



November 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,



We have recently won the award for "Primary School of the Year" at the Active Suffolk Awards. This award recognised our provision for PE, active learning and sport in the wider curriculum as well as our inclusive ethos. This is an amazing achievement for us. Well done Team Lakenheath!

### Parents Evenings

Thank you to everybody that was able to attend parents evenings last week. It was lovely to see so many parents / carers. Fox parents - we will ensure anyone that wants to meet with Mrs Scott-Mullen will have this opportunity when she returns to school. In the meantime, if you would like any updates, please speak to a member of SLT and we can arrange a meeting.



### Remembrance Parade

It was lovely to see so many of our school children attending the Remembrance Parade earlier this month. We estimate around 1/3 of the school were there either representing the school or their various clubs.

### Multi-Sports

A couple of weeks ago, we had a fantastic opportunity to take 7 children, who haven't had many opportunities to represent the school before, to a multi sports event held at Newmarket. They were able to take part in activities such as Badminton, speed stacking and a climbing wall. The group showed real enthusiasm and bravery, having bundles of fun on the way. They represented the school amazingly with their positive attitude and taking risks! Well done all!



### Fair-Play Award: Football Competition

We were delighted to win the Fair Play Award in a football competition at the beginning of the month. It just goes to show how embedded our 'respect' value is instilled in our children! Once again, our children made us proud!



**Headteacher Visits:**

We recently had two head teachers from local Suffolk Schools visit us to take part in a peer review. Their focus was on our provision for our children with SEND (Special Educational Needs). We were thrilled with their feedback which commented on our "positive culture of support," the "calm and happy" environment in school and that our pupils were "polite and a credit to the school." We have to agree with their findings!

**Gunpowder, treason and plot:**

'Fenchanted' kindly asked our children to design the Guy which went on the bonfire at the local display. Our Year 6 'Community Champions, alongside some of the Early Years children, helped to make him. We think they did a great job!



**KS1 discover the past**

Just before half term, children in KS1 had the chance to take on the role of palaeontologists! They had a 'roarsome' time discovering dinosaur bones and learning more about their topic.

**School Council News:**

Children in our school council have met a few times this month making some important decisions. Firstly, they voted for which 'show' they wanted to see in January. The PTA has kindly funded a travelling drama company to perform to our children. The School Council voted for: **The Legend of King Arthur**. It's meant to be a very fun and interactive show and something we're all looking forward to after Christmas! All children in school will have the opportunity to watch this on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**.

The school council also decided on which charities they wish to support this year. This included a local charity: East Anglian Children's Hospice; a National Charity 'Make a wish foundation' and an international charity 'Clouds of Hope' which supports children in extreme poverty in South Africa access shelter and education. We're excited about our 'Rule Breakers' day this Friday to help raise some funds.

**Class Assemblies:**

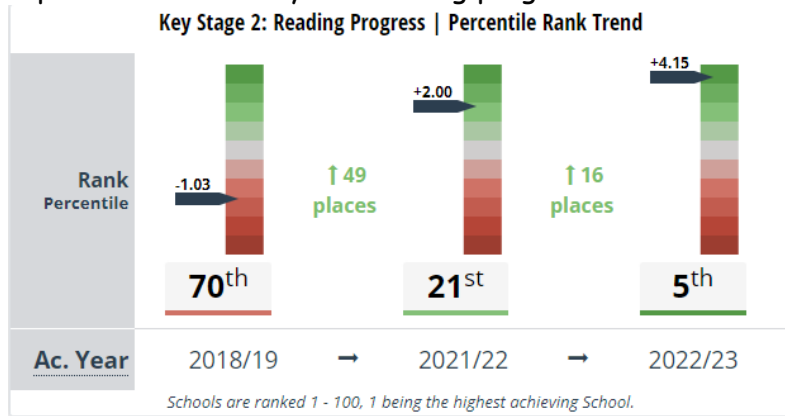
This year, every class from Y1-Y6 will be presenting an assembly to parents/carers and the rest of the school. So far, Jaguar and Fox Class have been the first to take on the challenge. Here's the schedule so pencil in the dates for child's class.

Koala Class	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December (2:45pm)
Owl Class	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February (2:45pm)
Firefly Class	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March (2:45pm)
Ocelot Class	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March (2:45pm)
Gecko Class	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May (2:45pm)
Wombat Class	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July (2:45pm)



**Reading Culture:**

We're delighted with our reading progress in school. Last year's SATs results showed we were in the top 5% in the country for reading progress!



However, we're determined to maintain this through developing our reading for pleasure culture.

Our Y6 reading role models, alongside Miss Morris have been busy talking to children and staff about their reading habits and will be helping to design our 'new look' reading corners and school library. Look out for our videos with children and

teachers about what they like to read and coming soon, to a playground near you will be our 'Book Hive', where you'll be able to borrow any book to share with your family and return.

**Young Carers Award:**

Having previously been awarded the Bronze Award for Young Carers, we have now achieved the Silver mark. Mrs Fox works closely with Suffolk Young Carers to provide opportunities for children at school who are classified as Young Carers. It's lovely that our dedication for this group of children has been noticed and we're now working towards Gold!



Gatehouse Charity are providing free online mindfulness courses specifically for parents/carers. The course is led by a clinical psychologist who is also a mindfulness teacher.

The mindfulness for parents' course is for parents who;

- Care or are former carers of a child with additional needs.
- Care or are former carers for an adult family member or friend.

The course starts on 8th January, but others will be run throughout the year. Parents can book via this website by clicking on the 'apply now' link on the home page here:

<https://the-mindful-life.com/>



**Our 10 point Attendance Reminders:**

1. Please take family holidays during the school holidays. Holidays in term time will result in a fine (£60 per adult, per child)
2. Please call in before 9am if your child is not going to be at school. It saves us having to call you
3. If your child is regularly off due to illness, we will call you for a meeting to see how we can help
4. Absence due to illness can be unauthorised if we suspect your child is well enough to come to school
5. If your child comes into school after 9am, the registers are closed and it counts as 1 session of unauthorised absence
6. Too many unauthorised absences will result in a fine or a referral to our School Attendance Support Officer at Suffolk County Council
7. If your child has a medical appointment, please give school a copy of the appointment so we can authorise the absence
8. If you know there is an unusual or unexpected reason for your child's absence, please talk to us ahead of time (if possible). We may agree to authorise the absence.
9. 90% - or below - is classed as persistently absent / poor attendance (this is equivalent to a day off every 2 weeks!)
10. If you or your child have any worries about what's happening or has happened in school please bring your child in to school and talk to us about it. Please do not give your child a day off.

**Attendance Matters**



**Of course, lots of bugs do go round this time of year which does effect our attendance significantly. However, if in doubt, please do send children into school - we will always send the children home if we feel they're too ill to be in school and we can give them Calpol if you give us written permission.**

**Please also remember, our registration points for attendance are 8:45-8:50am and 1-1:15pm.**



**Important dates for the diary:**

- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December: Last day of term
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January (PD Day - no children in school)
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January: Children return to school
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January: E-Safety / Computing Parents' evening
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February: Half Term

**Polite Reminders:**

- Breakfast Club - please do not park on the school grounds (including visitor bays) when dropping off your children. It is not safe with so many cars coming in and out and children walking into the club.
- Please avoid parking on School Close (private road) and on the yellow lines out the front of school.
- We have a number of children and staff with nut allergies in school. We do not allow any nuts in school so please avoid these in snacks and lunch boxes.
- **Please avoid using mobile phones when dropping off and collecting children - this is for safeguarding our pupils.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Tingey', written in a cursive style.

Michael Tingey