



Newsletter



SpiresFederation

Friday 2nd October 2020

A Message from Miss Hill

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week I held our first Spires Federation joint Assembly - via the magic of Microsoft Team I was able to hold an assembly with all three schools at the same time! It was so wonderful to see all classes together, bringing individual bubbles in each school together and each virtual school bubble together into a big virtual federation bubble! This will be a weekly event and it will help us collaborate even more, familiarises ourselves with all of the children in each school. I felt very blessed to see everyone together, it filled me with hope, which as we enter this school year, we are very mindful about what the future holds and now more than ever we are needing to think about the federation value of, 'HOPE'.

The assembly was focused on what the value means and why we need it so much right now. Each child and every member of staff will have different experiences of the pandemic and I have asked them all to think about,

**During these times with
Coronavirus-what do you HOPE
for and why?**



Please if you can, spend some time talking to your children about this. They can feed this back anonymously if they wish and pop a 'hopeful note' to their teacher.

Hope is a wish in your heart of good things to come!

Many thanks for your ongoing support,

Miss Hill

A Message from Mrs Douglas

We have enjoyed a wonderful start to this academic year here at Nocton Community Primary School! With all of the children now back in school for the first time since March, our Nocton Family are now back enjoying learning and playing together once again. Both the inside and outside of the school has been painted during the summer holidays, by local company Hemming Decorators Ltd – it looks so fresh, it is difficult to believe that our beautiful school is over 150 years old! Thank you to all involved at Hemming Decorators Ltd.

Learning in Bubbles

All of the children have come to school ready and keen to learn, demonstrating our school values of



hope, honesty, respect, wisdom and collaboration. We currently are learning in two separate 'bubbles' – the Flamingo Class (Reception to Year 2) are in one bubble, with the Panther Class (Years 3 to 6) in a bubble. Although we cannot be all together for our learning and playtimes at the moment, we have enjoyed the continued use of Microsoft Teams for the classes to interact virtually and we have also used this online resources for the children to upload their homework.

After School Clubs

Each term we offer a wide range of clubs. Being a 'small school with wide horizons' we aim to offer a broad range of clubs for the children to enjoy. This term we are offering Magical Maths, Spanish, Year 6 Maths, Art, Football and Multi-Skills extra-curricular clubs.



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Development of the Outside area by Beeswax Dyson



Our once disused area behind the lunchroom has now been totally transformed by Beeswax Dyson into a completely unrecognisable learning space. With raised beds, wooden seating and a

stage area all constructed, in addition to new turf and gravel laid, this space has quickly become a much loved and well used area to complement our outdoor areas. The children have already started to plan 'Nocton's Got Talent' which is to take place during the last week of this half term, and a herb bed is fully planted with the children developing the sensory space with their teachers. We cannot thank Tom Wilks and his incredible team at Beeswax Dyson enough for their kindness and generosity for this development, which will be enjoyed for years and years to come.



Breakfast and After School Club

Just a reminder that we are pleased to be able to offer a school breakfast club and now after school care too, which is run in our school mobile unit by Mrs Traynor. This opens at 7:30am every weekday morning and until 6pm Monday-Thursday and 5pm Fridays. We provide a wide range of engaging activities for the children during this time, including laptops, DVDs, crafts and construction. Please use the Parentmail app to book your child's place.

Flamingo Class

Flamingo Class (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) has welcomed the new Reception children to our Nocton Family and they have made such an excellent start to their education. Mrs Traynor works with the Flamingo Class each morning to give support to groups identified by Miss Vaughan, the Class Teacher. Phonics lessons have begun straight away and all children have enjoyed developing their love of reading both in school and at home. The children have been enjoying the story 'Whatever Next' and have produced some fantastic pieces of writing based on the text. In their topic sessions, the children have been thinking about the world around us and looking at significant people during the current situation. In science work, children have been learning about the four seasons, particularly focusing on the current season of autumn. The children have enjoyed making our own weather station and have been recording the weather daily for a week to see how it can vary from day to day. The children also enjoyed a short autumn walk in the village to look for signs of seasonal change. We found conkers and conker husks, different coloured leaves, a blackberry bush, acorns and seeds.



