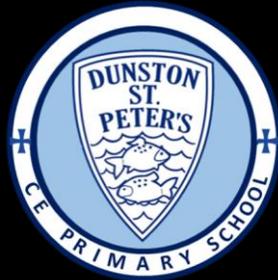

SPIRES FEDERATION



To provide an aspirational education which inspires all to SHINE in our community so that they are happy, confident and equipped for life in all its fullness.



OPENING
DOORS



OPENING
MINDS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Miss D Winters
Executive Head
Teacher



Mrs E Toulson
Executive Deputy
Head



Miss N Vaughan
Senior Federation
Lead and SENDCo

WELCOME TO TERM 1

Welcome to Our First Newsletter of the Year!

We're delighted to welcome everyone back after the summer break. It's been wonderful to see the children return with such positivity—smiling faces, calm attitudes, and a real sense of excitement for the year ahead. Our new Reception pupils have especially impressed us with their independence and cheerful energy as they settle into school life.

Over the summer, our dedicated staff worked incredibly hard to prepare the learning environments across all three schools. The results are fantastic! We've had several visitors to the Federation recently, and they've been full of praise—not only for how vibrant and welcoming our schools look, but also for the excellent behaviour and attitudes of our pupils. It's a credit to everyone involved.

This term promises to be full of exciting opportunities and adventures, and we're looking forward to sharing them with you. Please keep an eye on the Dates for Your Diary section and look out for updates via Arbor, which will include important information and reminders.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term.

Kind regards,

Senior Leadership Team





HOGLETS AND HEDGEHOGS

What a fantastic first half term Hoglets and Hedgehogs have had! The children have been exploring a range of activities linked with lots of stories such as What the Ladybird Heard, The Gruffalo and Room on the Broom!

We have started our Phonics lessons, and we have been very impressed with how quickly they're picking the sounds up already!

In maths, we have been beginning to explore numbers and have also enjoyed exploring the outside area!

The children are learning new routines and are learning to be kind friends to others.



HOGLETS AND HEDGEHOGS



FOREST SCHOOL

The children have thoroughly enjoyed starting Forest School. Activities are set up each week, and the children are encouraged to explore each area.

We have recently been able to do some apple painting, making crowns and wands and creating a fairy tree using natural resources.

Over the last few weeks, the children have also enjoyed making dens, making a swing and we even had our first campfire last week!

SQUIRRELS

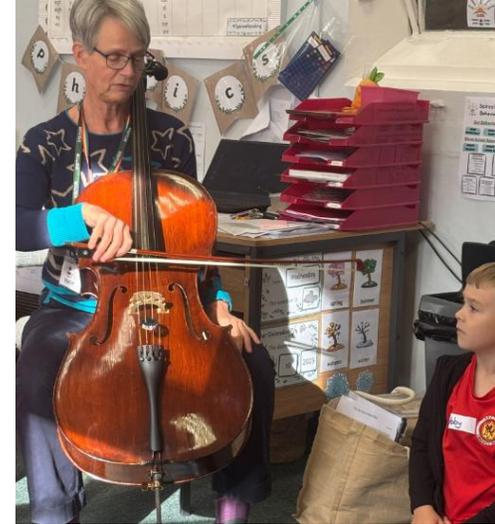


Squirrels have had a great first half term of the year! The children have settled well back into routine and have been trying super hard with their handwriting and their independence! In geography we have been exploring about our Local Area and all the children enjoyed walking to the local park. In art, we have been exploring Pop Art. The children worked extremely hard and created some fantastic pieces of art using a range of colours! We also took part of our Harvest Festival singing 'Big Red Combine Harvester' and we were very proud with their actions and singing with confidence!





SQUIRRELS



OWLS



Owl Class have had an amazing start to the year, taking part in a wide variety of activities. In the classroom, we've loved learning about Scandinavia, looking the similarities and differences with the UK and thinking about which Scandinavian country we'd like to live in best. In art, we have made fantastic progress in impressionism, producing some amazing watercolour paintings. We loved our recent visit to the planetarium and showed off our impressive knowledge of space. We also celebrated Harvest Festival with some brilliant singing in church, and some of the Year 5 & 6's have had a great time completing their Bikeability training, which was both fun and rewarding.





