

Heckington St Andrew's Church of England Primary School Newsletter

2nd February 2023



Dear Parents / Carers,

If you haven't yet booked your appointment for our parent consultation evenings next week, there is still time to do so. We are looking forward to holding these in person again.

Although our school was not affected by the strike action yesterday, I would encourage you to read the enclosed poster so that you have an understanding of the current challenges within education. Obviously more strike action is planned, and I will keep you updated as and when I am able to regarding this.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Bentley

Head Teacher

Parent Consultation Evenings

Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th February

To book an appointment, please use the following link.

<https://heckingtonstrewscofe.schoolcloud.co.uk/>



Silver Birch class had a Star Planetarium workshop enhancing their learning in their science topic - Space!

The children enjoyed the workshop, where they had a curriculum focus exploration of space and a tour of the night sky, as well as looking at the future of space exploration.



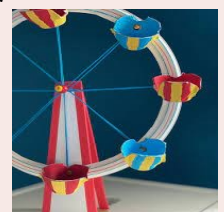
Diary dates

- 06.02.23 - 07.02.23 Parent consultation evenings
- 06.02.23 - Bikeability for Year 5
- 07.02.23 - PTFA meeting 2.00pm in school
- 09.02.23 - Year 6 Collective Worship 9.00am in school
- 10.02.23 - Last day of term
- 20.02.23 - First day back of term
- 06.03.23 - 9.03.23 Hilltop Residential Trip Year 6

Willow Class - DT

After half term, Year 2 will be designing and building model Ferris wheels as their DT learning.

We are in need of cardboard boxes, yoghurt pots and egg cups, if you would be able to save them for us and drop off to the school office, it would be much appreciated.



Chestnut class enjoyed a visit to The Collection, where they discovered the Roman history of the city of Lincoln. Mr Powell then took us on a guided tour of the city to see some artefacts in their original locations!



A message to parents and carers

Why are teachers going on strike?

TEACHERS WHO ARE members of the National Education Union (NEU) will be taking national strike action on Wednesday 1st February.

We do not want to strike, but the government have given us no choice. We are striking for education and we hope you will support us, despite the inconvenience it will cause.

We are taking strike action because we are concerned that cuts to teachers' pay, and lack of funding for schools, are causing a crisis in education.

- *The value of teachers and support staff pay has fallen by 20% since 2010.*

- *This has caused a crisis in recruitment and retention.*

- *More teachers, and school leaders, than ever are leaving their jobs and*

the government cannot recruit enough teachers to replace them.

- *Funding for schools has not kept in line with rising costs.*

- *This means that:*

- *many schools face difficulties finding the teachers they need;*

- *SEND children are not getting the support they need;*

- *Schools are spending less on important equipment and resources;*

- *schools are cutting back on extra-curricular clubs and classes.*

This cannot go on, for the sake of education the government must change its policy on pay and funding.

We have tried talking to the government - we have provided evidence about this crisis to them year after year, but they have ignored our warnings.

That is why we have reluctantly made the decision to take strike action.

We are calling on the government to increase pay for teachers and support staff, but they must also increase funding for schools.

We are asking parents and carers to:

- **support** our strike action and our campaign to boost funding for education.

- **talk** to teachers at your child's school to find out more about our campaign and how you can support us.

- **contact** your MP and local councillors and tell them that you support NEU members taking strike action.



Campaigning for children and education

For more information visit www.neu.org.uk