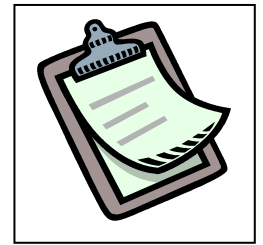




Learning for Life



# Sutton in Craven Church of England Primary School

Main Street, Sutton in Craven  
Tel. 01535-632181

[www.sutton-in-craven.cofe.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.sutton-in-craven.cofe.n-yorks.sch.uk)  
Newsletter 9<sup>th</sup> September

*It's good to be back!*

We hope you had a good summer break and enjoyed the sunny weather. As we were 'over-subscribed' this year, we have 22 children into Reception class, who are all settling in remarkably well. Classteachers are getting to know their new classes and we are looking forward to the year ahead. The children look a lot taller and time marches on quicker each year!

In addition to our Reception children we have 5 new children joining us from other schools and 4 new members of staff. We welcome Mrs Akroyd, who is teaching Years' 2 and 3 in Birch Class. Mrs Freebury will be teaching all classes for one afternoon a week and all day on Monday in Birch Class. We also have Miss Harraway who will be working with children in Willow Class alongside Miss Margetson. Finally, we have Mrs Walker who will be working alongside Mrs King in Oak Class and with Mrs Campbell also, when she returns from her maternity leave in late November.

We always aim to work closely with all our parents. That's why we are on the playground every day and are always available to discuss any queries or concerns you have. We look forward to a positive year ahead.

### Uniform - a reminder

Please can you ensure that all uniform, coats and PE kits are named? Even writing your child's initials on the clothes label would ensure that, if lost, the item would find its way back to them once again!

Last year there was a very large amount of lost property, which proves very expensive and inconvenient for parents – this very simple step helps us keep this to a minimum.

### Medication - a reminder

We *can* administer medicine to children during the school day if it is a *prescribed* medicine from a medical professional such as a Doctor, and has the child's name on the label with dosage details etc. Just give this to Mrs Hayton in the office who will give you a form to complete with the details.

Regrettably we can't administer medicines which do not, such as Piriton, hay fever tablets etc. An adult can of course come into school during the day to give these to a child should they wish.



### Half Term Diary dates

- **Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Roald Dahl Day
- **Weds. 28<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Cross-country running at South Craven School (yrs. 3-6)
- **Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Parents' 'Phonics Information Session – helping your child read', 3.20pm
- **Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Oct.** School Photographer
- **Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Starlight Bags charity collection of unwanted items.
- **Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Oct.** Harvest Festival Service at St Thomas's 9.00am – all welcome!
- **Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Girls and Boys football at South Craven School, Years' 3-4 and 5-6
- **Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year 1 Hearing Test – more information to follow.
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct:** Break up

We will of course keep you updated through your fortnightly newsletters and additional letters about all events through this and every half-term.



### Food in School

#### 1.) Does your child have a morning snack from home?

The children in Blossom and Willow Classes are provided with a piece of fruit each morning. If parents wish, older children may bring a healthy snack to eat at break. We encourage children to bring a piece of fruit. We do not allow children to bring crisps, sweets or cakes.

#### 2.) Does your child eat packed lunches?

We have two children in school who are allergic to peas and/or nuts, both of which can cause very extreme reactions. We also have a child in school with an allergy to fish which can even be triggered by the smell of related food products, such as Prawn Cocktail Crisps.

As parents yourselves, I am sure you appreciate the concern this can cause the parents of those children affected. Staff are fully trained to administer emergency medication if this is ever needed. However, your consideration when making up lunchboxes would be greatly appreciated by the parents concerned and by school.



## Homework

Under the 'Policies' tab on our website you will find guidance on how homework works at our school, which you may find useful.

[www.sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk/policies](http://www.sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk/policies)

In addition the termly 'Class newsletters;' you receive will also provide details on any homework.

Below was a quick survey we completed with the children last term on the half-termly projects they complete, which are linked to their learning.

### 1.) How much do you like doing projects?

- I love them = 45%
- I like them = 23%
- I don't mind them = 21%
- I don't like them = 11%

### 2.) How much help do you get at home?

- Some help = 63%
- No help = 18%
- Loads of help = 19%

The new Ofsted framework highlights the importance of "setting appropriate homework that has clear and relevant objectives, and which develops children's learning". We believe the projects do this.

We also believe the balance needs to be right between developing the children's basic skills of spelling, mental maths, calculations and reading, as well as broadening their experience of other curriculum areas such as history, geography and science, as they do through the projects.

Sir Michael Wilshaw, Head of Ofsted, recently said, "Too many schools are giving students scrappy worksheets for homework". I would agree that a range and variety is needed and this is what our approach intends to do.

**If you are struggling** to understand homework, or if you are 'battling' to get your child to complete it for any reasons...**please, please, please come and speak to us.**

## Late payment of money

Mrs Hayton in our school office spent a great deal of time last year 'chasing' money owed by some parents.

This is very time consuming and results in ongoing difficult conversations.

This year, if money is outstanding at the end of a half-term, no further costs to the school will be processed, such as school dinners, or bookings for Bobbins.

Those parents for whom this was an issue last year – please help us this year by not accruing long standing debts which need to be repeatedly chased.



## Attendance

Last year our school attendance rose to **96.5%**, which is *just* above national average. In 2016-17 we aim to improve on this further and once again be in the top 20% of schools nationally - requiring attendance above 97%. Next week you will receive a copy of your child's attendance record for last year. The Department for Education deems good attendance to be above 97% and unacceptable attendance 90-95%. Below this figure would be a 'serious concern', although this is very rare at our school.

Take a look at your child's attendance record next week to see what your child's attendance was last year. Whereas poorly children need to be at home in bed, I would urge you to consider carefully whenever your child is not in school.

**Holidays in term time are not permitted under Department for Education Guidance.**

## BOBBINS

Remember that if you need care for your child from 8:00am in the morning or until 5:30pm in the evening, Bobbins is here to help out.

Bobbins contact number: - 07547 196821

Email: [bobbins@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:bobbins@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk)

- All children should be collected from Bobbins by 5.30pm.
- If parents are consistently late (3 times or more per half term) a charge will be applied at a rate of £5 per 5 minutes per child. To ensure there is no disagreement, you will be asked to sign the late collection sheet with the time.