

SMSJ News

23rd September 2022 – Issue 3



Good afternoon everyone,

It's hard to believe it has only been a four-day week, probably because it's been a very busy one here in school. It has however been a very happy week after the solemnity of the previous ten days.

This week we have had our first full Governing Body meeting which was very productive, setting out plans for the year ahead. Below, are the headlines in the 2022-2023 School Development Plan setting out our priorities. Three of these priorities still have their roots set firmly in recovering from the effects of the pandemic.

Priority 1 QUALITY OF EDUCATION	Priority 2 QUALITY OF EDUCATION	Priority 3 LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT	Priority 4 BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES
To further develop and enrich pupils' language, reading and written capabilities.	To teach children a variety of strategies to enable them to solve mathematical problems and provide them with greater opportunities for problem solving as an embedded feature within maths lessons.	To develop the skills of subject champions and subject teams to be accountable for their subjects in terms of intent, implementation and impact.	To develop pupils' psychological fitness - mental resilience and emotional wellbeing, key attributes to enable them to fully engage in all aspects of school and wider life.

To support a strand of Priority One, we are currently planning a 'support your child to develop their reading at home' workshop this term for parents and carers of KS1 and KS2 children, whilst Mrs Gamble will run a phonics workshop for Early Years/Reception parents and any parents who are unfamiliar with the practice of teaching synthetic phonics to support their child with early reading skills.

We also held our first School Council meeting of this year yesterday with twelve very excited and proud new Councillors brimming with ideas! I look forward to them playing an active role in our school development using their 'pupil voice'. Their first task was to ask their classmates, 'what would you like our classroom to look like?'

On the back of this, we would like to start by creating a 'family photos' wall in each classroom. If you could send in a printed photo or send a picture to the class teacher on class dojo, this would be great. The children also liked the idea of showcasing their achievements out of school through a photo – things that 'let their light shine'.

Part of the School Council's role is to lead our charitable giving through the year. We are extremely mindful of not overburdening you with requests for donations with the current economic crisis this year. Any school trips will be carefully considered and deemed an important enrichment to your child's learning. We, as a school, are also having to 'tighten our belt' and if sufficient contributions are not made to cover the cost of a school trip, I am afraid that we will have to cancel it. As an example of the increase in costs we face, a coach just down the road to Wing is £180! It will certainly challenge us to think of other creative ways to provide enrichment activities and opportunities for the children. We welcome any of your brainstorming ideas or suggestions in this area. We are thinking that instead of taking the children to the cinema during Schools' Film Week, we will run a free film night in the school hall. We are also talking about things like a class/family camp out on the school field.

The School Council has decided that for Harvest Festival this year to invite you to donate a tin or packet of food, which will go to the local charity - Rutland Food Bank. Our Harvest Festival will be on Monday 10 October at 9am in church. (This is also going to be our school Open Day between 10am and 2.30pm).

Talking of firsts, this afternoon we have over thirty KS2 pupils running in our first competitive sporting event of the year – the Rutland Primary Schools cross-country competition at Sykes Lane. There's a little bit of breeze but otherwise it's perfect weather. Good luck to all our runners.

We are also holding our first open classroom/meet the class teacher event at 3pm today. We hope this is the first of many opportunities where we can engage with you as parents and carers. Then there will be the round of parents' evenings.

It's a beautiful Friday afternoon, I hope it lasts into the weekend and you have a lovely one.



A very Happy Birthday to all those celebrating birthdays over the coming week.

Max Peacock
Rupert Peach
Silvana Caffarelli
Archie DeBank Burgess
Arlo Renner

Half Term Holiday Club

24th - 28th October, 8am - 5.50pm.

Please email sandwichclub@northluffenham.rutland.sch.uk to book a space or for further information.

Sports Diary

Tuesday 27th Sept

Yr 5/6 Boys Football

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Hello everyone! It's the PFA here!

The Parent & Friends Association (PFA) is here to support school and organise fun things for our community of families, and we have plenty in store for the year ahead. We hope you are as excited as we are!

Keep your eyes open for these NEWS bulletins included in the school newsletters as often as we can, and updates from your class parent reps (wonderful human beings!)

Our 1st event this year!

2021 / 2022
St Mary & St John
Primary School
PEA

AGM

Thursday 6th October
7.30pm School Hall & online via Teams

All welcome

Please let your class rep know if you can come (in person or online) and we will see you there!

Coming up soon:

- *Uniform sale
- *Christmas cards fundraiser
- *2023 calendar
- * Disco 4th Nov



Find us on facebook

- ➡ St Mary & St John PFA ◀
- ➡ North Luffenham Primary School second hand uniform ◀
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