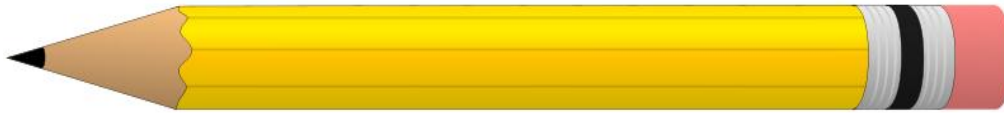




Newsletter ~ October 2025

The Windmill Primary Federation



email: office@terrington-st-john.norfolk.sch.uk Telephone: 01945 880340

Website: <https://www.windmillfederation.org.uk/terrington-st-john-primary-school/>



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the first half-term, we are delighted to reflect on what has been a fantastic start to the academic year. Our pupils have settled into their new routines brilliantly—embracing learning with energy, enthusiasm and positivity. They have responded well to our behaviour systems, which have restorative practices at the core – we call this 'The Windmill Way'. We celebrate the behaviours we want to see with 'Thank-you' cards and promote consistent expectations with phrases including: 'magnet eyes' and '1, 2, 3, eyes on me'. We are incredibly proud of how well the pupils have adapted and the pride they are taking in their work and personal development.

This half-term has flown by, filled with exciting opportunities and enriching experiences. A special mention goes to the team from Ducklings Class who represented our school at West Norfolk Academies Trust's Dodgeball competition at Gaywood Primary School—what a great way to showcase teamwork and school spirit! We came together as a community for *Hello Yellow Day*, dressing in yellow to raise awareness for World Mental Health Day. It was a meaningful day, reminding us all of the importance of looking after our wellbeing. Pupils have started rehearsing songs for the upcoming Remembrance Evening at Springwood High School—we look forward to seeing their hard work come to life.

It's been heartening to see so many pupils stepping forward to take on leadership roles this year. Our Junior Leadership Team is already hard at work with a full schedule of responsibilities to help make a positive impact across the school—what a fantastic way to build confidence and encourage pupil voice.

We know that these successes wouldn't be possible without your continued support at home. Thank you for all you do—whether it's helping with reading and homework, encouraging use of platforms like Times Tables Rock Stars and SATs Companion or supporting good attendance and daily routines. These habits make a real difference in helping your children feel confident, resilient and ready to learn.

We'd also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful Friends committee for their tireless support and creativity. They are giving up time over the half-term break to help decorate our school and we are incredibly grateful for their dedication to making school life even more special.

After the half term we will be welcoming Mrs Ridley to our ducklings Class. We look forward to having another lovely member of staff to support Miss Cook and all the children.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you all for the warm and welcoming start I've had as part of this school community. I look forward to meeting more of you at our upcoming Parents' Evenings. I will be on site on the following days:

- **Monday 10th November** – Tilney St Lawrence
- **Wednesday 12th November** – Walpole Highway
- **Thursday 13th November** – Terrington St John

Wishing you and your families a restful, safe and happy half-term break!

Warm regards,

Emma Hunt & Kath Davies

Exec Headteacher & Head of School

Smile Believe Succeed

Ducklings Class

This half term Reception have focused on the topic, 'All About Me'. In EYFS we learn through teacher led and child-initiated activities. During the day, they have been busy with Phonics, themed learning and Mathematics.

The children have accessed a range of exciting activities including, the human body where they built a skeleton and have continued to look at how to be healthy and keep bones and teeth strong.

Reception have also talked about why homes are important and who they live with. They have thought about how houses can look different in our community and we talked about what our own houses looked like. We built different homes using soft bricks, Lego and stickle bricks.

They have explored feelings and how to identify and recognise their own feelings and feelings of others. During these sessions the children read stories, made feeling faces, discussed paintings and pictures by artists such as Picasso.

Year 1 and 2 have had a great start to their first half term. We have been busy settling in and working hard to meet the new expectations of KS1.

The children have been learning a story called 'The Papaya that Spoke', they are amazing at retelling the story with a story teller voice and actions. They have started writing their own versions of the story and are looking forward to hear how they turn out.

In Maths Year 1 and 2 have been learning about place value and how to use it to help with addition and subtraction. Place value helps us understand the value of each digit in a number, such as ones, tens, and hundreds. To help them learn, we used manipulatives like base ten, place value charts, counters, and number lines, using manipulatives made it easier to see how numbers work and to understand what happens when we add or take away.

During Science the class has investigated 'How other senses affect our sense of taste?'. The children all participated in an experiment where the use of their senses was limited whilst trying to identify different foods. The children made their own predictions and gave some excellent scientific reasoning to their answers. They discovered how much our other senses really do influence our taste and also enjoyed eating during the experiment.