OWLS



At The Spires Federation, we are committed to ensuring that every child receives the support they need to thrive. Our approach to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) is inclusive, proactive, and continually evolving to meet the needs of our pupils and their families.

We understand that navigating SEND support can be overwhelming, which is why we've created a dedicated Padlet resource for parents and carers. This Padlet is regularly updated with useful links, guidance, local services, and practical tools tailored to a wide range of SEND needs—from autism and ADHD to speech and language support.

Whether you're looking for advice or professional contacts, the Padlet is designed to be a one-stop hub for SEND support. We encourage all families to explore it and check back often as new resources are added.

 **Visit the SEND Padlet here:** [SEND at the Spires Federation](#)

If you have any questions or need help navigating the Padlet, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's class teacher/SENDCo or contact the Family Information Service listed on the Padlet.

Together, we can ensure every child feels supported, understood, and empowered

SEND INFORMATION



NEW ADVICE GUIDANCE FROM THE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIANS



Ideas of where to get further support...

In Our Place

You can access some great online learning (understand your child's feelings, understand your child with additional needs, understanding your children mental health and wellbeing) through In Our Place:

<https://inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning/courses>

All you will need to do is put in the password WE_CAN and put in your Lincolnshire postcode and you will be able to access a wealth of support!

ESCO

ESCO (Early Support Coordination) offer virtual drop in appointments via the phone where you can discuss support and services that are available.

Ring 01522 782111 and say that you want to book a drop in session with an ESCO Key Worker.

Lincolnshire Local Offer

The Lincolnshire Local Offer brings together information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/send-local-offer>

PAACT

Parents and Autistic Children Together are a friendly and informal group based in Gainsborough and Lincoln.

<https://paactsupport.com/>

Liaise

Liaise is Lincolnshire's Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).

They provide confidential and impartial information, advice and support to children and young people (0-25 years) with SEN and disabilities, and their parents and carers.

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/liaise>

Virtual Autism Hub

<https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/our-services/virtual-autism-hub>

Useful Websites

Autism

<https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/what-is-autism>

Behaviour

<https://www.family-action.org.uk/family-monsters/support/challenging-behaviour/>

<https://behavioursupporthub.org.uk/>

<https://www.123magic.com/parenting-tips/what-is-123-magic.html>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/challenging-behaviour/>

ADHD

<https://adhduk.co.uk/>

<https://www.adhdfoundation.org.uk/>

Mental health

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Sleep

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/>

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/lpft-nhs/episodes/MHST-Top-tips-on-getting-extra-Zzzz-et79fn/a-a50tdbi>

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/childrens-sleep-ebook/>

Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum

<https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/>

Autism East Midlands Hub

<https://www.autismeastmidlands.org.uk/>

Family Hubs

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/directory-record/62596/gainsborough-market-arcade-children-s-centre-part-of-the-family-hubs-programme>

Here 4 You

<https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/young-people/lincolnshire/young-people/self-referral>

As children grow and learn, their ability to see and hear clearly plays a vital role in their development—both academically and socially. That’s why regular **eye and hearing tests** are so important, even if your child hasn’t shown any obvious signs of difficulty.

Eye Tests: More Than Just Vision

Children may not always realise they’re struggling to see clearly. Poor vision can affect:

- Reading and writing
- Concentration in class
- Confidence and behaviour

Routine eye tests can detect issues like short-sightedness, long-sightedness, or even more subtle conditions that might impact learning. These tests are quick, painless, and often available for free through the NHS.

Hearing Tests: Catching the Quiet Clues

Hearing problems can be harder to spot, especially if they’re mild or intermittent. But even slight hearing loss can lead to:

- Speech and language delays
- Difficulty following instructions
- Social withdrawal or frustration

Early detection through hearing tests can lead to simple interventions that make a big difference—whether it’s temporary treatment for glue ear or support for longer-term hearing needs.

Specsavers offer free eye tests to children under 16 in full-time education. Book your here - https://www.specsavers.co.uk/free-eye-test?srsId=AfmBOopdYa_fNESrPgXQ38XPfG6ZGvNirpH1zdy3AGxoGiJSPmVPf1TZ

EYE TESTS AND HEARING TESTS

What You Can Do

Book regular eye and hearing checks, especially before your child starts school or moves into a new year group.

