

# OLD CATTON NEWSLETTER



Tel: 01603 426973  
www.oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk  
e-mail: [office@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk)



Executive Headteacher:  
Mrs. A. D. Best-White MA  
Head of School Mrs. K. Connelly



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## Dear Parents

Thank you all for a great second week back in school. We are being spoiled by the beautiful weather at the moment, (long may it last!) If your child needs to wear a hat to protect them from the sun, this is fine and hats can be worn into school as part of necessary school uniform. Please make sure they are named so we can return any lost ones! If your child needs to have sun cream in school, please clearly name it and send it into school with them in the morning. The sun cream can then stay in school for when it is needed. Many thanks.

## Stars of the Week!

Congratulations to the Stars of the week – wonderful work and attitudes shown; what brilliant role models we have in our school.

6KR Ryan Littlefield  
6KR Rianna Aldous  
6LR Caleb Ssemwanga  
6LR Georgina O'Connell  
5GS Layla Bury  
5GS Phoebe Harvey  
5JS Dexter Hodgkinson  
5JS George Dickerson  
4C Harrison Armstrong  
4C Zuzanna Zdan  
4N Roman Holt  
4N Mia Williams  
3C Harry Tunneycliff  
3C Olivia Fraser:  
3E Jake Leynes  
3E Summer Olley



## Attendance Cup

**3C** won the attendance cup for their attendance this week with an attendance of **99.4%** - Well done!

## Communicating with your child's teacher

If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher please can you email [office@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk) or call 01603 426973. Mrs Queensborough can then pass your emails onto the relevant member of staff or reply accordingly. If you require a meeting, this will be via a phone call. You can request a phone call meeting via the school office. This can be arranged for a convenient time. Please remember that teachers are teaching for the majority of the day, so phone call meetings will mostly need to take place outside of school hours.



## Reading at home

We ask that the children read 5 times a week at home and get signatures to show that this has been completed. Normally we would use a reading diary however this term we have swapped this for a reading bookmark. This can travel between home and school in their book. There is space for you to sign to say that your child has read on 5 occasions.

You can read with them or they can read by themselves. They can read their school reading book or a book they are enjoying at home – either is fine but we do ask that the signatures are there in order to show the Teachers the reading is being completed.

## Seasonal Colds and Coughs

We know that making a decision to send your children into school when you, your child or someone in your household is under the weather, is currently very difficult. Please see the latest update from the Local Authority as to when a Covid test is required.

It is the season for runny noses and sore throats but a reminder these are not COVID –19 Symptoms and as such should not be managed in the same way as you would with a child presenting with COVID 19 symptoms.

The national guidance is clear that testing is only indicated where symptoms include one or more of the 3 main symptoms of coronavirus:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

People who do not have any of the above symptoms do not need to get tested. A person who has tested positive needs to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. They can come out of isolation and go back to work or school on day 11 if they have been free from fever for 48 hours. After 10 days the person is no longer infectious.

Find out about the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) and where to get medical advice if you think you have them.

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

## No Nuts!

We have a number of children (and teachers!) in school with severe nut allergies and we are therefore a nut free school. Please be aware of this policy in terms of packed lunches, snacks and baked goodies that come into school. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



## Child Protection

Because of our day-to-day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition & referral but not in investigation or intervention. It is the legal responsibility of the Executive Headteacher, and the Head of School to report any concerns about a child, who could be considered to be at risk from any type of abuse. Obviously, this is a very sensitive area, but the law is very clear.

### Child Protection Statement

Our school is committed to promoting the health and welfare of all pupils. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.

## Films with a PG certificate (Parental Guidance Classification)

At various times throughout the year, children may be given the opportunity to view selected films with a PG certificate. An increasing number of films are classified PG, following changes in guidelines. PG films sometimes contain 'mild peril' or 'comic fight' scenes – Tom and Jerry cartoons are classified PG for example. Films may be used to enrich several areas of the curriculum; all the films used, will have previously been viewed by staff. If you would prefer your child not to view PG certificate films please let his/her class teacher know.



## Red Book and Blue Book Letters

In order to promote good behaviour in school we use rewards and positive systems to encourage the children to want to work hard and behave well. These include: house points, Bug Awards, the Golden Book and class awards.

