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Newsletter 13 May 2025

Term dates for the last Half Term
These are our current dates as they stand at the moment for the next term. New dates or amended dates will be in yellow. There are a few additions/date amendments since the newsletter!

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Monday 2nd June	Schools reopen at 8.40 am for all children	
Tuesday 3rd June		Year 4 sealife trip group 1
Wednesday 4th June		Year 4 sealife trip group 2
Wednesday 4th June	Mini monsters visit for Year 2 children	
Thursday June 5th		Northgate High School to visit Year 6
Thursday June 5th		Year 5/6 girls and mixed cricket event at Langley Prep School for selected children
Tuesday June 10th		Year 5 athletics competition for selected Children at UEA
Wednesday 11th June	Year 1 Strangers' Hall visit group 1	
Thursday 12th June		Neatherd High School visiting year 6
Friday 13th June	Ellise Owen wellbeing session for Year 2	
Friday 13th June	Day of Welcome across the schools	
Tuesday 17th June	Years 2 and 3 joint assembly for children for transition	
Tuesday 17th June		Y4 mini tennis for selected children
Wednesday June 18th	Year 1 Strangers' hall visit, group 2	
Wednesday June 18th		Year 5/6 girls' cricket finals if through
Thursday June 19th	Year 2 Pensthorpe Trip	
Friday June 20th	Year 1 /2 athletics festival for selected children	
Friday 20th June	Year 2/3 shared playtime for transition Year 2 transition tour at Juniors KD2	
Monday 23rd June	Year 2 transition tour at Juniors KP2	
Tuesday 24th June	Year 2 transition tour at Juniors RP2	
Tuesday June 24th		Year 3-6 Panathlon event at Taverham High School for selected children

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Wednesday 25th June	Family Picnic on the field 12-1. Up to 4 family members per child	
Wednesday 25th June 12.45 – 1.45	Year 2 parents invited to look at art work	
Wednesday 25th June	Year R/1/3/4/5/6 parents/carers invited to classes after family picnic to see their child books until 2 We will ask you to wait whilst we register the children and will then open the outside classroom doors for you to come in. We won't have room for pushchairs in the classes	
Week beginning 30th June	Sports' enrichment week for the children	
Tuesday 1st July	ESKA karate sessions for Infants	
Wednesday 2nd July	Hoopstars basketball for all Infant Children Year 2 STEAM workshop on conductive music	ESKA karate sessions for children
Thursday July 3rd	Team day for Infant children Year 2 STEAM workshop on conductive music	
Friday July 4th		Team day for Junior children
Friday July 4th	Boogie Bounce in the Infant Hall	
Monday July 7th 9.15 am		BR6 dress rehearsal main hall (for parents in this class who have no one to look after younger siblings)
Tuesday July 8th at 9.15 am		GH6 dress rehearsal main hall (for parents in this class who have no one to look after younger siblings)
Tuesday July 8th 1.30 pm		GB6 dress rehearsal main hall (for parents in this class who have no one to look after younger siblings)
Tuesday July 8th		Y5 This girl can festival at Taverham High School for selected children
Wednesday July 9th		10am Rocksteady Concert for Junior Children
Thursday July 10th	10am Rocksteady Concert for Infant Children	
Thursday July 10th 9.15 GH6 10.30 BR6 2.00 GB6		Y6 performances for parents 3 adults only per child and no younger children. If you have a younger child you can come to the dress rehearsals (see above) Please let the class teacher know if you are coming
Thursday July 10th 10 am	Rocksteady Concert in Infant hall	
Friday July 11th	Tennis multi skills festival for selected children in reception	
Friday July 11th	Year 2 and 3 shared playtime for transition	
Tuesday 15th July	Leavers' celebration day for Year 6 children	
Wednesday 16th July	Transition starts for all children in current Reception to Year 5 All children will move to their new classes for the last five days of term Current Year 6 will be in school until Friday 18th	
Wednesday 16th July	New Reception Group A in until 11.30	
Thursday 17th July	Parents/carers can come in after school to visit their children's new classes	
Thursday 17th July	New reception Group A in for the morning and stay for lunch	
Monday 21st July	New Reception Group B in until 11.30	
Tuesday 22nd July	New Reception Group B in for the morning and stay for lunch	
Tuesday 22nd July	Last day of term	
Wednesday 3rd September	School reopens at 8.40 am for all children	

Staff Changes

Today we said goodbye to Miss Long, an Infant School teaching assistant, who is moving on to a new job at an SEN school closer to home. We also said goodbye to Mr O, a Junior School teaching assistant, who is moving to a new role working with children in care. We know their skills will be well used there and although we are sad to see them go, we wish them both well for the future. Thanks go to both of them for all they have done for the schools and the children in this time.

