



Newsletter



Spire Federation

Friday 4th December 2020

A Message from Miss Hill

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks to all of you who completed the Parents/Carer Questionnaire, your feedback is always appreciated and I want to thank you on behalf of the staff for the huge number of positive comments that you left. The staff work so hard to ensure that all children across the federation have the best possible education and are happy. I will be looking at the results with staff and compiling a more detailed letter to you all about the findings, looking at what you said, recognising what we are doing well and what we can do next to make our schools even better. However, the main headlines across the federation, **96%** of you have said that your child is happy at school, **98%** say that they were reassured that the school put all possible measures in place when the school reopened in September and **98%** say that their child feels safe! I am so incredibly pleased about this, we have had such a successful Autumn term, despite the pandemic providing numerous challenges, so to know how safe and happy children feel is very reassuring. Thank you.

Some of the comments from each school have been incredibly supportive:

'How wonderful the teachers are to my child and how the school supports and encourages her. The best thing we ever did was to join this school. Thank you so much.'

'The staff provide a happy environment which makes our son want to attend school and to do his best when there. It is undoubtedly the overall family atmosphere that makes the school unique. Thank you all.'

'Both of our children feel able to approach their teachers when they have a problem or are worried about something. And we as parents feel confident that they are listened to and supported.'

'Everything, we are so happy with the school. It has improved tremendously over the last couple of years. There have been changes for the better. We are part of a community that makes us as parents feel valued and our child is so happy. The school have handled the pandemic exceptionally well, we are reassured that it is safe and the staff have communicated all changes effectively. Thank you for all that you have and continue to do.'

'It is great. Even with COVID it is welcoming! We see the smiles through the masks! There is always support if we need it for us as parents or for our child. The staff can't do enough. They are always so happy and nurturing. We miss going into school, but know that our child is getting the best education every day'

'The individual awareness of each child, their strengths and weaknesses are noticed. All students are treated both equally, yet seen as an individual which I think is equally as important. My daughter has experienced a lot of upset and the environment has brought out the best in her and she feels safe and secure.'

'Communication is also brilliant, newsletters are informative and great to see what the children have been up to. I also really love Twitter!!!'

We couldn't do what we do without you, we know that is a team effort and we are very glad that you are so supportive of us. Thank you!

Kind regards,

Miss Emma Hill

Carol Service with the Lincoln Diocese on Thursday 10th December

To bring us together with the wider community during this festive period, we will be taking part in the Carol Service with the Diocese of Lincoln. If possible, please join us. As part of the service they will be using the carol Silent Night, as we know singing is proving difficult under current restrictions so we'd love to invite everyone to learn some sign language for the song that they can use in the service. The link for this is below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvejBsBhvQU>

This will be premiered on The Diocesan of Lincoln's YouTube channel at 9:15am (although you will be available to watch after this) Please add the date to your diaries, we will send out the link to the actual service when it is sent through the school.



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A Message from Mrs Douglas



I would like to say an enormous thank you to all of the parents, carers, children, staff and governors of our school. We are all working together so well to make our school a very special place to learn and grow; there is a really positive ‘buzz’ at Nocton, with a lovely family feel, despite being in our two separate bubbles.

Since the last newsletter, the magic of Christmas has arrived at Nocton – so many lights and decorations have appeared, adding a cheery festive feel to our village. I would like to extend my thanks to Pennells Garden Centre in Lincoln, and Willow Farm Country Store in Potterhanworth, who have both kindly donated real Christmas trees to our school. Take a look at the diary dates at the end of the newsletter – you will see that we have so many festive events to look forward to over the last few weeks of this term.

Outdoor Learning

The Department for Education promote working outside as much as possible in order to minimise the risk of spreading Covid-19; at Nocton Community Primary School, we are blessed with some truly beautiful grounds to do this. Whether it be our large school field or playground, the newly developed stage and seating area by Beeswax Dyson or the



incredible outdoor classroom developed by Newby Leisure, we are taking every opportunity to learn outdoors. Indeed, our small school is featured in this quarter’s ‘County News’ publication, highlighting the importance of utilising the outdoors. We are looking forward to being able to welcome you back in to our school grounds, when it is safe to do so and guidance allows.



New Books

It is wonderful to see the love children (and indeed parents and staff!) have for reading. Thank you for your support with reading at home with the children – the reading diaries are full of those precious times you have spent sharing books with your child. Many of the children have spoken to staff over the last couple of weeks of the new books they have asked for as a Christmas gift, or which have already been

bought for them from the suggested ‘Books for Topics’ lists which were sent home recently. We would like to extend my thanks to Mrs Booth and the Friends of the School, for many new books have been purchased for our library from this list of suggested books. For further suggestions, take a look at the Books for Topics website: www.booksfortopics.com



Follow us on Twitter
@NoctonPrimary and @SpireFed

Music at Nocton

As a federation, we follow the ‘Charanga’ music scheme of work, with lessons which have been adapted for use in school during the pandemic. In addition to purchasing new books, we have also made use of Friends of the School funds by purchasing new glockenspiels. Take a look on our Twitter feed to see the instruments being used so well, with the older children developing their knowledge of musical notation and the younger children developing their understanding of rhythm.



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Christmas at Nocton

Christmas Cards

If your child would like to hand out Christmas Cards this year, please ensure that they are handed in to school by no later than Friday 11th December. They will then be quarantined and given out on the last day of term.

Friday 11th December:

Christmas Jumper Day - You are invited to send your child to school wearing a Christmas jumper. This could be a jumper that you already own, just jazzed up with tinsel! Donations are welcome on the day, which will go directly to the 'Save the Children' charity. We will launch a Just Giving page for this closer to the time.

Farm Kitchen Christmas Dinner – this will be served to all children and staff.

Monday 14th December:

Virtual Christingle – this will take place using Teams, with a link sent to your child's Teams account. You are invited to join us for a 10:00am start, with each class taking part in a traditional Christingle.

Nocton School Fundraising – a selection of (COVID secure) games and a lucky number draw for your chance to win a Christmas Hamper. This will take place throughout the last week of term and all winners will be announced on Thursday 17th December. Any cash brought in will be placed in our quarantine box and we will also launch a fundraising page nearer the time.

Tuesday 15th December:

Virtual visit from Santa! Details will be sent via Parentmail, along with a consent form.

Thursday 17th December:

Christmas Pyjama Day – on the last day of term, Thursday 17th December, the children (and staff!) will be invited to wear pyjamas or a onesie to school – these can be Christmas themed if you wish! The day will involve lots of Christmas crafts and a Christmas movie in each bubble.

Couch to Tokyo Challenge

Keep supporting our school in the 'Active Challenges' by uploading your minutes – https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=4I_ewOP1L06Lz_HFSzjyi0fKIOtWtvhGse87nNu9SDBUNIRGN0IGVkywQU01N09NVExTMIIVN09YNC4u

Emergency Contact Number

In the case of a positive COVID test result, please use the number below to contact the school. Please note that this number is **only** for use when a COVID test has **come back positive** and will be available evenings and weekends.

07907 372167

If you received a positive test result during the school day, please contact the School Office
Please also note that the updated COVID risk assessment is up on our website, now we are out of national lockdown.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every Monday and Friday

PE days so please come in your PE kits – these need to be named and plain (no logos or football kits please).

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Dinner

Friday 11th December – Rudy's Run

St Barnabas Hospice fundraiser

Monday 14th December – Virtual Christingle

Tuesday 15th December – Virtual visit from Santa

Thursday 17th December – Last Day of Term Pyjama day!

Monday 4th January – First Day Back Welcome back!

W/B 22nd February 2021 - KS2 Bikeability

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