

Newsletter

September 2022



Issue 1 – 22/23
September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first newsletter this year and we would like to welcome you all back after the summer break. We would also like to welcome all our new children to Dereham Church Infant & Nursery School. We are looking forward to working with you and your child during their time here.

Dereham Church Infant and Nursery School believes in supporting and encouraging every child to achieve and succeed in all they do. Our friendly, dedicated and professional staff and governors work extremely hard to provide a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment in which all children are eager to learn.

As your child starts or continues their education with the school, we enter into a partnership with you the parents and carers. As we want your child to flourish and achieve, this works best when we work closely together. Our partnership should be founded on mutual trust and respect and we must value the efforts each party makes. Please keep us informed about anything at home which may influence your child's attitude or performance at school as this will help us to understand and support their needs.

The school is very much a part of the local community and we pride ourselves on the good relationships that exist between families and the school. All the staff value the close relationships they build with parents and ensure that they are available to discuss anything you want to know more about or are concerned about.

The children are always at the heart of everything we do and we hope that the years your child will spend at our school are some of the most inspirational and rewarding to share in.

I look forward to working with both you and your child and hope this is the beginning of a happy partnership.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Charlotte Whyte
Headteacher*

Website

Please look on the School Website for latest newsletters and information.

If there are any problems when accessing our website then please contact us

We have a very busy start to the school year! Please note the dates of events relevant to your child.

Mums, dads and are invited to join us for our
Harvest Service – Main School only
On
Friday 30th September 2022
At 9.30am
At St Nicholas Church



Breakfast & After School Club

We are still taking bookings for our Breakfast and After School Club, this will begin again in September 2022. We can offer spaces to children in our main school but also the Junior School. If you would like to register your child/ren for a space please contact Mrs Miller at financeofficer@dereham.norfolk.sch.uk. A £10.00 non-refundable deposit will be required to secure a place. You will then receive an invoice emailed to you approximately 1 week prior to the beginning of term.

Times and costs are as follows:-

FEE STRUCTURE

Breakfast Club Fees are charged at;

7.30am – 8.45am (including breakfast) £4.50 per session

8.00am – 8.45am (without breakfast) £3.50 per session

Afterschool Club Fees are charged at;

3.05pm – 4.00pm (including snack) £3.50 per session

3.05pm-4.30pm (including Snack) £5.25 per session

3.05pm – 5.00pm (including snack) £7.00 per session

3.05pm-5.30pm (including Snack) £8.75 Per session

3.05pm – 6.00pm (including snack and light tea) £10.50 per session.

There will be a reduction of 50p per session for siblings.

Invoices will be issued at the end of the month.

We will be able to accept Tax Free Childcare Vouchers for the sessions for those eligible.

Any children from the Junior School will be walked to school and then collected at the end of the day.

Tempest Photography

On Thursday 22nd September Tempest Photography will be taking individual photos of the children. Siblings within school will have their photos taken together.

Nasal Flu Immunisation

You will shortly be receiving information and the E-Consent link for the nasal flu immunisation. Please ensure this is completed. **It is important that you return this even if you do not want your child to have the vaccine.**

Parent and Carers Consultations

A letter explaining these consultations and giving you an opportunity to book an appointment, for the consultations in November, will be sent home nearer the time.

Attendance and Punctuality

All 17 schools in the Dereham Cluster have adopted the same Attendance Policy. A copy of the policy and procedures can be found on our website.

Parents/Carers should be aware that the Department of Education guidance states 'Persistence Absence as 90%', a letter from the Cluster Headteachers will be sent home regarding this increase along with the 'Fit for School' leaflet for Key Stage 1. (Reception parents/carers received this information in their induction pack)

Reminder:

MAIN SCHOOL

- Doors open at 8:45am and are locked at 9:05am
- Registration 8:55-9:05
- Lateness 9:05-9:15am *any child arriving after 9:05am must come in through the office*
- After 9:15am = Unauthorised

NURSERY

- Doors open at 9:00am and are locked at 9:15am
- Late Arrivals after 9:15am *must come in through the office*

Universal Free School Meals for Infant Age Pupils

All children attending Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are offered a Free School Meal as part of the Government's Universal Free School Meals for infants programme.

Dinner menus are sent home half-termly in your child's book bag (spare menus are available from the office). Your child may choose to have a hot dinner, vegetarian, jacket potato or a school packed lunch every day or as many days as they wish. Please complete the form to state which days and the choice of lunch they wish to have.

Please ensure these are returned to enable us to provide your child with the correct lunch.

Free School Meals & Pupil Premium

Is my child eligible?

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically get free school meals if they go to school. It's called universal infant free school meals. You do not have to apply to get these meals, **but if you do receive one of the benefits listed below, you should still apply. This is because it can help raise extra funds for your child's school (called Pupil Premium). This Government funding can help with extra tuition, teaching, school trips and after school activities.**

It also entitles you to Edenred food vouchers for the holidays.

