



Friday 19th July 2013

Year 5/6 Residential

Year 5/6 had a wonderful residential at Brancaster, the weather was brilliant they got really muddy and the smiles on their faces told us a story about the fun they had. It was lovely to have Glebeland Primary School with our children, it was a great transition activity! Thank you to Mr Siggins and Mr Barber for giving up their family time to go with the children for these three days.

Results

Cracking results for the third year running for Year 6! We wish to congratulate Mr Barber, Mrs Wheeler, Ms Edwards and the children for all their hard work to ensure that these were the best results possible. As there are 12 children in the year group, each child is 8%. Figures may not total 100% because of rounding.

T = test TA = teacher assessed and no national test	Level 4 and above (the expected level for children in year 6)		Level 5 and above (above the expected level for children in year 6)		Level 6 (newly introduced - only the top few percent nationally achieve this result)	
	Thurton	National	Thurton	National	Thurton	National
English reading T	92%	86%	67%	48%	0%	2%
English writing TA	92%	80%	42%	27%	8%	1%
Spelling Punctuation and Grammar T	75%	New test no comparison available	50%	New test no comparison available	8%	New test no comparison available
Mathematics T	92%	85%	41%	36%	8%	4%
Science TA	92%	86%	33%	36%		

Year 6 BBQ

Year 6 will be having a Leavers BBQ on Tuesday 23rd July 2013 from 3.15pm to 5.30pm. Mr Barber will be bringing the BBQ, could we kindly ask for parents to donate, sausages, burgers and rolls. A signup list will be in the classroom.

Basic Cycling

Year 4 will have lessons in the school ground about basic cycling safety techniques on Tuesday 23rd July 2013. Please send a bicycle to school with your Year 4 child. They had a wonderful time this week on their bikes, there was lots of laughter and a few lessons learnt.

Church Service

On Tuesday we are having our service of thanks for the year at the Church, if any parents or carers would like to be involved in this process please let Miss Banham know so you can be added to the list of speakers.

Awards Assembly

Wednesday morning will be the awards assembly. If your child is to receive an award, you will receive a letter on Monday addressed to the parent of the child involved. If you don't receive a letter you are also most welcome to come and experience our final celebration for the year.

Leavers Assembly

The Leavers assembly will be taking place on Wednesday 24th July 2013 from 2.30pm.



Tel: **01508 480335**
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 Web: www.thurton.norfolk.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Cassandra Williams

Questionnaire for Parents

Thank you for the 50 questionnaires which were returned, representing 70 of our 96 children. We very much appreciate the time it took to fill in. I was very pleased to see that in the large majority of areas parents either agreed or strongly agreed that what we are doing is going well.

(please tick)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Termly reports help me understand what my child knows and what my child's next steps are.	39	11		
Termly learning conferences should continue	37	12	1	
The Termly reports help me support my children at home better.	37	12	1	
Home learning projects have helped the family by involved in my child/ren's learning - projects, models, zippy wallets and book reviews.	33	16		
My child is taught well and my child enjoys what is being taught.	41	10		
This school keeps me well informed.	27	20	1	
There is a good standard of behaviour at this school.	26	24		

This school deals with any cases of bullying effectively. (Bullying is directed at one child - includes persistent name-calling, cyber, racist and homophobic bullying).	24	15	2	
If there have been problems between children, the school has dealt with these matters in an appropriate manner in an appropriate amount of time.	23	17	3	1 (doesn't relate to this school year)
This school my child is well looked after	32	17		
My child feels safe in school	35	13		
This school responds well to my concerns.	30	17		
I would recommend this school to another parent.	35	12		
The values which are taught through collective worship have an impact on the way the children behave and react to each other. Recent values have been justice, courage and humility.	24	19	1	
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	36	13		

We would really appreciate if there are any areas you feel that we could improve in we would appreciate that families and or carers came and spoke to the class teacher, Mrs Williams or Mr Barber so we know the exact issue so we can improve or explain the reason for our action. It is really difficult to improve if a box is ticked, no name is on the form and there isn't a comment to explain.

It was lovely to read some of the comments from parents who have joined us from other schools relating to the fact that they had only ever had a Termly or half termly newsletter before and not weekly and that our children are so well behaved compared to other schools. All of the teachers who have worked in other schools also recognise that the behaviour at our school is so much better than any of the other schools we have worked in.



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Mrs Pratt and Miss Whitham leaving do

Straight after school on Tuesday evening, the PTA have arranged a leaving do including cakes and cold drinks to thank Mrs Pratt and Miss Whitham for their support, encouragement and hard work. They are both sadly leaving the education field. All families are very welcome to pop into the hall from 3.15 on Tuesday.

The PTA have asked if you are able to help with some cake making please drop in before 3.15pm on that day. A little note went out in bags from the school office as well.

Outstanding Payments

Just a quick reminder to any parents that still have outstanding payments, including music lessons, dinners, swimming transport or clubs. Could payments, please be paid to the office by the end of term, this is especially important if your child is leaving our school.

It is really important that payments are made for all activities that your child/ren are involved. For example, in the summer term each week all children in year 3 and any other non swimmers have been attending swimming, for this event the school has paid the fees for the swimming instructor as they would for a teacher to teach a class, however to get to the swimming the school now does not have a budget to cover the cost of the bus. Currently the bus costs us £50 weekly, we asked for £1 per week to help with the cost of the bus which should have meant we received as close to £20 per week to help towards the cost of the bus as 20 children attended. We of course budgeted for £30 from the school budget per week to cover the rest of the cost. However, the most the school received any of the weeks was £12 with the average received being £8. We know these aren't huge amounts of money but over the course of the term the amount of money the school had to find to cover the cost of the transport rose significantly meaning that money had to be taken from other areas, including class budgets.

If you are unable to help with the costs for any activity please see the school. In the future, we will cancel activities if the costs cannot be met, we have met the costs of swimming this year as it is a curriculum event but it is making a difference to what we can offer our children in other areas.

Future payments – change in policy

The finance governors met with Mrs Williams and Mrs Reynolds last week to see how we could improve our payment systems. Next year we will have an upfront payment system for music lessons and clubs. For the year 3/4 and year 5/6 residential there will be the facility to pay online as and when parents are able or pay in chunks to the office on payment cards from October.

Payments for lunches will not be accepted on a daily basis but only as a weekly amount, these will also be able to be prepaid for online through Parent Mail using debit or credit cards. There will also be a limit outstanding to £25 per child or £50 per family before we look at potentially not being able to provide lunches. This is really important as we have had families run up significant bills over the year. If you are having difficulty with any bills please see Mrs Julie Reynolds in the office or Mrs Williams.

Books

All books are to be brought back to school by Monday 22nd July so we can ensure that they go back in the correct places before we break for the holidays. Thank you for the parents and children who have already returned books.

This Week's Topics

Reception and Yr 1

This week we have been gathering together all our lovely work to put in special books to take home. We have also been practising the events for Sports Day.

Yr 2

This week the children have explored the book "On my beach there are many pebbles" They have created their own magic pebble stones.

Yr 3/4

Children have continued their weaving this week! They have also started some research on the Loch Ness Monster.

Yr 5/6

Children have completed their brilliant radio shows about the Tudors and Brancaster diaries!



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Monday 22nd July 2013 - Wednesday 24th 2013

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
In school event		Church service - Thankful service	Awards assembly
Lunchtime			
After school		Mrs Pratt and Miss Whitham leaving do for families	Leavers assembly

Dates For Your Diary...

Summer Term Ends: 24th July 2013

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Living the Olympic and Paralympic Values

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