



Isham CE Primary School

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5th September 2017

Dear Parents,

Firstly, a warm welcome to all of you and particularly to all YrR families new to our school. I hope that you have all had a lovely summer and enjoyed a good break.

This year will be our first as an Academy, under the Peterborough Diocese Education Trust (PDET) and we are very much looking forward to working with other PDET schools.

Our children have all settled very well today; the new Y6 are great role models and the new Y3 children should be congratulated for mostly coming into school independently!

We are also pleased to formally welcome Abbie Brown and Trudy Starr to our staff; they both work in Y3/4. Additionally we welcome Susanna Moore to the team. Susanna is our new school bursar and will be based in the office Wednesday to Friday. Susanna works closely with Sue Wood, who is reducing her hours and, thus, will only be in school Monday to Wednesday. Please do call in to say hello to Susanna.

The **Isle of Wight** Y6 residential leaves on Monday 11th September returning on 15th. For this period Y5 will be taught by Mrs Rogers, Mrs Staniscia, and me.



For the 3 days whilst Y4 are in **Grendon** (20th -22nd Sept), Y3 will be taught by Mrs Clark and Mrs Brown. Both residential look to be action packed: watch out for photos and updates on our website!

This term sees us building on the successes of last year, with a specific focus on reasoning in maths. Maths **homework** is currently under review but will re-start by the end of September. For further info, please refer to

the class letters from the relevant teachers.

Project-wise, all classes are currently locations: Reception start their year in The Garden, Year 1 and 2 will spend this term Under the Ocean, Year 3 and 4 spend their term studying Viva Italia and Y5 and 6 study America. Photographs of all the classrooms will be posted on the class pages on the website as will all homework packs and newsletters.

In addition to the class letters, and for parents of those children in our **Reception class**, there is a Reading Meeting (9:15am 29th Sept, after Book & Biscuit) and a Stay and Play session on 8th December.

As we are currently without a vicar, Carolynne Adam (part of the Church team) will lead some of our Wednesday Assemblies as will some of the wider church team. Naturally we'll also be heading to the Church for our **Harvest Festival** (October 2nd 2:30pm) and for our **Carol Concert** later in the term (December 19th 2:30pm).

We are also supporting the church with their Scarecrow Festival held on 16th /17th September. **All children in Y5** will need to provide scarecrow clothes (the theme this year is Film Characters) and a wooden structure for Tues 12th September as they will all have an afternoon building their scarecrow this day. I hope to have further info to you by the end of this week.



Swimming starts on Monday 11th September for all children in Y3 and Y4, and for a few children in Y5 who are yet to reach the required standard. Girls will need a one piece swimming costume, and boys need tight trunks – not holiday style swim shorts. A further letter about swimming will follow before swimming starts.

In the technology-rich days we live in, I must also remind you about the mis-use of twitter, snapchat, Instagram, FB and other forms of electronic communication between children. We spend some time each year teaching **e-safety** issues, but ask that you also please educate your own children about the dangers of the internet: the police CEOP website is a good place for parents to start. Where we feel children are at risk or are using these sites inappropriately, you will be informed – if there are child protection concerns, eg children being allowed to view or use age-inappropriate material (including age-inappropriate gaming), these will be passed on to the LA Safeguarding team.

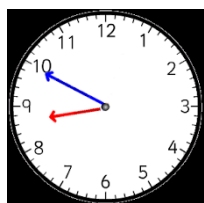
I also need to remind everyone that anything put onto a social media page is in the public domain and no longer remains private. Remarks about other people put on these sites is classed as “Slander” and is a criminal offence. Children doing this will be dealt with through our Anti-Bullying policy. Anyone finding comments about themselves on Facebook etc. can rightly make a complaint to the Police. The school will not tolerate remarks made about children, school or school staff on any social networking site. These will be passed to police for investigation.



As a school, we also ask that you do not place photographs from any school event on any internet site – unless the picture features only your own child and no others.

As you are automatically a member of our school we also ask that any concerns or grievances about the school or its policies are to be raised via me and then through the complaints procedure and not via social media.

Lastly, just a few start-of-year reminders...



KS2 School starts at 8:50am and children must be in school at 8:45am to get ready to register on time. All children in KS2 should also be entering school independently (it's always harder for the parents than the children, but please support us with this request)!

Lunches (and snacks) in school must be reasonably ‘healthy’. Sweets, in any form are not allowed; packed lunches should not contain more than one dessert item. Lunch boxes packed with three different cakes, a fudge bar and a jam or chocolate sandwich are not acceptable and children will not be allowed to plough their way through a sugar-rich lunch. This is simply not conducive to good learning in the afternoon.



Uniform should adhere to the policy at all times. This includes hair – no big coloured hairbands, flowers, headscarves or styles please...some of these did creep in at the end of last term.

