



Newsletter

Wednesday 11th January 2017

Term Dates 2016/17

1st February

Y3 visit to Pizza Express

30th January

Y5/6 Dodgeball

6th February

Year 2 Scooter Safety Training

9th February

Girls only tag rugby festival

17th February

School closes for half term

27th February

School reopens

World Book Week

Start of Fair Trade Fortnight

1st March

Swimming Gala Y5/6

8th March

Travelling Book fair arrives

Parents Evening

9th March

Tag Rugby Festival

Parents Evening

14th March

Netball tournament

16th March

KS1 Cross Country

3rd April

Class photographs

7th April

Break up for Easter

Spring Term

This term is always so busy – it was lovely to welcome back the children from their Christmas break and to hear about the exciting time they have had.

We talked in assembly about New Year resolutions, and how many people break them before the month of January is out! We instead decided the best way is to commit to hard work to achieve something – this way even if you fall down a little, as long as you get back up and dust yourself off, your hard work should get you to your ambition by the end. This term is usually a critical one for academic progress, and your parents evening this term will be alongside your child with a real focus on how we can achieve academic targets.

In fact, the most accurate predictor of a child's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which the child's family is able to:

- Create a home environment that encourages learning;
- Express high (but not unrealistic) expectations for their child's achievement and future careers;
- Become involved in their child's education at school and in the community.

We are lucky at this school to have so many fantastic parents who want to help their children achieve, and we thank you for your support. Please continue to be positive about education – children's attitudes to learning are framed by you. Our consultation on parental workshops showed a keen interest from parents to still participate in these. I will definitely run an assessment workshop this term, and further letters will outline other events.

Curriculum Information

On our school website you can continue to access information about our curriculum. You can access information about each term (the spring newsletters from each class are there), read about how we teach reading and writing, access performance data, read about how we assess your children and access a range of school policies.

If you would like to see anything else on the website, please email me on the usual address: khenderson@huttoncranswick.eriding.net

Please also contact us if you feel you can help with any aspect of our curriculum – we always welcome support and volunteers!

Starting School in 2017??

Do you have a child aged 3 to 4 years old? Was your child born between September 1, 2012 and August 31, 2013? If so, then he/ she should start school in September 2017. You can apply for a school place online NOW using the electronic form on the council's website: www.eastriding.gov.uk or you can get an application form from the Admissions Team.

Application forms are available now. The deadline for receiving applications is **January 15th 2017**. You should make sure that you complete and return an application form online or a paper form to the Admissions Team at County Hall, Beverley by that date. If you have any questions please contact your local school or East Riding of Yorkshire Council: Admissions Team – telephone (01482) 392100

Attendance Letters

This year any child who has an attendance record of 90% or below will be classed as a persistent absentee, as decreed by the DfE. Parents of children slipping below this will be invited in to meet with me and put an attendance action plan in place, and if any of the objectives fail to be met then the Educational Welfare Officer becomes involved and this leads to a further action plan. Failure here can result in court appearances and substantial fines.

I realise this sounds quite scary, but it is a system we have no choice but to follow. The system is there, and we are here to help and prevent anyone from having to go through that process. I will be sending a letter out to any parents of any child who has an attendance record of 93% or less. **Please do not worry about this letter, it is only to highlight to your attention and allow you to avoid getting to the 90% mark.**

If anyone is at the 90% or below (unless significant illness has caused this), you will be invited in and we will put an action plan in place, and I have no doubt that it will be easily passed and we can move on.

SNOW POLICY: IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Policy in Practice - What the school does to assist in the event of icy weather conditions

It is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes round the site and across the playground have been identified and will be gritted before giving access to the site, thereby minimising the risks to children parents and visitors.

In extreme cases, the Headteacher may decide that there is no option but to close the school if there is presented a severe health and safety risk. A severe Health and Safety Risk would be presented if insufficient staff could reach the school or indeed the health and safety of staff meant that they should leave early. In the event of severe weather, a decision to close the school for pupils will be made by 7.30am. The Head Teacher will contact Radio Humberside and Viking Radio to ask them to broadcast the information. Updates will be posted on the Twitter section of the school's website, and the school app.

Playground areas are gritted if practical before 8:30am and when not, by morning break. At playtimes a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the senior teacher on duty in conjunction with a member of the Senior Management Team. Children may not throw snowballs on the playgrounds. However if the field is covered by thick snow pupils may be allowed to play on the field in the snow, make a snowman and throw snowballs. Those not wishing to throw snow (or indeed be hit by snowballs) should stay on the playgrounds. The school believes that playing in and throwing snow is part of a child's life experiences, and as we have had so little in recent years, should be enjoyed!

Closing a school at short notice, including closing mid-way through a day, poses considerable difficulties for parents and will only be taken as a very last resort. A complete heating failure in the winter and/or a loss of the water supply would however result in the school having to close. Good communication is essential.

Parents/Carers are asked to be responsible and plan more time for their journey, suitable footwear for having to walk further, wrapping up to keep warm etc....parents should not expect to be able to park close to the school at these times! Parents and visitors are expected to use the gritted paths rather than walk across the snow and ice.