In September, Mrs Morris will be moving to take up a new role with us setting up our SRB which is due to open in January 26. At the end of term, Mrs Harvey will be leaving to have her baby also.
We are pleased to be able to share that Miss Ward, who was previously one of our Year 5 teachers, will be returning to us in September to the Junior School to be a class teacher again. She will, by then, be called Mrs Mercer as she is getting married in the Summer holidays!
We have also appointed Miss Maisy Spillman to the Junior School for the next academic year to join us as a class teacher.
We look forward to working with both of them.

When Mrs Thompson leaves to have her baby on the 20th June, Mrs Adams will do Thursday and Friday and Miss Gold will do Monday to Wednesday in the class. Mrs Adams has been working in the class already and has been getting to know the children.
When Mrs Rathi leaves to have her baby, Miss Briggs will teach the class for the whole week.

Art Work

Mrs Traferri and Miss Degning have spent a long time improving the art curriculum across the schools and we can really see the excellent work now they have done. At our recent inspection at juniors, the inspector was very complimentary about all of the great art work in books and on display.
You can see some of Year 2's excellent art work here:
https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/category/year-groups/year-2-children/

Adapted Sports Day Trip

Mrs Adams took some of the Infant children to a special adapted sports' day trip at Dereham Hockey Club. They had a great day and you can read more about it here:
https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/pe-events/summer-1-2025-adapted-sports-day/

Competition Winners

The children at Juniors were delighted to take part in an art competition organised by Theatre Royal Surgery, Dereham.
Children created A3 posters expressing what the NHS meant to them. The partners at the surgery had a difficult task in choosing the winners of the competition! In fact the entries were so good that the Surgery could not decide between ten of the entries so awarded all ten!
Neatherd High school kindly let us use their minibus and driver so that the children were able to travel to the Theatre Royal Surgery to attend an award ceremony where they were generously given a certificate, a £10 book token and an Easter egg.
The winning children's entries have all been framed and hung up around the surgery waiting room and all of the competition entries have been put on a powerpoint for the enjoyment of the surgery patients whilst they are sat in the main waiting room. Lots of photographs were taken for the local press.
As always the children had impeccable manners and we were very proud of the many compliments we received about their fabulous behaviour.
You can see their art work in Theatre Royal Surgery and also on the website here:
https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/local-nhs-art-competition-april-2025/



Little Troopers Club

Mrs Bates is setting up a Little Troopers club across the schools. This club is for children whose parents are in the armed forces, and gives them a chance to be together, provide mutual support and do some great things together. If your child is eligible for this and you would like them to take part, then please email Mrs Bates familysupport@toftwoodfederation.co.uk

You can read more about Little Troopers here: https://www.littletroopers.net/little-troopers-at-school/

VE Day Celebrations

Key Stage 1 children at Toftwood Federation participated in a VE day assembly on Thursday 8th May to mark 80 years of victory in Europe. During the assembly the children thought about how it felt when the war finally ended, found out some facts and discovered how people celebrated. The children at Toftwood enjoyed a special celebratory lunch which included sandwiches, sausage rolls and a Victoria sponge cake. One child drew a poster at home, which is now displayed in the classroom. Some children also made Union Jack flags.

You can see some photos here:

https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/curriculum-news/ve-day-celebrations/

Some year 6 children have also been reflecting on their learning about World War 2, from the Autumn Term. They have studied images taken on VE Day and considered the mixture of emotions that must have been experienced on that day.

They worked in groups to create a monologue – style poem, to show their understanding of VE Day.

You can see information on this here: https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/curriculum-news/ve-day-poem/

Dance Festival

A group of 18 children from Year 5 and 6 attended a Dance Festival at The Space in Norwich. The children performed with 8 other schools to the theme of 'A Pop Party'. The children dressed up in brightly coloured tie-dye. They danced to 'Bring It All Back' by S Club 7. The song was chosen because it had a positive message about being resilient and never giving up. They were given time to practise their dance on stage with lighting and music. Prior to the show, the children had been rehearsing at school since September and were really excited to participate.

During the day, they watched other schools rehearse. They were impressed by the variety of dance techniques and songs that were chosen. They were also lucky enough to watch Taverham High School and Legacy (an all-boys dance troop) perform. They were amazed and inspired by the incredible performances. Some children felt so driven that they wanted to continue dancing and potentially join a club outside of school.

Later that day, the children wore rainbow face paint and took part in two performances in front of their friends and family. For some children, this was a completely new experience and Mrs Harvey- Parsons and Mrs Morton were so proud of them for having the courage to stand up on stage into front of hundreds of people. The adults were really impressed by their non-stop enthusiasm, determination to succeed, excellent teamwork and support they showed their peers.

It was a fantastic day enjoyed by the all children and adults alike!

Well done everyone!

You can see photos here:

https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/pe-events/the-dance-festival/

Thankyou

A huge thankyou to all of the children for their hard work this half term, and also to staff and parents for supporting them so well.

