



Attendance

Following queries after all the stories about attendance in the news recently, we thought it might help to clarify current guidelines.

- We are still unable to authorise holidays but unless your attendance is below 90%, most holidays will not result in a fine.
- Fines will be administered for 15% or more unauthorised absence within a six week period.



Please remember that you need to inform us by 9.30am if your child will not be in school that day (obviously if we know your child is ill, we do not need daily messages - only if your child will be away for longer than expected). If we do not hear, we will attempt to ring you.

If we have had no reply by lunchtime, we are obliged to take further action. We are expected to visit your house, if possible, and if there is still no reply, we have a duty to inform the police who will then try to make contact.

Expected attendance is **96.5%**.

We are now meant to send "letters of concern" at 95% although we will endeavour to use our common sense and take circumstances into account.

"Warning letters" should be sent where attendance falls below 95% but is above 90%.

Where attendance falls below 90%, County will be involved.

Please do ensure that your child is in school whenever possible, as we can clearly see a link between attendance and achievement. Children with poor attendance are not able to reach expected levels of achievement which disadvantages them.



every day counts
ATTEND TODAY -
ACHIEVE TOMORROW

Policies

Just a reminder that all relevant policies are on our Federation website. School specific policies are found on our own website. You are also able to ask for paper copies from the office.



SATs

Y6 will be doing their SATs the week beginning 8th May. Although these have to be sat under exam conditions and we try hard to help the children to achieve their best, we do try to keep them as low key and stress-free as possible. Results are not usually received until July, often near the very end of term, and they will be reported to you as soon as we receive them.

Please ensure that your child is in school that week, if at all possible.

Y2s have to complete their SATs during May and these are also kept as stress-free as possible. We mark the tests in school but have to have our marking moderated before we are able to report results to you. Again, we will inform you of results as soon as we are able.

Y1s will do their phonic screening test in the week beginning June 12th. Y2 children who did not reach the threshold will retake the test at the same time.

If you have any concerns or questions about any of the above, please do come and ask.

Governors

We have three vacancies on our Governing body. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested, please ask in the office for details. All vacancies are "general" and can be taken up by any member of the school or local community. We are particularly looking to see if a parent from Docking might be interested in filling one vacancy as currently the parent body have no representative.

There is one full Governing Body meeting each half term, usually on a Monday evening. In addition there is one committee meeting each half term (Governors sit on either the finance or curriculum committee). These tend to be at the start or end of the school day. Governors are also invited to join in monitoring activities during the school day. Please note anyone joining the Governing Body will be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

Welcome new Reception

We are pleased to be welcoming 14 new Reception children in September. Separate letters detailing transition will be sent very shortly.



Classes Next Year

From September, we will be operating four classes instead of five (Nursery/Reception, Year1/Year2, Year3/Year4, Year 5/Year 6) and therefore there will be no split year groups. The Year 6 children going to Smithdon will not be leaving us early this year but they will be attending four induction days in the week beginning 3rd July. Other pupils will have two "moving up" days in that week; on 3rd and 4th July.

Sports News

Brancaster & Docking entered into the girls year 3/4 football event in March. Docking came third and will compete at the School Games finals on Tuesday.



Over 20 year 2,3 & 4 children took part in a Netball Festival at Smithdon in March. The children were mixed into groups and were able to improve skills with lots of games being played.

April 20th 3 teams entered the year 3/4 football event whilst year 2's played in a mini festival. There were 2 leagues. Docking boys came 3rd in the championship league whilst Docking girls and Logan (a year 2) came 4th & Brancaster girls & Lewis from Sedgeford came 5th in the premiership league. We are very proud of all the children but want to give a special

mention to Lewis from Sedgford as he was the only child from Sedgford who played in the year 3/4 team. Well done!

Our next event is the Tri golf at Heacham Junior School on 4th May.

Dates

Friday 28th April - Passports in for stamping.

1st May - Bank Holiday - no pupils in school

2nd May - Nightingales' Romans trip to Brancaster

5th May - Y3 raft building

Week beginning May 8th - Y6 SATs

16th May - Country Dance practice and "party". Parents welcome from 3pm.

23rd May - Inca-Jays' Roman Trip to Brancaster.

26th May - Children's University passports in. School closes for half term.

5th June - school reopens

7th June - School council conference at Heacham Infant School 1.15 - 2.30pm

8th June - Y5 Young Leaders course

Week beginning June 12th - phonics screening week

19th June - Transition meeting for parents of new Reception Children 5.30 - 7pm

21st June - Sports Day & BBQ-style lunch (rain off 27th June)

23rd June - Purcell Orchestra Workshop

26th June - Inca-Jays, Nightingales & Golden Eagles to Houghton

28th June - Area Sports (after school at Smithdon)

30th June - Children's University passports in for stamping

3rd - 6th July - Y6 induction at Smithdon

5th - 7th July, Y6 induction at APHS

5th - 7th July - Birmingham Children visiting

6th July - Y5 Young Leaders Course

11th July - Y5 Maths day at Smithdon

13th July - KS1 Federation Sport Festival run by the Y5 young leaders

19th July - Federation Day - at the beach

20th July - Leavers' Assembly 9.15pm.

21st July - Term finishes.

School will re-open on to children on 6th September.

There will be training days for staff, when school will be closed to children on 4/5th September; 29th March and 3rd January.

Other dates will be circulated as soon as they are confirmed.