



Wimbish Primary Academy Newsletter
22nd September 2023



We hope that you are all receiving this newsletter this week after the technical issues lately! If you are reading this, then please do check with your friends to see if they have received it and remind them to check their junk!

Bedtime Story and Welcome Meeting - all pupils

We would like to invite you all to our first Welcome Meeting and Bedtime Story session on Wednesday 11th October 5.30pm-6.30pm. Children are invited to wear their pyjamas for their bedtime story. We will start the evening in the hall to introduce the team. You will then be welcome to have a wander around the classrooms and see where your child's classroom is. We will then invite parents/carers back to the hall while the children stay in their classrooms and have bedtime stories and some hot chocolate. We will then share updates on the behaviour policy and information about school with parents/carers in the hall.

The evening will finish no later than 6.30pm. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

In case you missed this last week...

Who are we all...

Mrs Pickford - Executive Headteacher

Mrs Butcher - Deputy Head

Mrs Beecroft-Sullivan - Assistant Head and SENCO

Ms White - Office Manager

Mrs Holmes - Oak Class Teacher Monday-Wednesday

Mrs Caroe - Oak Class Teacher Thursday-Friday

Miss Thirkell - Willow Class

Miss Dooley - Birch Class

Mrs Troy - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Winfield - Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Wheeler - Lunchtime Supervisor and Cleaner

Ms Melhuish - School Cook

Leadership Team - Mrs Pickford, Mrs Butcher and Mrs Beecroft-Sullivan work across both Wimbish Primary Academy and Meadow Primary School. There may be times you wish to speak to one particular member of the team and they are not at Wimbish that day. In that instance, please do feel free to ask to speak to another leader. If they are available, they will happily meet with you. Alternatively, please pop to the office or drop an email to the office and Ms White, will make sure that message gets passed on. Please remember that the Academy policy is that communications will be acknowledged within 2 working days and responded to in more detail, if needed within 5 working days.

We would ask that in the first instance, you speak with the class teacher if you wish to discuss a concern or query about your child as they will be best placed to respond. If you then wish to speak to a senior leader, please contact the school office.

Attendance

Children's regular attendance in school is incredibly important. 1 day off can mean your child has missed a lot of learning and every single day counts. A school day counts for 2 sessions. At this point in the year each session missed equates to a high percentage of absence and just 6 sessions off school (3 days) will give your child an attendance of below 80%.

The Government requirement is for all children to have attendance of 95% or higher. If your child's attendance falls below 90% then they will become categorised as persistently absent and this may trigger an absence meeting, a support plan or involvement from the Local Authority's Education Welfare Officer. Poor attendance can also lead to parents/carers being given a penalty fine or taken to court by the Local Authority and fined or prosecuted.

We do send out letters to inform parents/carers when we have concerns about attendance falling. You can also keep an eye on attendance on the MCAS app.

We fully understand that children catch childhood ailments such as chicken pox, sickness bugs, fevers and such like. However, if your child just feels a little unwell, tired, a bit of a cold or cough or similar then they should be in school. We will always call you if we are concerned about their health.

Should your child stay off school?

Sickness/diarrhoea - return 48 hours after last bout of illness

Temperature - return to school when it has gone back down

Chicken Pox - return after spots have crusted over (usually around 5 days)

Impetigo - stay off until scabbed over or 48hrs after starting antibiotics

Ringworm - return after started treatment

Scarlet Fever - return 24 hours after starting antibiotics - please inform school

Head Lice - can be at school but advise treatment first

Threadworms - no need to stay off, but please seek treatment from pharmacist

Sore throat - no need to stay off unless they have a temperature

Slapped Cheek - child can come to school as once the rash is out they are not infectious. Please inform school

Hand, Foot and Mouth - can attend school. Good hand hygiene is needed

Ear Infection - if this is severe earache or a temperature stay off until better or temperature has gone down

Covid- 19 - try to stay at home for 3 days after they tested positive

Cold Sores - no need to stay off, but hygiene routines are important

Coughs and Colds - it is fine to send children in with a minor cough or common cold. If they have a fever keep them off until this returns to normal

Conjunctivitis - can be at school. Hygiene routines are important

The NHS website has more detail on all of the above illnesses.

School Lunch Order

Thank you to everyone who has been using the Innovate platform to order school meals. Lunch orders need to be placed by midnight on a Saturday for the following week. Innovate's policy if you have not ordered a meal, but your child does not have a packed lunch is we will call you to ask for a lunch to be brought in. Any child without a lunch will be given a jacket potato. Just a reminder that we cannot place late orders for you.

If you are struggling to get set up on Innovate or you forget to order, please contact primary@impactfood.co.uk¹ or telephone: 0204 542 7211² Monday -Friday 9-5pm.

Child Consultation Evening - all pupils

On Wednesday 1st November we will be holding child consultations. This will be the opportunity to come into school and meet the teacher for a 10 minute appointment to discuss how your child is getting on in school. More details will follow on times and booking arrangements.

Homework

We are currently revising our homework policy. In the interim, we would encourage you to hear your child read (including KS2 children) on a daily basis as we want every child to leave Wimbish a confident reader. Please also talk about their book. KS2 children should also focus on VIPERS. There are six key reading skills which relate to the KS2 Reading SAT Content Domains. These skills are known as VIPERS (Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Summarise).

¹[mailto:primary@impactfood.co.uk?subject=Innovate PSM&body=Please give us the following with your enquiry: Your full name: Childs school: Childs full name: Childs class:](mailto:primary@impactfood.co.uk?subject=Innovate%20PSM&body=Please%20give%20us%20the%20following%20with%20your%20enquiry:Your%20full%20name:%20Childs%20school:%20Childs%20full%20name:%20Childs%20class:)

²<tel:+442045427211>

Please feel free to access further work to support your child at this stage from Oak National Academy or BBC bitesize.

Y6 Residential Trip

We have sent out separate communications about the Y6 residential trip in May to Norfolk Lakes. If you have not received this, please contact the office.

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 11th October - Welcome Meeting and Bedtime Story 5.30pm-6.30pm

Wednesday 1st November - Child Consultations

Have a lovely weekend

Nichola Pickford