In some cases it is necessary to have sanctions for when the children do not change their behaviour after being warned or, on the rare occasion, when they do something that they can't be given further warnings for. The children are given 3 warnings and asked to change or stop the negative behaviour, before a member of staff can decide to put them into the Blue Book. The Red Book is used in the same way. The only difference is that this is an immediate sanction e.g. if a child hurts another child. If this happens, a letter will be sent home, explaining to parents/carers the reason for the Blue/Red Book sanction. Being put in the Blue/Red Book carries the consequence of attending a detention.

We are organising detentions weekly, for each year group, in order to keep the bubbles separate. Mrs Connelly will be taking a lunchtime detention for each year group from 12:30-1pm in the hall. This will only take place if it is necessary. The detention is a time for the child to reflect on what went wrong and how

they can put it right e.g. by talking through the situation and writing a letter of apology.

The following days will apply for each year group:

**Tuesday Year 3**

**Wednesday Year 4**

**Thursday Year 5**

**Friday Year 6**

Therefore if your child receives a Red or Blue Book letter in the week, they will be expected to attend their detention on the next available day for their year group.

Thank you for supporting us when this is necessary.

## ParentPay



A polite reminder to all parents/carers who are yet to activate their ParentPay accounts. There is an information and guidance video you may find useful on our school website in the 'Parents' section.

All payments to school, as well as consent for trips and activities, will be made using this system going forward. Letters with your personal activation details were sent by post in early September. Families requiring additional payers to be added to their child's account will need to contact the school office to arrange this. Please email [office@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk) or telephone 01603 426973.

We are now accepting payments via ParentPay for uniform items (sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts and P.E. shirts). Any parents/carers who have recently made an order for uniform and are waiting to collect their items will be contacted via email regarding payment. All new uniform orders can be made via your ParentPay account by simply following the link to 'payment items -uniform'.

## Talk Homework

This will be familiar to parents of years 4, 5 and 6 but new to year 3. Please support your child in completing this activity and enjoy doing it together! When children learn their own language, they begin by listening, then talking and then trying out what they have learned in reading and writing. This is the same process by which they learn a foreign language – listening and talking always precede reading and writing.

Research shows that children need to gain confidence in using vocabulary orally before they will use it accurately in writing. In other words, if they can use it confidently in speech, then they will use it confidently in writing. We need to encourage the development of listening and talking skills in order to develop children's writing ability.

To this end, we have decided to continue to provide a weekly "Talk Homework" task, which will be given in the weekly newsletter. You will be informed of a topic and we would ask that you discuss the topic with your child in order to help them with the content and to prepare them to give feedback in class. We recognise that talking together is one of the most important factors in developing children's educational abilities. This homework involves discussion only, but is just as valuable as any written homework and should have the same amount of time spent on it. Thank you in anticipation of your support with the Talk Homework.

# TALK HOMEWORK & WOW WORDS

Each week we send a Talk Homework activity and 'Wow' Words home and we would be very grateful for your support.

We are trying to help all our children develop excellent speaking and listening skills, which in turn will help them with their writing. "If a child can't say a sentence then they can't write it either!"

This week in assembly we have been thinking about New Beginnings. The start of a new term gives us all a chance to start again and aim for brand new goals. At home, talk about some things you would like to try and achieve by the end of term. It could be starting something new, learning a new skill or improving on something you have already started. You could also talk about goals you could try and achieve as a family. Maybe collectively you could all aim to spend less time on devices, or have one night a week where roles are reversed and the kids cook tea?! Bring your ideas to your class for next Friday's talk homework discussion.

In Big Talk, we use **'WOW' Words** to improve our vocabulary and 'big up' our sentences to make them more interesting!

*Our 'WOW' Word this week is*

*New beginnings*

*(fresh start, clean hands, clean sweep, square one.)*



Please encourage your child to use this WOW word, in the right context, as much as possible.

- The 'Talk Homework' and 'WOW' words will be set every Friday in the newsletter; children will then share their 'Talk' with their class on a Friday afternoon.
- We will encourage the children to use the WOW word throughout the week.

Thank you for your support in helping your child.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Have a great weekend!

**Mrs K Connelly.**