



Heckington St. Andrew's C of E Primary School Newsletter

Ofsted
Good
Provider

BACK
to
SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers.

It has been lovely to see all of the children back in school and to welcome our new starters in Oak Class. All of the children have settled in really well and are enjoying their new learning in their new classes.

We do hope that you will be able to join us for our meet and greet sessions next week.. It is a great opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher and find out about the expectations for their new year group. Once you have collected your child, the teacher will welcome you into the classroom. Please note that the meet and greet session for Oak Class will be held at 3.00 p.m. in the school hall and so please enter via the main school reception.

Judith Bentley
Head teacher

Little Windmills, after school club,
enjoying their new purchases,
using funds raised at the Summer
Fair!



DIARY DATES

welcome
BACK
to
SCHOOL

- Monday 15th September – Meet and Greet for Reception 3.00 pm in the hall
- Monday 15th September – Meet and Greet for Y3 & Y6 3.30pm
- Tuesday 16th September – Meet and Greet for Y2 & Y5 3.30pm
- Thursday 18th September – Meet and Greet for Y1 & Y4 3.30pm
- Monday 6th October – Harvest Festival 9.30am in Church, everyone welcome
- Wednesday 15th October – Parent's evening – further details to follow
- Thursday 16th Parent's evening – further details to follow
- Wednesday 22nd October Y3 Class worship in school 9.00am. All welcome
- Thursday 23rd October – Non uniform for a chocolate tombola donation
- Thursday 23rd October – Last day of term.

OUR SCHOOL VISION

By our whole school community living by the Christian principles of respect, resilience, relationships, reverence and responsibility, we will produce children ready for the next stage of their lives.

Five Rs = Ready for Life

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

Focus on Attendance

At Heckington St. Andrew's, we believe good attendance is vital for a child to achieve their full potential. We aim to promote good attendance by providing a safe and motivating environment for all children. As a team, we will work together to break down any barriers a child or family may have to accessing their education. Every child matters, every day matters.

Our key procedures around attendance are as follows:

Punctuality

If your child arrives to school after registration closes at 9.00 a.m., your child will receive an unauthorised late mark – this affects your child's attendance. You must accompany your child to sign in at the office when arriving late.

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school – you must contact the school office before 9.00 am to provide a reason for absence. You can either call the school office or email enquiries@heckington.lincs.sch.uk. School will call home to try and obtain a reason for absence if we had not heard from you. If no reason is provided, school may carry out a visit to your home – this is to check on the welfare of you and your child.

Fines / holidays

Holidays are not authorised by school. Unauthorised absence (a child being kept off school unnecessarily or without good reason) due to holidays will result in a penalty notice (fine) being issued from Lincolnshire County Council if it meets the threshold (see below). We do not benefit in anyway financially from the issuing of a penalty notice.

We would like to remind all families of the legal framework surrounding term-time holidays and the issuing of penalty notices for unauthorised absences, in conjunction with advice from the Local Authority.

Please be aware that there is no right of appeal against a penalty notice once it has been issued. The decision to authorise or unauthorise an absence rests solely with the school. It is important to remember you should discuss any concerns you have with the school before a leave of absence is considered.

We understand that some employers may restrict when holidays can be taken, and that travel costs can vary significantly throughout the year. However, neither of these factors constitutes an exceptional circumstance, according to guidance from the Department for Education, Working together to improve school attendance and Resources for families/Children's Commissioner for England and therefore cannot be considered as a valid reason for authorising term-time leave.

We appreciate your understanding and co-operation in ensuring that your child's education remains a priority.

Penalty Notices

- Penalty notices issued are charged at a rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution).

Attendance Ladder

