

# Neatishead News

Spring 2017, Issue 1

*"Our school is a happy & safe community where everyone shares a love of learning" Our Christian values of respect, responsibility, trust, courage, compassion and perseverance are at its heart"*



## Dates for your Diary

Mon 20th Feb	Back to school
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Parents Forum – 2pm
Tue 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Library Van time
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Online safety event – Broadland High School – Years 5 & 6
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothering Sunday Assembly – 1.30pm
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Experience Easter
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> March	End of term assembly-1.30pm

This is my favourite time of year when Spring is nudging Winter to one side! I am really looking forward to enjoying school life at Neatishead in a little more warmth and sunshine. Although, without being too cheesy, your children bring warmth and sunshine to even the coldest day. We are aiming to make the most of our outdoor area for learning. Amelia and Emma joined me last week to discuss our plans for purchasing outdoor climbing equipment for the field. They gave some very sensible and measured suggestions and advice. Fingers crossed, we can get the equipment in place by the summer term. Thank you for all your continued support.  
Julie

## Parking around schools

Thank you to everyone who has helped in trying to keep the car park and surrounding roads safe. Even if the front gate is closed, access is still available if required.



### Neatishead & Barton Pre-School

Don't forget to visit their website  
[www.nbps.org.uk](http://www.nbps.org.uk)



Contact us on:  
Tel 01692 630241  
[office@neatishead.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@neatishead.norfolk.sch.uk)

### Asthma

We are in the process of updating our asthma records and ask that if your child suffers from asthma, please contact the school office for a new plan. We also ask that you supply school with an inhaler and spacer which can be kept on the premises at all times.



## Red Skippers

Our circus topic is so much fun! We have shared lots of stories about the circus, made information books about circus animals and written rhymes about circuses. We have learnt some new tricks such as hula hooping and balancing on a narrow beam, whilst dressed as circus characters! We are enjoying our outdoor area which is a circus ring with some interesting and exciting activities to practise.



We celebrated the Chinese New Year by finding out about how it is enjoyed in China. The children were very excited to find out which year they were born in! Our rooster masks were fun to make and made a very noisy addition to our parade!



## School Uniform

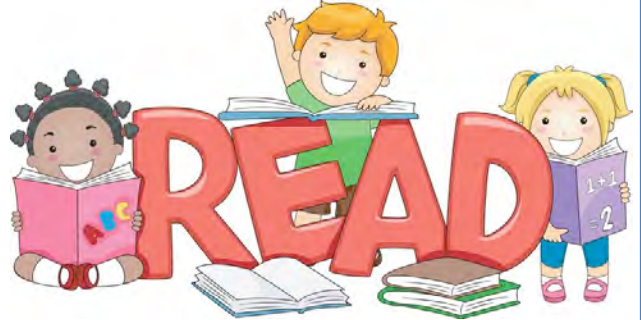
*Hopefully you have had the opportunity to look at the new uniform supplier's website. There is a good selection of clothes at a reasonable price, and what's more, they are delivered direct to your door. Please give any feed back to the school office.*



[www.brigadeuniformdirect.uk.com](http://www.brigadeuniformdirect.uk.com)

## Red Skippers

In class we listen to the children read at least once a week. The more you are able to read at home, the quicker the children learn the high frequency words and enjoy their reading even more. It would be brilliant if you can read at home 4 or 5 times a week, and look through the words on the key-ring too.



Mrs Davies

## Message from Richard Barker Newly appointed Vice Chair on the Governing Body



As a relative newcomer to Norfolk, but with experience of being a school governor in Kent, I was delighted to be asked to join the school governing body recently, and to have the opportunity to meet the staff and children.

I was most impressed by the dedication of the staff and their obvious care for the children. This was equally reflected by the exemplary behaviour of the children and their confidence and lively sense of enquiry, as was demonstrated when they asked as many questions about me as I did about them!

I very much look forward to getting to know the school better, and working with the headteacher and other governors to support it.

Richard Barker

## Peacock Class



During science lessons we have led an enquiry into reversible change and the viscosity of liquid as change occurs.



Peacock Class were particularly keen for these examples to be shared with you at home!



Our time lapse video shows our investigation into the conditions of an sphere – this is available on our school website. Thank you to pupils for bringing their ice balloons to school.



## Discovering Polygons

We investigated polygons using a GPS device to draw such a shape on the school field. Pupils predicted the perimeter before Caitlin used a trundle wheel to verify results.

Our results led to a discussion about symmetrical shapes and the difference between regular and irregular polygons.



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The maths terminology used by Peacock Class is used on a regular basis to play 'maths musical chairs!' This is a class favourite and proving to be a fun way to learn the meaning of mathematical concepts.

A little bit of family fun.... Have you ever made Gloop?

You will need:

2 cups of cornflour

1 cup of water

Food Colouring

A large container or bowl

Place the cornflour into a large container and place a few drops of colouring into the centre. Have the water ready for your child to pour into the container. Mix the water into the cornflour and colouring. It will take some time to mix together but encourage your child to play with the gloop before it is mixed.

The science behind it.....

Cornflour is made of lots of long, stringy particles. When water is added they do not dissolve in water, but they do spread themselves out. This allows the gloop to act both like a solid and a liquid. When you roll the mixture in your hands or apply pressure to it, the particles join together and the mixture feels solid. But if it is left to rest or is held up and allowed to dribble, the particles slide over each other and it feels like a liquid.



Our website is now back up and running with new things being added all the time. Please contact the office if you would like something to be included.

School polices are also being added as they are updated so please keep checking.

### TAPESTRY

Please could all parents of Reception children upload any photos' & comments onto the *Tapestry* website using the login issued to you. There is also going to be a half term challenge so log on and have a go.

