



WORTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bury Road, Wortham, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 1PX

Tel: 01379 898484 Email: admin@wortham.suffolk.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Flatman

<http://www.wortham.suffolk.sch.uk/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

9th September 2019

Welcome to a new and exciting term at Wortham Primary school. I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and that the children have enjoyed their first few days in their new classroom settings. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind words, cards, gifts and well wishes at the end of the summer term. They were greatly appreciated and all of the staff were very overwhelmed by your kindness and thoughtfulness.

The children have all settled so well into their classroom routines already and it's been lovely to see them all enjoying each other's company and getting reacquainted after their summer holiday.

The staff and I are really looking forward to working with all of you in the year ahead. We are delighted to welcome back Miss Stevenson as our Bumblebee class teacher, we know that she is going to work hard to make the children's experiences really enjoyable. As in previous years, we have spent some very useful time before the children's return creating our school development plan and focusing on our key priorities. We are looking forward to working positively with all of the children to ensure that they all reach their full potential and enjoy their experiences at school. Children in our school have positive learning attitudes and great behaviour and this, coupled with your support from home and excellent learning opportunities in school can only mean that they have every chance to be successful. As our Vision Statement says – Together We Achieve.

As this is the first newsletter of the year there are some very important key messages, information and dates for your information below.

New children starting school this term

We are so pleased to welcome 13 new children into Reception; welcome to, Michael, Edie, Lavinia, Edith, Mia, Ela, Annabella, Lacie, Yva, Maisie, Maisie, Mille and Deniz. These children have been amazing so far and have settled in beautifully. A huge thank you to all of our older children, for showing our new intake how we care for each other at Wortham and to all of the staff for making their transition a really positive one.

We now have 101 children on roll at Wortham which is a fantastic achievement for a small village school.

Performance

A summary of our data for the academic year 2018-2019 is listed below. Each area is compared with the national percentage to give you all an indication to how we are performing. We are incredibly proud of all the children and their outcomes. They have worked exceptionally hard and we know that they all put in their best performance.

I would like to sincerely thank all of the staff who worked so hard with the children to prepare them for their assessments. Their commitment and enthusiasm makes it all possible.

EYFS (Reception Class)

Good level of development (this is the expected level of development by the end of the reception year)

Wortham Primary School	National average
80%	72%

Key Stage 1

Year 1 Phonics screening

Wortham Primary School	National average
93%	82%

For the pupils in Year 2 who did not achieve the phonics standard in Year 1, **100%** did achieve it when retested.

Key Stage 1 SATS

Subject	Wortham Primary School- Pupils achieving the expected standard	National %	Wortham Primary School Pupils achieving the greater depth standard	National%
Reading	79%	75%	36%	25%
Writing	71%	69%	29%	15%
Maths	79%	76%	29%	22%

Reading, Writing and Maths Combined = 80%/ National 64%

Key Stage 2 SATS

Subject	Wortham Primary School- Pupils achieving the expected standard	National %	Wortham Primary School Pupils achieving the greater depth standard	National%
Reading	69%	73%	31%	27%

Writing	77%	76%	20%	18%
Maths	85%	79%	23%	20%
Combined R, W, M.	62%	65%		

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)

The children in Reception, Yr. 1 and Yr.2 are all entitled to a free school meal every day. We ask that you login to the Eduspot website (you should already have received a password) and select the meal options for your child. This is probably easier to do each weekend for the following week or if it's more convenient you can complete this for the full term. If you are having difficulty with remembering your password, then please contact Mrs Paine in the school office.

Annual Macmillan fundraiser

As in previous years we hope to hold a cake sale after celebration assembly on Friday 27th September in aid of Macmillan cancer charity. We would welcome any cake and biscuit donations to sell on the day. If any of you are able to help sell the cakes on the day could I please ask you to let Mrs Paine know. Thank you.

Nut allergy reminder

Please can we remind you all that because we have a number of children who are severely allergic to nuts all packed lunches need to be nut free. You will need to check the ingredients in snack biscuits and bars etc. Can I also request that children do not bring in any birthday treats, cakes, biscuits or sweets. I thank you in advance of you supporting the school over this.

Home School Agreement and Safe ICT user agreement

Your child will be bringing home a copy of the Home School Agreements for Learning and Behaviour and the ICT Safe User agreement in the next week or so. Please take some time to discuss this with your child before signing and returning it to school. If you have any questions about these please come and speak to a member of staff.

Car Parking

The mornings are always so busy and with the school almost at full capacity parking cars can be difficult at times. Could I ask that all parents park their cars as far forward as they can on the area in front of the school. It means that other parents will have room to park behind you and leave their children safely to school also. I would also ask you to drive in slowly and drive away slowly as children and parents are often making their way to the school gates. One resident has remarked that their drive way is blocked by our parents often at the end of the school day. This has on occasion prevented them from being able to drive out of their driveway. Could I please ask that we are all aware of this and that we are careful and respectful not to block our neighbours' driveways. Many thanks for your cooperation on this.

House teams

Over the past number of years we have set up our house teams as red, green, blue and yellow. This year we are going to be working with the children to rename these groups using a different theme. We are going to use the theme of famous writers and each group will still have an association with a colour for our sports day. I look forward to writing to you all shortly to inform you of the outcome.

Swimming

Children in Years **4, 5** and **6** will be having swimming lessons this term every Friday morning (starting Friday 13th September). Please see the separate letter about swimming for further details.

Holidays in term time

I appreciate that we have just returned from our summer holidays, but please could I take this opportunity to remind you all that we would encourage you not to take your children out of school during term time for a holiday, long weekend or day out. Your child will miss valuable learning time if they are taken out, they may miss trips or visitors and overall their ability to make progress and achieve well can be affected. I would also like to add that as a school we are asked on a half termly basis to provide attendance data to the Local Authority, this includes children arriving to school after 9am and missing registration, so we would encourage all children to be on time in the morning. We would ask that if you arrive to school after 9am that you sign in the late register that is located in the school office-thank you.

Medication

Could I ask all parents to ensure that they have brought in all inhalers, epi pens and piriton for those children that require them. Could you please make sure that these are in date.

Welcome to Year group meetings.

This year we would like to hold a ten minute meeting with class parents to take you all through our timetables, planning and expectations. We would like to hold these meetings on Tuesday 17th September. The timings will be as follows.

2.30-2.40pm- Miss Stevenson

2.40pm-2.50pm- Mrs Clarke

2.50-3pm- Mr Varela

3pm-3.15pm- Miss Chenery

We look forward to talking to all of you then.

Diary dates

The Autumn term is always a busy time of year, and so we shall endeavour to keep you fully informed of events and diary dates. As written above, the school website will be updated weekly and so this will be your best reference point, along with the white notice board outside the school gates (where changes and last minute notices are posted)

September

13th Swimming starts

18th: Individual school photographs- Pre-school siblings may come in from 8.30am

27th –Macmillan cake sale

October

8th – Harvest assembly at 2.30pm.

9th- Open Evening- 5.30pm-7pm.

15th- Reception parent consultations- To report how your child is settling into their new school routine

29th- Flu Immunisation – All year groups

November

4th- Parent Consultations

6th Parent Consultations.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and here's to another successful academic year at Wortham.

Mrs Claire Flatman

Head teacher