- Universal Credit - with an annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190

Apply for free school meals

You can apply online for free school meals using your Norfolk Education Online (NEO) account. You can use the same account for 2-year-old childcare funding and school admissions.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk>

If you think you are entitled then please complete the application on the link provided.

Data Collection Sheet

Over the next week or so we will be sending home a Data Collection sheet for your child. This is a print out of the information we hold on our school database. Please check and amend if necessary and return to your child's class teacher or Mrs Playford in the school office. It is vital we have the correct details in case we need to contact you. Please note we must hold two contact details for every child.

Safeguarding

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Whyte
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Chloe Cole
Alternate Designated Safeguarding Lead



Secretary/Attendance Lead: Mrs Lisa Playford
Alternate Designated Safeguarding Lead



Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Patricia Waller
07941492020



Safeguarding of children, staff, volunteers, students and parents is a priority. If you see anything that causes you concern regarding child protection, the well-being or safety of a child or adult you MUST inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Charlotte Whyte – Head Teacher) immediately. If Mrs Whyte is unavailable you MUST inform Mrs Playford (Alternative DSL or Mrs Cole (Alternative DSL) Any allegations made against professional staff are to be reported to the Head Teacher, or if the allegation involves the Head Teacher then to the Safeguarding Governor (a sealed letter addressed to the safeguarding governor).

Parent Support Advisor – Introduction to Lisa Playford



Hi I have worked at DCINS for over 13 years and have been school secretary for 10 years. My job has changed since starting in the office and I have taken on the roles as Attendance Lead and Alternate Safeguarding Lead. I have now trained as Parent Support Advisor. Therefore, my days are very varied but it is a privilege to be able to work with parents and support them through a number of challenges that being a parent brings. I am available to work with parents through a number of issues including **establishing routines**, **managing challenging behaviour**, stress reducing **tips for bedtimes** and often that morning routine. **Attendance** may be an issue but we can look at the causes and come up with plans together to reduce the stress that this can cause. Sometimes we may find ourselves thrown into a **family crisis** and it is helpful to talk through how to best manage the impact that this might have on children. Feeling confident and happy with our parenting is what we desire the most. We can often feel judged by how we manage our children, particularly when out and about in public, but we are

all in the same boat and it is likely that we have all felt overly critical of ourselves at some stage too.

From September, I will be offering an appointment system for anyone who feels they may need a bit of extra support, advice or just a chat. My working afternoons will be a Monday and Thursday 1.00pm – 2.30pm. If this is something you would benefit from please contact me on office@dereham.norfolk.sch.uk and I will be happy to book an appointment for you.



Parties

If you are interested in hiring the school hall/grounds for your child's birthday party, please contact the school office as this is something we will be offering from September 2022.



Birthday Lunch

This year we would like to offer all children in main school the opportunity to have a birthday packed lunch. Children do have the option to bring in their own packed lunch from home. The birthday child can choose up to 7 of their friends to celebrate and eat their lunch together on a specially decorated table. The school will provide invitations, cake, party bags and a photo of the party group (permission required). The birthday child can choose either a chocolate or vanilla birthday cake. The cost for this will be £12.00 per party lunch. Please contact the school office for a booking form.

Off to a good start

The following are reminders of school policies and requests from the school which help us with day-to-day routines ~

Lunchbox Policy (for those children not having a free hot dinner)

The policy states what school lunchboxes may and may not contain:

Packed lunches may include:

- at least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables every day.
- meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein every day
- oily fish, such as salmon, at least once every three weeks.
- a starchy food such as any type of bread, pasta, potatoes or other type of cereals every day.
- dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais or custard everyday
- only water, sugar free squash, fruit juice, semi-skimmed or skimmed milk, yoghurt, milk drinks or smoothies.

Packed lunches may not include:

- confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits and sweets. Cakes and biscuits are allowed but encourage your child to eat these only as part of a balanced meal.
- fizzy drinks
- meat products such as sausage rolls, individual pies, corned meat and sausages / chipolatas should be included only occasionally.
- snacks such as crisps. Instead, include vegetables and fruit (fresh or dried). Savoury crackers or breadsticks served with fruit, vegetables or dairy food are also a good choice.

****Please note we are a Nut Free School therefore parents/carers are requested not to provide peanut butter sandwiches or any nuts as we have children in the school with peanut allergies.***

Special diets and allergies: The school recognises that some pupils may require special diets that do not allow for the standards to be met exactly. Parents and carers must inform the school if this is the case and are urged to be responsible in ensuring that packed lunches are as healthy as possible. Also, for this reason pupils are not permitted to swap food items.

First Aid Procedures

Only children who have had an injury treated by a First Aider, will have the incident reported at the end of the day. Parents/ carers will be contacted immediately if the injury is judged to be serious.