*Good luck !*

*Mrs Davies*

### Attendance

*As a whole school we aim to reach a target of 96%. Our overall school attendance (Sept 2016-Jan 2017) is*

***95.14%***

*For more information about school attendance and absence please visit [www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/overview](http://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/overview)*

*High attendance is linked to high achievers.*

## Parent Views

*Please have your say about Neatishead C of E Primary School by visiting <http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk> or by emailing [head@neatishead.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@neatishead.norfolk.sch.uk)*

*Your view really does matter to us and help us take actions to make school improvements.*



**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

*This year we supported this event by wearing Christmas Jumpers. We raised an amazing £34.00 so a HUGE thanks goes to all the children who were so generous.*

## e- safety

The internet is amazing. Children can play, learn, create and connect - opening up a whole world of exciting possibilities. But how do you keep track of what they're doing and make sure they're staying safe?

Whether you're an online expert or you're not sure where to start we've got 4 key tips help you:

- explore the online world together
- talk to your child about staying safe online
- manage the software and tools your family use
- agree rules about what's ok and what's not

This introduction was taken from the NSPCC site which is well worth a visit.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

### **School Improvement**

Schools are always looking for ways to improve even perfectly formed schools like Neatishead! Our school improvement priorities this year are:

#### **Priority 1: Teaching, Learning and Assessment**

- That assessment is consistent, secure and fit for purpose and supports good outcomes with pupils through embedding pupil progress meetings and developing independence through self and peer assessment as well as involving parents across all key stages.
- Carry out a full review of the curriculum. Develop one which makes fuller use of the outdoor classroom and other spaces away from the classroom to enrich learning experiences and one which puts high quality text at its heart.

#### **Priority 2: Leadership and Management**

- Resolve current issues with the quality of internet connectivity to ensure staff and pupils have access to the internet to fully support teaching and learning
- Provide professional development at every level developing a culture of coaching, professional dialogue and strategic planning around school improvement.

#### **Priority 3: Personal Development, behaviour and welfare**

- Further build Parent and Community Partnership so parents and others are more empowered and fully supported to contribute to good learning and development outcomes for children.

## Our School Library

We have been working together to improve the school library. We want it to be an attractive space where children will find high quality text which will support their learning and allow them to gain pleasure from reading. Theresa (Caitlin and Millie's mum) has done a wonderful job on the fiction section and now is turning her attention to non-fiction. She has a brilliant eye for what is a 'good read'. Craig (Nancy's dad) kindly donated paints so that Paul (our cleaner) could jazz up the shelves. Now Jeanette (Lewis's gran) is coming on board with some lovely ideas to encourage library use. An all-round community effort!



*Now you can get involved.....*

Send us photographs of you and your family doing some 'extreme reading'. Maybe reading whilst hanging from a tree, sitting in the dog basket, as you jog etc. We will display the photographs in the library for all to giggle about. This will be a great start to our celebrations for World Book Day [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com).



## Larry's Room

You may or may not be aware that we have been working on our spare classroom to change it into a multi-function space to be used by staff and pupils but also other groups and agencies like Norfolk family learning for example. It will have a cookery space, art studio, work space and comfy corner. The question is why 'Larry's Room?' Only Mrs Church and Mrs Davies know the answer to that one!

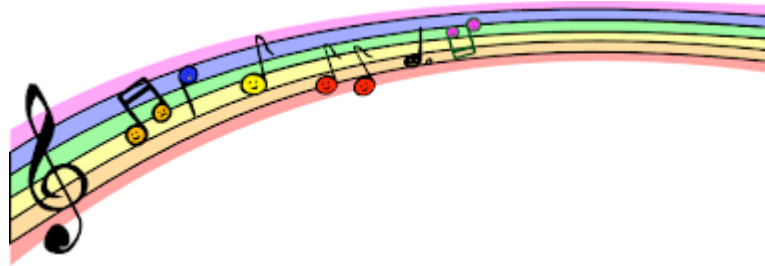


## Choir

Our choir is sounding amazing! We are practising very hard in preparation for the Norfolk Music Festival. This will be the third year we have entered and each year the children sing more beautifully and with greater confidence. Standing on a large stage in St Andrew's Hall and competing against many much bigger schools and choirs could be intimidating but our children sing with happiness and joy and truly are an enormous pleasure to work with. This year we are singing a three part song combining I'm gonna sing, Swing low and When the Saints and a song in African, calling their friends to play. Thank you to all of you for coming to school early for our rehearsal, and thank you also to parents for bringing them on time!



Mrs Davies



## Collective Worship

We enjoy collective worship every morning. Tuesdays always feel a bit more special as they are led by a member of one of our churches. We are always happy to welcome Revd David, Revd Nev, Revd Rob and Mrs Lamb.

Our theme this term has been The Trinity. The children know that The Trinity means God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit as one. We have made plaits using three threads, danced in threes and sang songs about The Trinity.

We have also learnt a Welcome to worship and a final blessing, both of which are led by the children.

Our Collective Worship is a wonderful time for us to ask questions, reflect and sing together.



New Arrivals

Back in September, Eloise & Caitlin showed courage to put forward an idea they had to staff. They wanted a school pet! They produced a wonderful Power Point which demonstrated their responsibility and ability to speak up for others. Staff were reluctant at first but the children respected the reasons for that doubt. The children then demonstrated their perseverance to show teachers they could be trusted by planning and fundraising for equipment. So how could we refuse?

We now have two lovely guinea pigs onsite.

If you would like to help care for the guinea pigs at weekends or during school holidays and have not already returned a form, please complete the slip at the bottom of this newsletter.

Thanks.



(Childs name).....would be interested in looking after the guinea pigs either at weekends or during the holidays.

Signed.....