



Newsletter



Spire Federation

Friday 20th November 2020

A Message from Miss Hill

Dear Parents/Carers,
I have seen so many positive events taking place in each school over the past few weeks. It has been lovely to see the way that each school community comes together to share special events. The Armistice Day celebrations were one example of this. Following COVID restrictions each school came 'together' to mark this special day. I am sure that you have seen how this took place on each school Twitter page, but in case you haven't, look at this



wonderful range of photos. It was chance for us all to reflect on how very lucky we are, to embrace our communities and thank everyone for the work that they are doing to help us stay safe, now and historically.

Every day, we are reminded about the 'Heroes' amongst us, the NHS who put themselves at risk daily to look after those who are ill, keyworkers who are amongst us every day keeping shops, businesses functioning, the armed forces, school staff, firefighters, police officers, journalists, and those working in supermarkets and for the various transport networks across the country. There are an estimated 10 million key

workers who each play a crucial role in Britain's fight against coronavirus! We thank each and every one of them for their bravery and courage. We hope that there will be an end to this pandemic and hope that the new restrictions will be lifted to enable us all to be together again soon, in our own communities and beyond. Our thoughts are with everyone who has been effected by COVID.

Best wishes,
Miss Emma Hill

A Message from Mrs Douglas

It is difficult to believe that we are already heading towards the end of November! Everyone in school has been working hard and the children are all making good progress with the learning. I have really enjoyed seeing our newly developed outside area being used by the Flamingo Class – both the inside and outside of school are both looking fabulous, I wish we could invite you in to see for yourselves! Keep checking our Twitter account to take a look at the latest photographs of what we have been up to. Thank you for your continued support in what is a very special place to learn and grow together.

Remembrance

The children took part in a virtual Remembrance Service on Wednesday 11th October. Mrs Douglas led the service, with the children and staff observing two minutes silence to show our respects. Wreaths were then laid in the church

grounds by our School Councillors, in our two separate bubbles. Thank you to the children for showing our value of respect on Remembrance, and indeed, every day.



Odd Socks Day

On Monday 16th November, the children came to school wearing a pair of odd socks. Miss Hill led an assembly to launch Anti-Bullying Week, with the children then spending time in their bubbles exploring what bullying is and understanding that this is not acceptable at any time. Thank you for your support in sending your child to school in Odd Socks! This helped the children to understand that we recognise and accept people's differences.



Follow us on Twitter
@NoctonPrimary and @SpireFed



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Telling the Time

Please can we ask that you support us in teaching your child to learn to tell the time at home.

We would encourage all of our children to wear a watch to school – if this is something your child does not currently have, this would be an ideal Christmas gift!

Children in Need



Thank you so much for your support and generosity on Friday 13th November, 'Children in Need' day. The children all worked hard in their sporty clothes to take part in an afternoon of sport: Flamingos showed excellent collaboration in their house teams, whilst Miss Hudson led an orienteering event with the Panthers. If you would still like to make a donation, please visit our [JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/noctonschoo) page, which can be found at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/noctonschoo>

Makaton from Mrs Perry

I am so glad you and others have embraced this venture so enthusiastically; I feel that it is already highlighting differences in a positive way and showing that we can all learn something from each other. I have witnessed nothing but kindness and acceptance as the children have made repeated attempts to include and befriend Riley, which have made him actually beam, it really is beautiful to see how they interact with him.

Panther Class

Panther Class have been really busy impressing Mrs MacNicol with their amazing knowledge of Hinduism this week. We have been thinking about key Hindu beliefs and the importance of the concepts of karma and moksha. In science, we have put our value of collaboration into practice to make working periscopes, and also thought about how they would have been used during World War II. Year 5 and 6 have been looking at balanced arguments in English and have begun to write some fantastic introductory paragraphs, so I am eagerly awaiting the finished pieces! Year 3 and 4 have written beautiful poems based on 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright. Maybe they could share some of the imaginative things that they would include in their boxes of hope with you.