Watch for signs like squinting, frequent ear infections, or difficulty understanding speech.

Talk to your GP or school nurse if you have any concerns.

Let’s work together to give every child the best start in life—by making sure they can see and hear the world around them clearly.

VACANCIES

WE ARE RECRUITING!

WE HAVE THREE POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT NOCTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY WONDERFUL SCHOOL.

- 1:1 TEACHING ASSISTANT (5 DAYS)
- EYFS TEACHING ASSISTANT (THURS & FRI)
- MIDDAY SUPERVISOR ROLE (MON & FRI)

For more information please visit our website -

<https://www.spiresfederation.co.uk/page/?title=Vacancies...>

OR

[EARLY YEARS TEACHING ASSISTANT \(LEVEL 3\) | 03 NOVEMBER, 2025 | JOBS AND CAREERS WITH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL](#)

[1:1 TEACHING ASSISTANT LEVEL 1 \(SEN\) | 02 NOVEMBER, 2025 | JOBS AND CAREERS WITH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL](#)



APPLYING FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

JUST A REMINDER THAT IF YOUR CHILD IS IN YEAR 6, AND YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY APPLIED, THE MAIN DEADLINE FOR SECONDARY TRANSFER APPLICATIONS IS 31ST OCTOBER.

YOU CAN APPLY ONLINE AT

[HTTPS://WWW.LINCOLNSHIRE.GOV.UK/SCHOOL-ADMISSIONS/APPLY-SCHOOL/](https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school/)

OR

PHONE 01522 782030 AND MAKE AN APPLICATION OVER THE PHONE.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TEAM



BEST START TO LIFE – SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

The early years team across North Kesteven have asked us to share with parents some key information that may be useful to families.

Coming in February, April and July/ August!!! We will be delivering some specific sessions to support families and children on school readiness. These will be called ready steady go to school and be delivered by an early years specialist teacher and an early years practitioner, both highly qualified early years staff. There will also be virtual sessions running for families to access. Please look out for the poster with dates that we will be sending over to you to share with families.

Alongside this we also have the below services available for all families to access:

[homepage | best start in life](#)

This government website provides advice and support for families from pregnancy to childcare right through to starting school and support for child development so has a wealth of important information for families to access. This is where they need to go to find out how much early years entitlement funding they can access but also will support them in understanding what they can do to support their child's learning at home.

[Start for life – Lincolnshire county council](#)

This website link will take you to the Lincolnshire start for life offer to provide information for families on what is available to support childcare and child development within Lincolnshire.

BEST START TO LIFE – SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

Lincolnshire’s 47 children's centres are core to our start for life offer. The centres offer free stay-and-play drop-in sessions and universal programmes for all families from antenatal to age five. Further support is also available for children and young people up to 19 years (25 SEND). We would encourage families to visit their local children’s centre to find out more. Any adult who is caring for a child can access a range of services at the centre. Use our directory to find your nearest children's centre.

Find a children's centre – Lincolnshire county council

<p>All children’s centres offer:</p>	<p>Each centre offers additional services and activities according to the needs of the community.</p>
<p>Child and family health and maternity services advice and information for families resources to borrow childcare and early education advice and support specific sessions for children with additional needs specific sessions supporting speech and language activities holiday sessions aimed at 0-5 aged children and siblings up to 8 years old. Baby massage sessions sensory sessions support for parents on a range of issues evidence-based parenting support training and employment advice</p>	<p>We also have an enhanced offer delivered at our 10 family hubs which may also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> speech and language drop-in support lending library resources SEND drop-in support midwifery appointments smoking cessation support registering your birth citizen’s advice 1:1 sessions sensory rooms and lending libraries