ELSA



Mrs Traynor is our school Emotional and Literacy Support Advisor (ELSA) and is there for the children who need some support with their

emotional and social well-being. For further information, please speak to your child's class teacher.



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Panther Class

In Panther Class (Year 3 to 6), Mrs Douglas has worked with the Year 3 and 4 children each morning for English and Maths whilst Mrs MacNicol has worked with the Year 5 and 6 children. In class, Panthers have been really enthusiastic to begin learning all about life during World War II. They have been thinking about how we come together in moments of crisis and how this can link to our recent experiences during Covid-19, drawing hope from all the positive stories we have heard. Panthers are about to begin some exciting investigations in science, finding out which materials would have been most effective at reflecting light in order to search for enemy planes during The Blitz, and making our own periscopes.



Pupil Conferences and Remote Learning

Pupil Conferences will be held virtually this year via Microsoft Teams. More information will be coming out regarding this from each school regarding the format, length and how to book. As in previous years we do want this to be a meeting with the children involved as we will be talking about their successes. If you feel that you would prefer not to have a virtual meeting, or don't have the IT equipment (or a dodgy WiFi connection!) you can request an alternative time for your class teachers to call you to discuss their learning.

Can you read the new 'Remote Learning and Virtual Meeting Policy' that is on the website, as it includes lots of guidance and information about expectations for staff, parents and pupils when using technology. It also has an appendix containing a helpful flow chart for different scenarios about when Remote learning will take place and how it could look for you and us. What we will do and what you need to be aware of.

Please ask if you have any questions. Many thanks to all of you for your support so far and for familiarising yourselves with Microsoft teams!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every Monday and Friday PE days so please come in your PE kits
Monday 12th October Flu vaccination day
Friday 16th October Harvest Festival – details to follow
Thursday 22nd October – Last Day of Term Have a fantastic and safe week off!

Please keep checking these dates as some are added as we go through the terms.

Job vacancies

We have 2 vacancies for Midday Supervisors at Dunston St.Peter's CE Primary-please see the link below to the advert if you or anyone you know could be interested:

<https://jobs.lincolnshire.gov.uk/vacancy/2-x-midday-supervisor-1-hour-per-day-426930.html>

We also have vacancies for After School Club Assistants at both Nocton (relief) and Digby CE for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, please click on the link below for more information:

<https://jobs.lincolnshire.gov.uk/vacancy/after-school-club-assistant-425879.html>

You can also find the application form for all vacancies on the Spires Federation Website.



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COVID Update

Huge thanks to all of you for supporting us with our additional measures and wearing face coverings at drop off and collection times. Staff are getting very familiar now at recognising your faces-although we do sometimes get it wrong!

I hope that you have all found the recent letters and information from Public health and the NHS useful. Remember, if you or your child have ANY one of the 3 symptoms outlined below, you must self-isolate and get a test.

- 1. a high temperature:** any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
- 2. a new continuous cough:** coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- 3. a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal

Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.

Those with symptoms must isolate for 10 days and others in the household must isolate for 14 days or until those with symptoms have received a negative test result.

In school, if anyone shows symptoms they will be isolated immediately and the family called to collect them, who must then follow the advice above and get a test. If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate **does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.** I am glad to say that this hasn't yet happened; we sincerely hope it stays that way.



If your child has:
**a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of
smell or taste**

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

Book a test

If your child has:
**a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell**
But they don't have:
**a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste**

These are
**not normally symptoms of
coronavirus**

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP

Office Hours

Please note that Mrs Kramer's office hours are Monday – Friday 9am-12pm. For any issues or help concerning your child, a virtual meeting can be booked with your child's class teacher, by email admin@spiresfederation.co.uk or phone 01526 320234.