



Newsletter ~ December 2025

The Windmill Primary Federation



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Dear families,

The past half-term at Terrington St John Primary School has been busy and rewarding. As we approach the festive season, we hope you are all enjoying this special time of year.

Thank you to all who attended our nativity productions. The children performed with such confidence and enthusiasm and we could not be prouder of them. Our Christmas crafts afternoon last Thursday was also a great success. It was wonderful to see the classrooms buzzing with creativity, laughter and festive spirit. We were especially pleased to welcome so many parents, carers and grandparents into school to share the afternoon with us.

Our pupils have also embraced a range of enrichment opportunities this half-term, representing the school with pride at the Remembrance Event at Springwood High School and spreading festive cheer at the Christmas Concert at St Nicholas Chapel. These experiences help to build confidence, wellbeing and talents beyond the classroom. We are extremely proud of the children.

Thank you so much for taking the time to share your views through our school dinner questionnaire. Your feedback has been invaluable in helping us to further improve our offer. From January, we're introducing a new, more flexible way to order school meals. Families will be able to place meal orders up until 9:00am on the day the meal is required, making it easier than ever to plan ahead. The new menu will be on our website by the end of this week, giving you plenty of time to review and sign-up.

To celebrate our exciting new menu, we're delighted to invite parents to a tasting session at West Walton Primary on Tuesday 13th January, straight after school. This will be a great opportunity to sample our delicious new dishes and see just how tasty and child-friendly our lunches are. We'd love you to join us - come along, have a taste and discover what's new on the menu!

We are delighted with the positive feedback from our recent parent survey, with 100% of families saying pupils feel happy and safe in school and that we offer a broad and balanced curriculum. Thank you to everyone who shared their views.

In response to your feedback, we will soon be introducing Class Dojo as a new platform to keep you informed about your child's learning. Teachers will share regular updates and photos. Messaging will not be enabled, so please continue to contact staff via the school office. Your child will bring home login details shortly.

Finally, we wish Mrs Fulcher and Mrs Rolston-Earl every success as they leave Terrington St John to begin new roles. We thank them for their dedication and reassure you that new staff will be in place from January to ensure continuity and high-quality provision.

Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Best wishes

Emma Hunt & Kath Davies

Exec Headteacher & Head of School

Ducklings Class

A Busy Term of Learning and Fun

This term has been bustling with activity as our children have engaged in a variety of exciting projects and experiences. Including sports and special visitors to Christmas performances, the enthusiasm displayed by our pupils has been truly commendable.

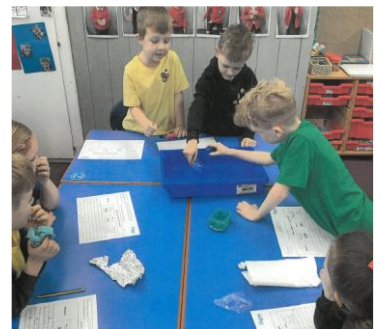
These activities not only provided enjoyment but also contributed to the development of essential skills such as collaboration, perseverance, and a genuine love for learning. The joy and pride our students exhibited during these events was clearly noticeable.

Storytelling and Writing

In English, our Reception class has been captivated by the classic tale of "The Three Little Pigs." The children have created imaginative characters and unique versions of the story, showcasing their growing storytelling skills and language development. Year 1 and 2 have also been exploring writing recounts, particularly enjoying the adventures of Traction Man and his woolly onesie. Their progress in writing has been consistent, and it's wonderful to see their creativity shine through.

Exciting Science Experiments

This term, our science lessons have been about discovery! Students have engaged in numerous experiments, testing materials for absorbency, toughness, and waterproof qualities. Their ability to make predictions and conduct fair tests has been impressive, all while having fun. The toughness experiment, where children tested their strength against different materials, was particularly popular!



A Heart-warming Nativity Performance

Our Nativity performance this year was nothing short of fantastic! A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who supported our children in this special event. The dedication and hard work put in by Ducklings class was evident as they performed with joy and enthusiasm. Every child played a vital role, showcasing their talents and teamwork and the support from families made this event a true celebration of our school community.



Kingfishers Class

This term, the children have enjoyed a wide range of exciting learning experiences. In Science, we explored states of matter, material properties, and how materials can change. In Computing, the children learned how to use search engines safely and effectively. Our Geography topic focused on settlements, which included a local field trip around the village to identify different types of buildings and plot significant landmarks on a map.

In Dance, Mrs Davies and the Kingfishers had a fantastic time learning traditional dances, showing great enthusiasm and teamwork. We ended the term with a wonderful school trip to Norwich Castle, which helped reinforce our learning from last half term about Ancient Egypt. The children were amazing throughout the trip and represented our school beautifully.

We would also like to say a huge thank you and well done to those children who represented our school at the Remembrance Performance at Springwood High School and the Christmas Carols at St Nicholas' Chapel. They were both amazing events which the children will remember for a long time to come.

Finally, Kingfishers would like to say thank you to Mrs Fulcher and Mrs RE for all of their hard work and support over the years. They will both be missed by both staff and students but we wish them luck in their new adventures.



As always Thank You to all the members of FOSA, especially the committee for the time and effort this term.

From painting in the holidays to Christmas gifts, trees and Grottos they have been wonderful.

Thanks to them and an exceptionally generous donation, we are having new flooring laid in the group room and hallway in the new year.

Diary Dates



COMING SOON

13th January

West Walton
Lunchtime Co. Taster
After School

4th March

Primary Literacy Event
Details to Follow

12th March

Y3/4 Sports Event
Details to Follow

Choir Club

Every Thursday from 3.30 – 4.30 at Tilney St Lawrence.

All Federation Children are welcome and there is no charge.

If your child is interested, we would love for them to join, please contact the school office for details.

Families in hardship and needing wider support.

There is support available for families who are facing hardship and need support. Anyone experiencing hardship may be able to receive support through the Client Hardship Service (CHS) and the Crisis Support Fund, which may be able to provide financial support including essential household items to families experiencing hardship.

Families may get in touch with CHS via their dedicated website at Client Hardship Service – Norfolk County Council, which includes an online application form (here:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/41970/How-to-get-help-from-the-Client-Hardship-Service>) or if you cannot access the internet, you can call 0344 800 8020.

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS!

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year.
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year.
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 19 days a year.

19 days lost a year through being late means 90% attendance.

**missed minutes =
missed learning
= missed opportunities!**

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Norfolk County Council

Attendance Team | Education, Quality Assurance and Intervention Service