ADMINISTRATION TEAM



**Mrs T Elliott
Digby**



**Ms J Hayward
Dunston and Nocton**



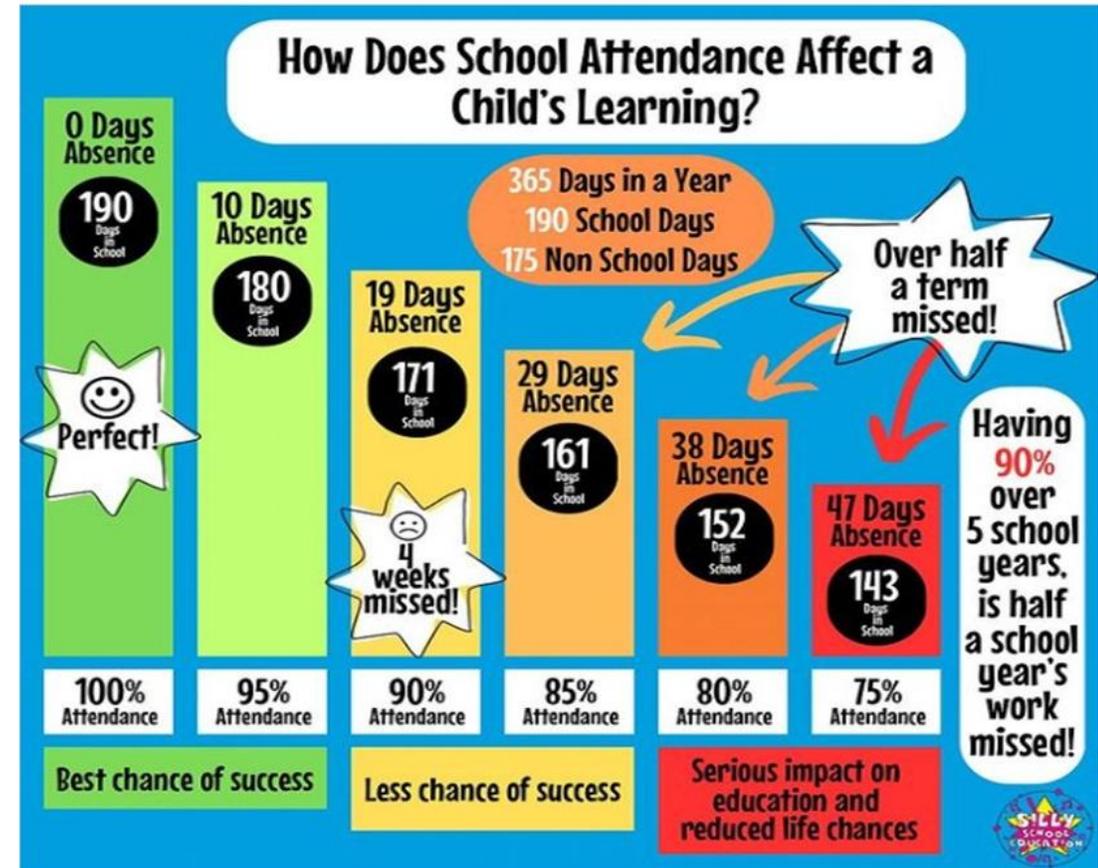
**Miss Hoddinott
School Business Manager and
Nocton**

ATTENDANCE

HEDGEHOGS AND
SQUIRRELS – 95.5%

OWLS – 96.5%

WHOLE SCHOOL – 95.5%





NOCTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY OPEN DAY

WEDNESDAY 15TH
OCTOBER AND
12TH NOVEMBER
9.30 AM - 5PM

WHY CHOOSE NOCTON ?

- Nurturing Teachers
- Dedicated Forest School
- Wrap Around Care from 7.30 am - 6pm
- Exciting Curriculum
- Proudly rated 'Good' by Ofsted

MORE INFORMATION

- ☎ 01526 320234
- 🌐 www.spiresfederation.co.uk
- 📍 School Road,
Nocton
Lincoln
LN4 2BJ

Contact school to book an appointment



Our school also accepts mid-year applications!

TERM 2 CLUBS – DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP!



- Tuesday –
Morning Multi-sport Breakfast Club run by Coach Kieran
Children in Reception to Year 6 welcome to attend
8am – 8.45am