Likewise, **earrings** should be small silver or gold studs which must be removed for all PE and swimming. Large red strawberries or other colourful fashion earrings (again seen last term) should not be a part of school life!

We are currently updating our **medical records** and revising the paperwork for this. Should your child have a medical need (including asthma and allergies), please see the attached paperwork and return by this Friday, 8th September. You will then be issued with further paperwork to complete.

No child should bring any form of medication into school with them.

We can only administer other medicine if it is prescribed by the doctor with a dosage of **at least 4 times** a day. Such medication must be handed by the parent



to Mrs Wood, Mrs Moore or me, and you must complete the required paperwork we give to you. We cannot give medication without this being completed.

Likewise, toys from home should not be brought into school. Year 6 children who bring **mobile phones** to school do so at their own risk, and these must be placed in the teacher's drawer at the start of the day, to be collected at hometime. The school takes no responsibility for phones. Should they go missing or be damaged, we will investigate but we will not replace phones.

Term time holidays are not authorised and we would politely ask that days out / afternoons off are not requested. We thank those parents that take their children out of school in the 12 weeks already available to them.

As I've reported before, statistically every 5% missed education relates roughly to a loss of one sub-level and once attendance is below 92%, this often leads to slower progress rates in our school. Food for thought again, before you take children out of education this year.

Finally, can I ask please that if you know of any child who will be 4 years old between September 1st 2017 and August 31st 2018, and who wishes to apply for Isham CE Primary for September 2018, applications need to be in to the County Council by January 2018 and parents should start contacting the school now to arrange viewing dates.


Likewise, **parents of Y6 children** must ensure their secondary school application forms are returned to the LA by October 2017 stating preferences for secondary schools. Forms will come home after the IoW Residential. Further information will be available on our website and I'll hold a brief meeting at 8:15am on 3rd October (followed by the IoW Assembly at 9am) to explain the Y7 application process to you. Any KS2 parent wishing to gain an understanding of Secondary School admission procedures is also welcome to attend – you don't have to be just Y6; Y5 parents and children can also view secondary schools this autumn.

As always, if you have any queries, concerns or questions do call in and talk to me or make an appointment at any time.

Yours,

Kirstin M Howarth

Calendar Dates so far

Mon 11 th Sept 6:30am	Y6 in school for IOW trip Swimming starts for Y3/4/5 for ten weeks
Tues 12 th Sept	Y5 scarecrow afternoon
Wed 9 th Sept 8am	Karate Club Y1-Y6 re-starts
Fri 15 th Sept 3pm-5pm...ish	Y6 IOW trip returns
Wed 20 th Sept 10am – Car Park	Y4 Leave for Grendon Residential
Fri 22 nd Sept 2pm - Grendon	Y4 collected from Grendon
Fri 29 th Sept 9:15-10:15am	Reading Meeting for YrR parents – all welcome
Mon 2 nd Oct 2:30pm - Church	Harvest Festival – all parents welcome Followed by Harvest Sale in school
Tues 3 rd Oct 8.15am – IT suite 9:05am - Hall	Y7 Applications Info Mtg: Y6 & Y5 Parents Y6 IOW Assembly – all parents welcome to watch
Mon 9 th Oct 3:30-6pm	Parent's Evening
Tues 10 th Oct 9:05am - hall	Y4 Grendon Assembly- all parents welcome to watch
Thurs 12 th Oct 3:30-6pm	Parent's Evening
Fri 20 th Oct 3:30pm	Close for Half Term
Tues 31 st Oct	School re-opens to children
Fri 8 th Dec 9-10:30am	Year R Stay and Play; all parents welcome
Tues 12 th Dec 6pm – in hall	Whole School Nativity
Wed 13 th Dec 6pm – in hall	Whole School Nativity
Fri 15 th Dec	Reports to Parents
Mon 18 th Dec	Christmas Party Lunch and Party PM
Tues 19 th Dec 2:30pm- Church	Carol Service – all parents welcome
Wed 20 th Dec 12pm	School Closes for Christmas 

Please Note: We close at 12pm on Wednesday 20th December and all children must be collected then. Children return to school on Thursday 4th January 2018

Future Key Dates

May Day Gala is 12th May 2018 @ 2pm

Y6 SATS week May 14th – May 18th Inc

Y2 SATs take place May 8th – End June

Y1 National Phonics Test – June 2018

It is expected that all children will be in school for the key dates above and that no child will be taken out for 'family holiday'. Thank you.

MEDICAL ISSUES: Please return this slip by Friday, 8th September

Please complete if asthmatic, allergic, for any medical condition that requires medication and/ or any disability or medical issue that does not require medication.

Child's Name:

Year group:

Medical Issue Brief Details:

Further paperwork will follow on receipt of this form. Thank you.