Kingfishers Class

This half term has been full of exciting learning opportunities in Kingfisher Class, and the children have thrown themselves into each subject with enthusiasm.

In Science, we have been exploring the fascinating world of forces and magnets. The children have especially enjoyed the hands-on investigations, using magnets to test which materials are magnetic and exploring how different surfaces affect the movement of objects. They've made thoughtful predictions, recorded their results carefully, and discussed their findings like real scientists!

Music lessons have been lively and full of rhythm. We've been learning to play both glockenspiels and untuned percussion instruments, experimenting with tempo, dynamics, and rhythm. The children have loved performing simple pieces. It's been a joy to see their creativity shine through sound.

In History, our topic has been Ancient Egypt. From mummies to hieroglyphics, the children have been captivated by this ancient civilisation. They've been learning about the importance of the River Nile, the afterlife and even decoding simple hieroglyphs.



One of the most exciting new developments this term has been the introduction of Latin! This is the first time Kingfisher Class has learned the language, and the children are thoroughly enjoying it. A particular highlight has been discovering that they don't need to remember capital letters unless they're writing a name—a welcome break from usual writing rules! Latin has also helped deepen their understanding of English grammar and vocabulary.

We are so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic the children have been across all areas of the curriculum. Well done, Kingfishers—keep up the great work!



Up-coming fund-raising events include:

- **Bingo** – Monday 20th Oct
- **Half Term Competition**
- **Christmas Fair** – Tuesday 9th December

Next meeting: Wednesday 5th November 13.30

New members always welcome – follow us on Facebook – just search -Terrington St John FOSA

During the half term we will be going into the school to spruce up the walls with a coat of paint or two. The addition of a card reader will also help with future fundraising. No more scrabbling around the bags and drawers for change!

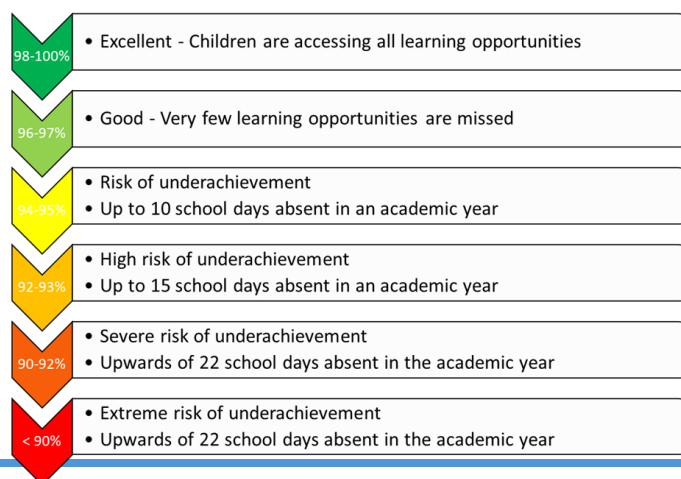
Thank you for all the support which has allowed us to supply resources, fund events like the Pantomime and enrich the children's environment.

The Importance of Good Attendance

The Government strives for every pupil to achieve 97% attendance. Every day away from school is a day away from learning and this can have an impact on a child's education and future accomplishments.

We want every child to enjoy school and achieve their potential in education and life beyond. We are always here to talk through any issues and help find solutions. Parents are always a phone call away if a child is too ill to continue their day, please encourage them to try to give the day a go, children often feel much better once they are in class.

The Government has issued attendance guidance and targets to all schools. You may receive regular texts informing you of the number of days that your child has been absent in a term/year. The Government hopes that this personal approach will keep you informed and make parents more aware of how the odd day adds up.



Diary Dates



COMING SOON

Individual Photos
Tuesday 21st October

Remembrance service
Tuesday 11th November
6pm year 4

Parent's Evenings
Monday 10th November &
Thursday 13th November

Children In Need
Friday 14th November

Open afternoon
Tuesday 18th November
1-2pm for 2026 Reception Parents

Multiplication Check Meeting
Wednesday 19th November
for Year 3 & 4 Parents

NHS Screening
Thursday 20th November
for Reception & Year 6

Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 25th November

Parent Phonic Meeting
Wednesday 26th November
for EYFS and Year 1

Carol Service
Wednesday 3rd December
6pm at St Nicholas Chapel

Pantomime
Tuesday 9th December

Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day
Thursday 11th December

Duckling Nativity
Tuesday 16th December &
Wednesday 17th December

Carols on the Playground
Thursday 18th December

Last Day
Friday 19th December