



The Lower Halstow News

Lower Halstow/Newington CEP Schools Federation

Summer Term April 2018
@lowerhalstowsch

Welcome back after the Easter break. The following terms are full of exciting events including Sports Day, the PFA Summer Fayre and KS2 production to name just a few.

Oak Class Maternity cover

Mrs Yates is due to start her maternity leave on Friday 18th May. In her absence Mrs Brincat, with the support of Miss Tan and Miss Abbott, will be covering during term 6. Mrs Witherden will also be working with the class on their KS2 production.

Club timetable

Please find attached a copy of the club timetable offered at Lower Halstow. Only the after-school clubs require permission slips to be completed and details of these will have already gone out. If you require any information about the clubs available please ask at the office.

Water Safety

The children will be having an assembly about water safety during term 6 (date to be confirmed). In the meantime we are looking to support our local Kent Search and Rescue Volunteer (Pete Munden) in his bid to raise money for much needed equipment for our village. We will be holding an Own clothes Day- with an optional nautical theme -on Friday 25th May. Donations of £1 would be gratefully received.

Summer Fayre - Saturday 30th June 2018

Our fantastic PFA are in the process of organising the Summer Fayre on the 30th June from 11am-3pm. In order to support this they are asking for donations for some of the stalls. These include the bottle stall, cake stall and Hoopla on which the prizes will be sweets and gifts. We will be holding own uniform days on the following dates to support this...

Friday 8th June for donations of Sweets and gifts

Friday 22nd June for donations of bottles

Friday 29th June for donations of cakes

If you would like to help on the day or require any further information about the fayre please ask one of the PFA members or at the school office.

Warmer Weather

Please can we ask that children come to school with suitable sunhats and sun cream pre-applied as necessary. Roll-on suncream may be brought in to class and handed to the class teacher if reapplication will be necessary. Sunglasses may be worn at break and lunchtimes. Please ensure all items are clearly named.

Race for Life

We have supported Cancer UK's Race for Life event for the past few years and will be doing so again this year on Thursday 28th June. Children can wear their own Sports clothes for a £1 donation.

Sports Day - Save the date!

Our school Sports Day will be on Wednesday 13th June (reserve date Wednesday 20th June). All parents and carers are welcome to attend from 2pm onwards. Further details to follow nearer the time.

Parental Questionnaire

We would like to ask you to complete the online Government Parental Questionnaire- Parentview. This involves responding to 12 statements and questions about our school. The questionnaire can be found at:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

A Message from Family Trust

We are delighted to 'officially' announce that we have made it into the Final of the 2018 People's Projects (a partnership of The Big Lottery Fund, The National Lottery and ITV / STV). There are 5 finalists in our region with the winner being decided by public vote. If we win we will get around £20,000 in vital funding. We would appreciate your support. To vote online visit:

<https://www.thepeoplesprojects.org.uk/projects/view/kids-money-courses> where you can view our project video and submit your vote.

The closing date is midday on Monday 30 April 2018.

KS 2 Production

Admission to the KS2 production this year will run on a ticket only system. Further details will be sent nearer the time. Key dates are listed below.

School Uniform

We pride ourselves on the appearance of our pupils and the majority of our pupils continue to look really smart. However, as the weather improves we have noticed that a small number of children are wearing sports shorts rather than school shorts and trainers rather than shoes. All children should be in full school uniform: white polo top, grey shorts/trousers for the boys and either a skirt and white polo top or blue and white summer school dress for the girls. Shoes should be black school shoes, enclosed rather than sandals please and not trainers. Please can we also remind parents that long hair should be tied back securely.

Attendance

Throughout the year we have worked hard to sustain an average attendance of over 96%. Thank you for all your support in this. At the time of writing our average attendance for the year is 96.2%.

In addition to the weekly class competition to win an own clothes day, we have arranged for a BMX bike to be awarded to a child at the end of this academic year. To be in with a chance of winning the bike pupils need to be at school at least 96% of the time. Pupils who meet this requirement will enter a raffle. If they are here for 97% they will receive two tickets. 98% will receive 3 tickets and so on. The more time the pupils are in school the more chance they have of winning the bike. To see pictures of the bike please visit our Twitter feed.

Time Table Test

The government has started to trial the new Year 4 Multiplication Tables check. Lower Halstow has been informed that it may be chosen to take part in this trial at some point during the next 2 terms. The government says that the multiplication tables check is designed to help ensure children in primary school know their times tables up to 12 off by heart. As well as being critical for everyday life, knowledge of multiplication tables helps children to solve problems quickly and flexibly, and allows them to tackle more complex mathematics later on in school. We are told that the test is a 5 minute on screen test. Please support your child by continuing to practice their multiplication tables as part of their weekly homework. Further details can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multiplication-tables-check-trials-to-begin-in-schools>

Progress Reports

The End of Year Progress Reports will be sent home on Friday 6th July. These reports will give an overview of progress in key subject areas this year. The progress of your child/children can also be discussed at the Open Afternoon on Thursday 12th July.

Parent Governor

We have now appointed one parent governor but are looking to appoint another from across the federation. If you are interested in this role please complete the attached form.

Dates:

May

Monday 7th May - Bank Holiday
Friday 11th May - Rowan Class Assembly @ 9:10am
Monday 14th May - KS2 Sats begin
Thursday 17th May - KS2 Sats end
Monday 21st May - School Journey (3 days)
Friday 25th May - End of Term 5

June

Monday 4th June - Start of term 6
Friday 8th June - TAG day for donations of Sweets and gifts
Friday 8th June - Acorns Class Assembly
Wednesday 13th June - Sports Day- 2pm onwards
Friday 15th June - Class and Year 6 Photo]
Wednesday 20th June - Reserve Sports Day
Friday 22nd June - TAG day for donations of bottles
Thursday 28th - Race for Life Day
Friday 29th June - TAG day for donations of cakes
Saturday 30th June - PFA Summer Fayre, 11am-3pm

July

Tuesday 3rd July- KS2 Dress Rehearsal @ 2pm
Wednesday 4th July- KS2 performance @ 2pm
Thursday 5th July- KS2 performance @ 6pm
Friday 6th July -End of Year Progress Reports sent home
Thursday 12th July -Open Evening 3:30-4:30pm
Friday 13th July - Leavers' School Disco 4:30-6pm
Friday 20th July- Leavers' Church Service @10am
Friday 20th July-End of Term @ 3:30pm

And finally...

A reminder that there will be two Inset Days on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July - no children are to attend on these days.

We welcome comments on how to make our school a better school for our children and are happy to meet parents/carers at mutually convenient times.

Our newsletter can also be seen at

www.lower-halstow.kent.sch.uk

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