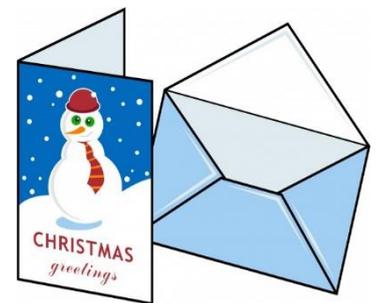
Travelling Book Fair

Thank you for your support with the latest book fair. You have helped raise £301 to go towards new books for the school library.



PTFA

The PTFA continue to support the school raising money through different events. The Christmas cards which were ordered through the school raised £785 to go towards school trips.



Thank you to the PTFA for organising this.



The Mad Science team will be running the after school club again after Christmas. Each week they will cover a different topic.

It is open to Y3 and Y4. Starting Tuesday 9th January, for 4 weeks. We have 12 spaces left. If your child would like to take part please collect a form from the office.

4 week programme = £28 per child

Please note. This is the same programme that has been running in school. If your child has already been on the 4 week programme they will not be given a place again.

Merry Christmas



PcGratten.com pspadictsrus.com SDU

DIARY DATES



December	
Mon 18th	PTFA Christmas Disco
Tues 19th	End of Autumn Term
January	
Weds 3rd	INSET day
Thurs 4th	Spring term starts for children
Fri 12th	Interim reports out to parents
Weds 17th	Learning reviews (3-6pm)
Mon 22nd	Flu vaccinations for Yr 3 and 4 children who were absent in November
Thurs 25 th	Learning Reviews (4-8pm)
February	
Fri 9th	End of half-term
Mon 19th	New half-term starts for staff and children
Fri 23rd	PTFA Quiz and chips (<i>Provisional</i>)
w/b Mon 26th	Book week
March	
Thurs 1st	World Book Day
Tues 13th	Cake Concert
Mon 19th - Fri 23rd	Sport relief
Weds 21st - Fri 23rd	Yr 6 Caythorpe Residential Trip
Weds 28th	End of Spring Term for children
Thurs 29th	INSET day
April	
Mon 16th	Summer Term starts for staff and children
May	
Mon 7th	School Closed (May Day Bank Holiday)
Weds 9th	Learning reviews and Yr 6 open evening (3-6pm)
w/b Mon 14th	SATs week
Thurs 17th	Learning reviews (4-8pm)
Thurs 24th	PTFA BBQ (<i>provisional date</i>)
Fri 25th	End of half-term
June	
Mon 4th	Start of half-term for staff and children
Weds 13th	Summer concert (6pm)
Thurs 15th	Summer concert (9am)
Thurs 21st	Multi-sports run-through
Tues 26th	Yr 2/Yr 3 multi-sports event
Weds 27th	New Yr 3 parents meeting (6-8pm)
Thurs 28th	Yr 3/Yr 4 sports day
Fri 29th	Yr 5/Yr 6 sports day

July	
Fri 6th	Transfer Day (<i>provisional date</i>)
Mon 16th	End of year reports sent out to parents
Tues 17th	Yr 6 show (6pm)
Weds 18th	Yr 6 show (9am)
Mon 23rd	Yr 6 awards assembly (9am)

	PTFA disco and leaver's BBQ (provisional)
Tues 24th	Leavers' breakfast Leavers' service End of Summer Term

***Dates are correct at time of publication.**
Please go to our website to check for
updates and new events*

TERM DATES 2017-2018

2017 / 2018	First day of term	Last day of term
Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 6 th September	Thursday 19 th October
Autumn Term 2	Monday 30 th October	Tuesday 19 th December
Spring Term 1	Thursday 4 th January	Friday 9 th February
Spring Term 2	Monday 19 th February	Wednesday 28 th March
Summer Term 1	Monday 16 th April	Friday 25 th May
Summer Term 2	Monday 4 th June	Tuesday 24 th July
INSET DAYS	<i>4th and 5th September 2017</i>	
	<i>3rd January 2018</i>	
MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY	<i>Monday 7th May 2018</i>	

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Dates for Staff Training Days may need to be altered.
Notice will be given if this proves to be necessary.***

SCHOOL MONEY

If you have any queries with regards to the school money website please look at the Parents' Guide or contact the school office.

Job Vacancies

MSA

We are looking for another MSA (Midday Supervisory Assistant) to join our lunchtime team as soon as possible. The successful applicant will be working with children in every year group for five lunchtimes a week (5 hours 25 mins a week). Pay is £8.43 a session.

For more information and an application form, please ask at the school office.

PTFA Christmas Discos-
Monday 18th December
(Year 3/4: 6pm-7pm; Year 5/6: 7.15pm-8.30pm)



The school discos are very popular with the children, as well as being an important fundraiser for the PTFA.

For the Y3/4 disco, please bring your child into the school building through the Taverham Road pedestrian entrance only. Entry to the disco will be made by queuing along the main, sloping corridor. Please could Y5/6 pupils be brought into school for their disco via the

St. Edmunds Rise gate and the outside door to the Y4 block. The children will have the tickets checked and go into the hall via the library. All children should still be collected from the hall and leave via the Taverham Road gate.

It will be possible to gain entry to the discos by paying £2.50 on the night, for safety reasons, parents should not leave the school site until they are sure that their child has been left in the care of a member of the school staff or a PTFA/parent helper. Please do not just drop your children off outside the school.

This event is for pupils only. However, if you would like to offer your help, please contact a member of the PTFA committee, via the school office.

It is essential that parents can be contacted throughout the duration of the disco, in case their child becomes unwell.

At the end of both discos, children **MUST** be collected from **INSIDE** the school hall, by entering through the double doors adjacent to the school's main entrance. To ease congestion and ensure a quick and smooth exit, please could parents and collected children leave via the door at the back of the hall, and go round the back of the kitchen, through the gate into the car park. We are not able to allow children to wander outside to find their parents, for obvious reasons. If parents are unable to collect their child, or to arrange for another adult/older brother or sister to collect them, their child should not attend the disco.

Any children absent from school on the day of the disco will not be admitted.

Staff and parent helpers have voluntarily given up their time to organise this event so please make sure that you arrive on time to collect your child! There are unfortunately always two or three children left behind 10 or 15 minutes after the other children have gone!



Clearly, there will be a lot of traffic around the school on the evening of the disco. At the last disco, we asked that Y5/6 parents and pupils use the St. Edmunds Rise gate to enter the school for the Y5/6 disco and this did seem to help solve some of the traffic problems, so we will be using the same arrangement for next week's discos, as outlined above. It may be a good idea to park at the village hall and walk to the school. The overflow car park will hopefully be open; however, if at all possible, please could parents walk or car-share to reduce congestion and car-parking problems.