



GREAT MASSINGHAM C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Weasenham Road, Great Massingham, King's Lynn. PE31 2EY

Headteacher: Ann Beardall Tel: 01485 520362

Website: www.greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER



The new school term has begun very positively with all 'newbies' - including me - being warmly welcomed into the school! Our YR pupils have settled in well and our new children in other year groups have made friends quickly. I am enjoying working with Massingham staff, pupils and parents and am beginning to feel 'at home'.

I believe it is very important that parents and children know that staff will listen to concerns and try to answer queries. If school is aware of a concern we can try and help - but we can't help with something we know nothing about so please talk to us.

So please encourage your children to share any worries they may have about school life with staff and contact school if you have any issues you wish brought to our attention. Class teachers should be your first port of call if your query or concern is about teaching and learning or aspects of the school day. They will always let me know about any issues they deal with. If you wish to speak to me I will do my best to respond as quickly as possible but please be patient as I have some days at Harpley and some at Great Massingham and may not be able to get straight back to you. If you have an urgent problem please call the Headteacher's mobile 07825104854.

Ann Beardall

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER



The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 15th October. If you would like to include younger brothers and sisters in a family photograph please come to school at 1.30pm.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS FORM



Attached to this newsletter is a new visits form. We have adapted the NCC Level 2 visits form and will ask parents to complete the form annually in the autumn term. This form **has** to be taken on school trips so it is important this information is kept up to date. Please inform us immediately of any changes so we can update our records. We will still send our usual visit letter with a tear off slip, for you to complete, with a reminder to let us know of any contact detail changes.

ATTENDANCE



We have attached our School's Attendance Leaflet for Parents. Our attendance so far this term is 97.4%. Well done everybody - keep it up. In the morning school opens at 8.50am. Registration is at 9.00am, and children must be in their classroom by this time. Registers close at 9.10am prompt. If a child arrives after 9.00am they will be registered as late. If your child has not arrived by 9.10 and we have not been informed about an absence we are required to telephone you before 9.30am to ask why. This ensures that pupils travelling to school independently are always accounted for.

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners remain at £2.10 per meal. Please send dinner money into school on a Monday morning in a named envelope with the required meals for the week. Cheques should be made payable to Great Massingham School. The Summer 2013 menu is still current. This will change after the October half term.



UNIFORM

The Governing Body request that all children attending Great Massingham School support its positive image in the community by wearing school uniform and having appropriately coloured/styled hair. Girls and boys must have long hair tied and/or clipped back for health and safety reasons.



Great Massingham School uniform consists of

- navy sweatshirt/cardigan or jumper
- navy blue polo shirt
- dark/charcoal grey trousers/skirts/pinafore dresses or shorts
- girls may wear a blue and white checked dress in warm weather
- school shoes should be black, brown or dark blue and for safety reasons strappy or high-heeled sandals/shoes must not be worn.

In winter/wet weather pupils who come to school wearing boots should change into indoor shoes or plimsolls in school.

Jewellery may not be worn with the exception of small stud earrings and wristwatches. If wristwatches are worn, it is at the wearer's own risk. The school is not responsible for their damage or loss. For safety reasons children must remove watches and earrings for PE. Children should remove and be responsible for their own earrings. If your child is unable to do this please remove earrings at home before school.

Please ensure all clothing and belongings are clearly named so that lost property can be identified and returned.

Clothing for infants needs to be easy for children to manage themselves particularly for toileting and PE.



SCHOOL PICK UP

We must know if your child/ren are going home with anyone other than the adult who regularly collects. Please have a word with your child's teacher in the morning if there is a change to the norm or telephone school if there is a change of plan for pick up during the day.



FIRST ADMISSIONS TO SCHOOL - SCHOOL YEAR 2014/15

Parents of children born between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010 can start school full-time in September 2014. Parents should apply online at www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk (website open between 30th September 2013 and 15th January 2014). Application forms can be obtained from Norfolk County Council Customer Service Centre on 0344 8008020. Applications received after 15th January 2014 will be treated as late and will not be considered until places for all on time applications have been allocated.



CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES/ EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Educational visits, visitors and workshops have always been an important part of our teaching and learning. Unfortunately the school budget is not able to subsidise extra activities so Parental Contributions are invited for the majority of visits. These are, obviously, voluntary and children will not be excluded from activities if parents and carers choose not to pay but if costs are not covered fully from contributions we may be unable to go ahead with the visits or activities. As a school we believe that 'real' experiences are a vital element in learning. We will always try to keep requests for contributions to a reasonable level without compromising children's learning experiences.

PARENT SUPPORT ADVISER



If you would like help with parenting issues, or require help and support accessing benefits please contact

JO VINER (Direct line) Tel: 01328 702035



WE NEED HELP!!

We really need people to help in school to hear children read, organise resources, and work with small groups. Parents, relatives, friends and neighbours are all welcome!

It's a great way to get involved in the school community and your child/children's learning. If you can help in school, either on a regular basis or from time to time, please telephone or e-mail the school or speak to a member of staff at the end of a school day.

To ensure safeguarding all adult helpers in school will be DBS checked.

**Thank you to our regular helpers
- you really make a difference
and it is appreciated by
everyone!**

HARVEST SERVICE

Please come and join us at 2.30pm on Friday 11th October for our Harvest Assembly. This year we are collecting food items for the mid Norfolk Foodbank.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - SAMARITAN'S PURSE 2013



Please bring your shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child into school before Friday 23rd October. The shoe boxes will be taken for shipping over the half term break. Thank you for supporting Operation Christmas Child.

DIARY DATES - OCTOBER 2013

Friday 11th October

Year 1 & 2 Forest Schools

Harvest Service in school hall at 2.30pm

Tuesday 15th October

School Photographer

Thursday 17th October

Key Stage 2 visit to Norwich to
Cathedral Day

Letter and permission slip attached

Friday 18th October

Year 1 & 2 Forest Schools

Friday 25th October

Last Year 1 & 2 Forest Schools visit
School closes for half term

TERM DATES



2013 AUTUMN TERM

Thursday 5th September - Friday 20th December
(Half term: Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November)



2014 SPRING TERM

Tuesday 7th January - Friday 4th April
(Half term: Monday 17th - Friday 21st February)



2014 SUMMER TERM

Wednesday 23rd April - Wednesday 23rd July
(Half term: Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May)

May Day Bank Holiday - school will be closed on Monday 5th May 2013

Thursday 26th June is a pupil holiday. School will be shut on this day only