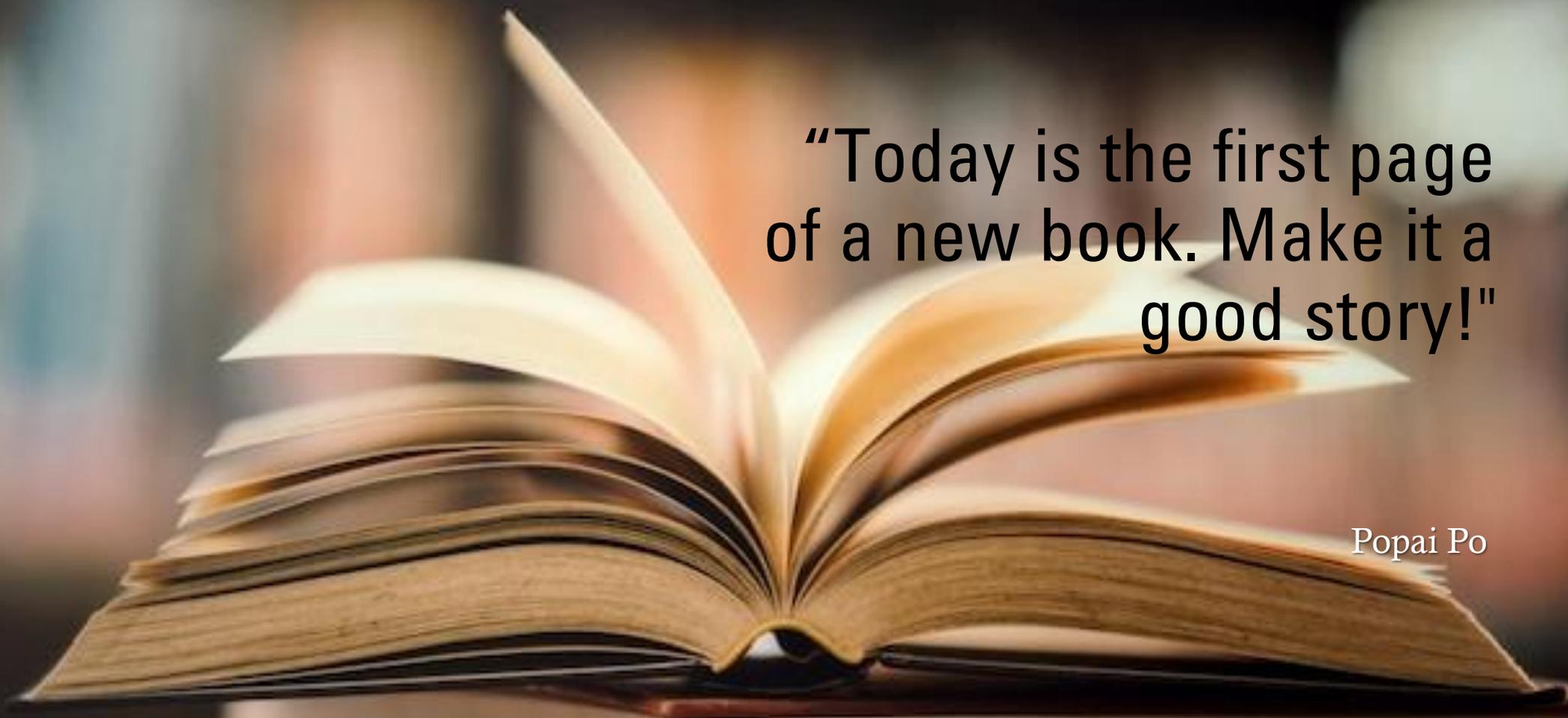


- Tuesday –
KS2 Football Club run by Coach Kieran
3.20pm – 4.30pm



- Tuesday –
Christmas Film Club run by Mrs MacNicol
Children in Year 2 to Year 6 welcome to attend
3.20pm – 4.20pm
Please note some PG films may be watched, and Popcorn will be provided as a snack

Please Note all clubs this term are free of charge!!

An open book with a pencil resting on it, set against a blurred background. The book is open, showing many pages. The pencil is resting on the top page. The background is out of focus, showing some light and dark areas.

**"Today is the first page
of a new book. Make it a
good story!"**

Popai Po



Halloween disco

TICKETS £4.50
INCLUDING HOTDOG, DRINK,
GLOWBAND AND PARTY BAG



NOCTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

KS1 - 5:15-6:25PM & KS2 - 6:35-7:45

PRIZES FOR PARTY GAMES &
BEST COSTUMES

SWEETS & SNACKS WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO BUY AT OUR TUCK
SHOP





**HAVE A WONDERFUL HALF TERM!
THANK YOU**