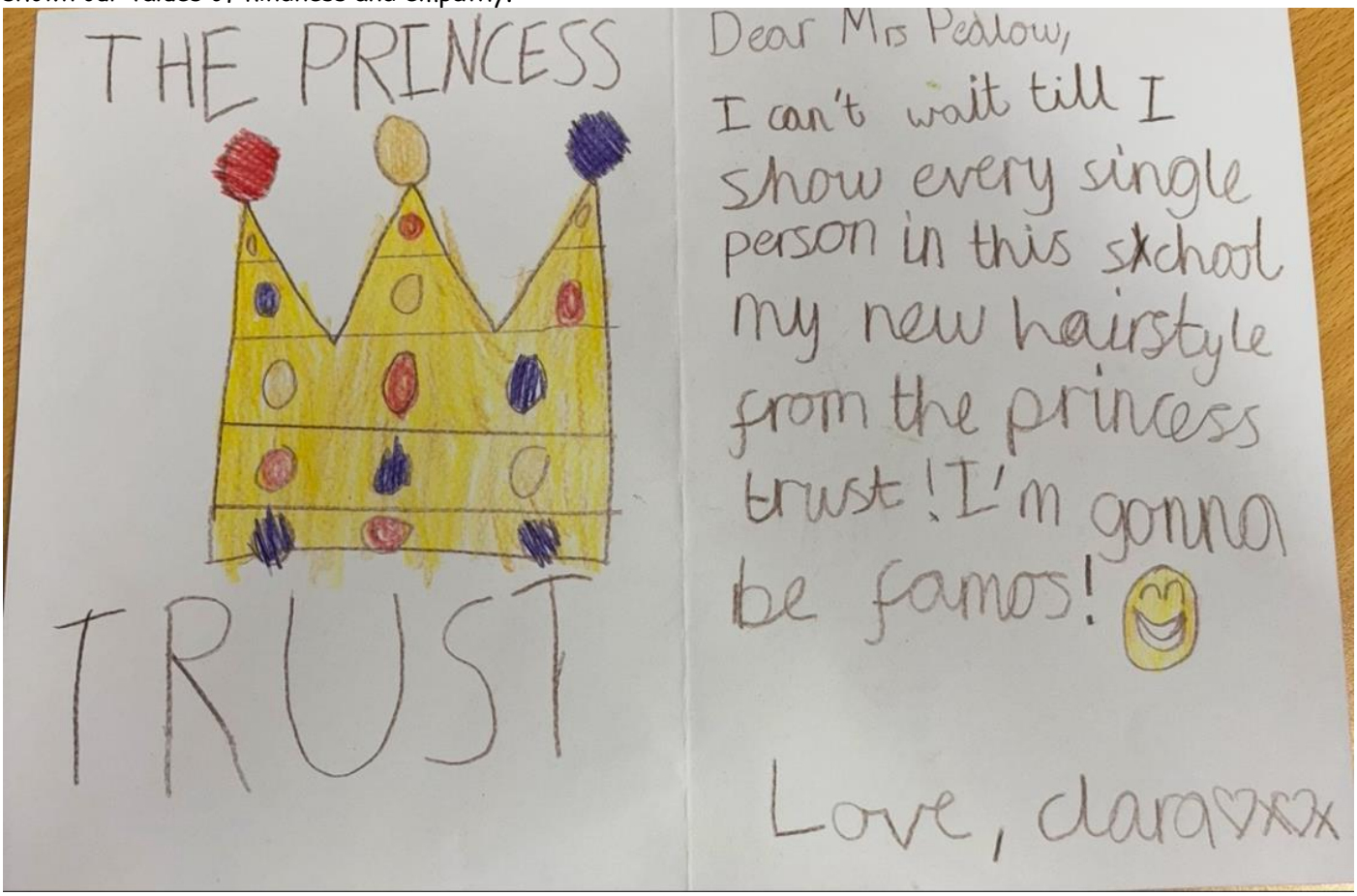
Thankyou to all of the staff who have volunteered their time to run a huge range of clubs for the children, they are lucky to have such a choice!

An additional thankyou to all of those parents who gave such positive feedback at the inspection this week. We cannot share the outcome with you, but we can say we are pleased our work with SEND, SEMH and in many other areas was noted as a strength.

It was lovely to be able to share all we are doing with the inspector and to celebrate what happens in our school.

Congratulations Clara

A special well done to Clara in SW3 who grew her hair and then had it cut for the Little Princess Trust, which makes real hair wigs for those under 24 who have had cancer treatment or have other conditions. She really has shown our values of kindness and empathy.



NORSE Sweet and Sour Chicken

Our school caterers like to share recipes the children have enjoyed so you can make them at home. Here is the recipe for the sweet and sour chicken!



Half Term Events
Sandringham Estate



Sprint Speed Camp



Future events