Flamingo Class



What another busy couple of weeks Flamingo class have had! We are really enjoying the book 'Man on the Moon (A day in the Life of Bob)' and have produced some great descriptive writing in the role of 'moon tourists'. In our topic sessions, we have looked at a modern day explorer, Tim Peake, and we watched some fascinating videos of him up in space! We even had to have a go at pretending to walk on the moon with no gravity! The outside area is proving to be a big hit with everyone. We have enjoyed making a space rocket out of the building blocks and have even had a duck race with the water wall!



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Wellbeing Warriors

Wellbeing Warriors are a group of children who understand that the wellbeing of others is vital to their happiness and good mental health.



The Wellbeing Warriors

will be there to support children who are feeling low and who may just need a caring friend. They will work together and share any concerns with staff.

We are pleased to announce that Bea, Faith and Archie have been selected to carry out this important role.



Sporty Panthers!

This term we have been orienteering in our PE lessons with Miss Hudson. In our PE sessions each week, we choose two leaders who lead our warm ups and also help to organise equipment. Our most popular game is pac-man and mushroom tig. In active Maths, we have been working on telling the time whilst doing hockey and running. On Friday 13th November, we took part in a Scavenger hunt and orienteering contest with CGS outreach, which was really fun! Recently, we have received new equipment for our school. We have been trying to keep sporty and active with the skipping ropes, new throwing equipment and much more! In addition to this, we have been lucky to get new Netball hoops and basket balls, which we have loved playing with.
Panthers Sports Crew.



Christmas at Nocton

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 the time.

Farm Kitchen Christmas Dinner – this will be served to the children and staff. If you have not ordered your child's meal yet, please complete the form sent out on Parentmail.

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.

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.

Book Checklists

Tonight your child will bring home with them a checklist taken from the 'Books for Topics' website (<https://www.booksfortopics.com/key-stage-book-lists>) with ideas of age-appropriate books for each age group. Please spend some time looking at the list with your child and talk with them about the books and authors they enjoy reading. A book would also make a perfect gift for Christmas!

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



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A Message from All Saints Church: Nocton Church Cleaners Needed!

Normally our church is used regularly for our services, by the school & for a whole range of events from book fairs to concerts & Christmas tree festivals to name but a few. Many of our church cleaners occasionally attend church or maybe not at all but the unanimous response is always how much they value & appreciate the peace & serenity of being in church quietly at that time. The church does rely on this support as many church members come into the vulnerable category and are unable to volunteer for this.

We run a rota system whereby two people are responsible for one month in the year.

It is not a big commitment & generally only takes a few hours in the month. It is always possible to arrange swops if something crops up for you or you change your plans.

So whether you have never stepped foot in church or have attended a few events, please would you consider offering your help for this. If you feel you could help out please email ruth@jimeagle.plus.com & I will be pleased to give you more detail as to what is involved.



Your Feedback

We are interested to hear your views about the school. We aim to have a federation, comprising of three schools, where pupils, parents/carers feel equally valued, supported and happy. In order for us to be able to achieve this we would really value your feedback. We want to recognise what we are already being successful at and what we can improve on our journey to achieve excellence for all in our 'Small Schools with Wide Horizons'. The Staff and Governors have also reviewed the Federation Vision to reflect the changes that the pandemic have meant to us and our school communities and we would value your feedback on this. I would really appreciate if you could spend a few minutes completing this questionnaire by Friday 27th

November, by following this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdr83_sFsFzFCEnQ-QmXoQQ92kkyKDbRveuNDBslmHdXX5oA/viewform?usp=sf_link

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 27th November – Christmas Dinner order deadline

Please complete the form on Parentmail

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Dinner

Monday 14th December – Virtual Christingle

Tuesday 15th December – Virtual visit from Santa

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

Monday 4th January – First Day Back Welcome back!

W/B 22nd February 2021 - KS2 Bikeability

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