



# South View News

*November 2017*

## **Note from the Headteacher**

We're nearly there...25 sleeps 'til SANTA! We've been very busy at South View this term, the teachers and children have been working very hard to make our school the best it can be. We have new facilities in the form of an ICT suite and an outdoor fitness gym (thank you FOSV) and we will soon be embarking on creating a music area.

Thank you to all the mums and dads who have supported the school by attending parent consultation evenings, curriculum evenings and other events such as our evening on childhood mental and emotional health. It's really encouraging to hear such positive feedback about the activities we have provided so thank you. If you could see your way clear to popping your thoughts onto Parent View that would be much appreciated! <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> I'd like to say a huge thank you also to our governors who have been in school a lot this term, supporting us in moving forward by working with school leaders on future planning, interviewing staff, meeting subject leaders and chatting with the children about what they think we could do to keep improving.

We look forward, next week, in welcoming Mrs Brackstone and Miss Stanojevic who will be joining the staff as Teaching Assistants.

Our last newsletter of 2017 will be sent out just before we break for the Christmas holidays so **please bear with us** in the meantime during this month of baubles, tinsel, excitement, rehearsals, decorating and singing...I'm sure my teachers will be on the lookout for helpers so WATCH OUT! Inevitably (and with most primary schools at this busy time of year) there will be a number of ParentMails or letters being sent out regarding Christmas events/arrangements etc and some requests for help or costumes. Please note that these are REQUESTS so please don't feel pressured into emptying your wardrobes or bank accounts! As they say at Tesco 'Every Little Helps!'

Mrs Tomlins



## **Note from the Chair of Governors**

It's been another busy month for the Governing Body and governors have been present in school a great deal. We are constantly looking at how the school's policies are improving outcomes for children. Governors have also looked through examples of work in children's books, and we have seen some lovely work that is beautifully presented.

I was in school on the day that the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were brought into school. It was wonderful to see so many boxes displayed across the stage and I'd like to thank you all for the time and effort you put into this. Finally, thank you to FOSV for raising the money for the outdoor gym equipment – I know that the children have enjoyed using this.

Mr P Weston



## **Note from Chair of FOSV**

It has been another busy term for the FOSV committee and we're all very excited for Santa's visit to the Christmas fayre on 1st December. Keep an eye out for the flyer with details of all the lovely stalls there will be and remember there's still time to donate a bottle for the tombola or a cake for the refreshment stand.

This term has also seen the installation of the fabulous outdoor gym and I'm told that the kids have already been making good use of it! With your ongoing support, we hope to add to the equipment in the future so that the gym can become a real asset for the school for years to come.

I'm sure many of you will be attending the Christmas Light Switch On event on 2nd December so please come and find our FOSV stall selling Christmas quizzes for you and your family to enjoy over the festive period. We'll also be hosting raffles at the children's Christmas plays with some lovely family hampers to win all containing wine and chocolate!

Thanks again to everyone for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas fayre.



**Dates for your diary:**

1<sup>st</sup> Dec – South View on HEART FM singing '24 sleeps 'til Santa'

1<sup>st</sup> Dec – 3.00 pm Christmas Fayre

7<sup>th</sup> Dec – Junipers Class Assembly

8<sup>th</sup> Dec – Year 5 Trip to Stibbington

12<sup>th</sup> Dec – Foundation & KS1 Christmas production at 2.00 p.m. – see letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> November

13<sup>th</sup> Dec – Foundation and KS1 Christmas production at 9.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. – see letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> November

13<sup>th</sup> Dec – Abbeygate Retirement home residents in for Christmas lunch

15<sup>th</sup> Dec – School Christmas Lunch- orders by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Jumper Day

18<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christingle Services in Crowland Abbey – see letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> November.

19<sup>th</sup> Dec – Last day of term

**Christingle Service.** As part of the Christingle service, and making the Christingles, we would like to encourage you to make a small donation to The Children's Society, who are supplying us with the elements to make the Christingle. You can find out more about the charity and their works at <http://shop.childrenssociety.org.uk/> . Please note this is a voluntary donation and is not obligatory to making a Christingle. Even just a few pence is gratefully received! Many thanks again for your support!