Jewellery

In line with LA Health and Safety Regulations, it is school policy that no jewellery may be worn to school. If your child has recently had their ears pierced then studs only may be worn for the six week healing period. They must have their ears covered by micropore tape for PE lessons.

Water Bottles

It is school policy that only **PLAIN WATER** may be brought into school in a drinks bottle to be drunk freely throughout the day. **Parents and carers failing to comply with this school policy will have their child's bottle replaced with drinking water.** The School Governors adopted the policy of drinking water as part of the 'Thinking Schools Local Authority Project'.

Snack Time

Please remember that only fresh/dried fruit or vegetables may be brought in from home for your child at snack time. Portions of fruit or vegetables should be in a named container or polybag. **In-school snacks can be pre ordered for the half term.**

Our adventure playground and outdoor area

Please do not let your children play on the equipment before or after school.

Our children will have plenty of opportunity to use the equipment during the school day when they will be supervised.

- Please note that the back school gates will be locked from 3:10pm.
- Please provide your child with a **named** pair of wellies in a **named** carrier bag, so that they can play in all the outdoor areas through the year.
- In the interests of Health & Safety **please do not** let your child ride their bike/scooter on the school grounds (playgrounds and paths)



Communication between School and Home

We have a number of ways in which you can contact us and we can contact you to help develop a strong partnership in educating your child –

- Home-School link book
- Parents Evenings / Open Evenings two times a year
- Newsletters – once a month you will receive a newsletter detailing general school news and dates for your diary
- An informal meeting with your child's class teacher or Mrs Futers can be made as and when necessary. An appointment can be arranged by telephone or via the link book

Medicines

Prescribed Medicines

Medicines should only be taken to school when essential; that is where it would be detrimental to a child's health if the medicine were not administered during the school 'day'.

The administration of medicine to children is the responsibility of their parents/carers. School Staff are under no duty to administer medication to pupils in school.

The school will only accept medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse prescriber or pharmacist prescriber. Medicines should always be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include the prescriber's instructions for administration and dosage.

The school will never accept medicines that have been taken out of the container as originally dispensed, nor make changes to dosages on parental instructions.

The school will not administer invasive medication e.g. eye drops.

Any medication requiring a Medical/Dental Practitioner's prescription, e.g. asthma inhalers/antibiotics/adrenalin.

If a child is on medication that must be administered during the school day then:

- ◆ Parents/carers are strongly encouraged to come into school to administer the medication or,
- ◆ The child can administer it themselves under the supervision of a member of staff (e.g. inhalers, although spacers may need support in administering). Parents must complete a form giving full details of the medication, full instructions of how the child will administer it, and contact details in the case of an emergency

Non-Prescription Medicines

Non Prescribed Medication: Any medication not requiring a Medical/Dental Practitioner's prescription, eg analgesics, liquids, creams, sprays, lip balms will not be administered by school staff.

Coats

Please remember to send a coat with your child in the morning, sunny mornings often turn chilly by the first playtime of the day.

Parking



To adhere to parking restrictions, please do not park in Washbridge. The school is continuing to work in partnership with the traffic wardens to ensure implementation. Thank you.

Autumn Term 2022 Dates for your Diary

| Date | Event | Time/Venue |
|--|--|--|
| September | | |
| W/C Monday 12 th | Reception Children to stay all day | Collect at 3.05pm |
| Tuesday 13 th | Welcome to Year 1 Meeting Parents/Carers | 2.00pm School Hall |
| Wednesday 14 th | Welcome to Year 2 Meeting Parents/Carers | 9.15am – 10.30am School Hall |
| Wednesday 21 st | Welcome to Reception Meeting Parents/Carers | 9.15am – 10.30am School Hall |
| Thursday 22 nd | Tempest Individual Photographs Siblings within school will be photographed together | |
| Friday 30 th | Harvest Service Children to dress up Harvest theme | 9.30am St Nicholas Church <i>Further information to follow</i> |
| October | | |
| Wednesday 5 th to Wednesday 12 th | School Book Fair | <i>Further information to follow</i> |
| Monday 17 th | Reading Café – Year 2 Parents/Carers | <i>Further information to follow</i> 1.30pm – 3.00pm |
| Tuesday 18 th | Reading Café – Reception Parents/Carers | <i>Further information to follow</i> 1.30pm – 3.00pm |

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| Wednesday 19 th | Reading Café – Year 1 Parents/Carers | <i>Further information to follow</i> 1.30pm – 3.00pm |
| Friday 21 st | PTA – Talent Show | <i>Further information to follow</i> |
| Friday 21 st | School Closes for Half Term | 3.05pm |
| | | |
| Monday 31 st October | School Re-Opens | 8.45am |

If you have any comments or questions about the contents of this newsletter then do not hesitate to pop in or call us on 01362 692727.

Thank you for your continued help and support