**Free School Meals and Pupil Premium**

Is your joint family income UNDER £16,190 per year? Are in receipt of any of the benefits listed below:

- *Income Support*
- *Income-based Jobseekers Allowance*
- *Income-related Employment and Support Allowance*
- *Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *the guarantee element of State Pension Credit*
- *Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190*
- *Working Tax Credit run-on*
- *Universal Credit.*

If so, you are very likely to be eligible to apply for Free School Meals. As well as this giving you the opportunity to provide your child/children with a hot meal every day, every successful application mean that the school receive an extra **£1,320** to support your child. This funding (Pupil Premium) is used to employ high quality staff, subsidise trips and events, purchase resources to support learning and ensure all pupils make good progress.

If you are ELIGIBLE to apply for free school meals PLEASE apply, EVEN IF YOUR CHILD PREFERS A PACKED LUNCH.

Please contact the school office if you require further details.

**Birthday Parties**

Did you know that you can hire our Community Room in the Children's Centre for private functions? Feel free to contact the office for a quote if you would like to enquire about letting fees etc.

**Why is attendance so important?**

Regular attendance is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. Children not attending school regularly have their educational progress undermined, have lower attainment and make less progress and can also struggle to develop friendship groups at school. Parents can be taken to court under the Education Act 1996 if they don't make sure their child attends school without good reason (as defined in law) and if the child has too many unauthorised absences

**Why do I get a letter when my child's attendance is below 90%?**

We will send you a letter each half term if your child's attendance is below 90%. You will receive this letter even if all of your child's absences have been authorised. This is so you are aware that your child's absence is beginning to cause a concern and may have an impact on their education. If your child has been ill for a few days at the beginning of the academic year they may receive a letter for a reason that was unavoidable; we still send the letter as we want to ensure you are informed of this concern each half term.

**Isn't 90% attendance good?**

If your child attends school 90%, or less, every year they are school age then by the time they sit their GCSE's or equivalent, they will have missed one whole academic year of learning.

**What can I do to improve my child's attendance?**

- Ensure they are in school on time every day – registration is at 08.55 a.m.
- If they are seriously ill please let school know on the first morning of their illness.
- If your child has a cough or cold then they can attend school.
- If you are unsure about whether they are too ill for school then check the NHS website - [www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Yourchildatschool](http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Yourchildatschool)

- Don't take holidays in school time.
- If your child has a long term illness that may impact on their attendance then please contact the school office, there may be things in school we can do to support.
- If something else is making it difficult for your child to attend school every day then please speak to your child's class teacher or the school office to arrange an appointment to discuss any specific personal circumstances.

#### **Raising Concerns**

If at any point you feel it necessary to voice a concern about anything relating to your child, please make an appointment with your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you do not feel that the issue has resolved then the phase leaders are:

EYFS – Mrs Evans

KS1 – Mrs Gray

LKS2 – Miss Turner

UKS2 – Mrs Bell

Mrs Henderson (Deputy Headteacher) will be happy to have a further discussion with you but if you feel the issue remains unresolved then this will be referred to the head.

#### **Our Charity Work**

This term we have raised money for the Royal British Legion by selling poppies (£385.89), we've collected food items in hampers for the foodbank in Spalding and have collected money for Children in Need (£ 382.96). Well done everyone.

#### **48 hour absence**

If your child has been sick or is finding it difficult to stay off the loo please allow 48 hours before sending them back to school to prevent infections being passed on. Thank you.

#### **TWITTER**

South View Twitter now has **188** of you following us! We hope the quick notes we tweet are helping to improve communication with you. There is a twitter link on our school website homepage. Please download the app on your phones and follow us if you are able.

#### **Parent Poetry Competition**

The winners of this half term's poetry competition are Mrs Carol Bayes and Mrs Tracey Hemmings with their poems entitled **'It wasn't like that when I was at school!'**

A New Parent competition will be introduced in the new year.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018	
Term 1	
Term 2	Ends 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017
Term 3	Begins 3rd January 2018 Ends 9th February 2018
Term 4	Begins 19th February 2018 Ends 28th March 2018
Term 5	Begins 16th April 2018 Ends 25th May 2018
Term 6	Begins 4th June 2018 Ends 20th July 2018
	<b>TRAINING DAYS (No school for children)</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> September 2017</b> <b>30<sup>th</sup> October 2017</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b> <b>One day over academic year as twilight sessions</b>

*“Hand in hand we learn together”*



*25 sleeps to go.....♦*