

Autumn Term Newsletter



Welcome back to everyone to Surlingham, for another busy and exciting year.

A very special welcome to all our new children and families. We hope you will enjoy your time at Surlingham, and look forward to getting to know you all over the coming year.

Here is some news and information for the new term, including some important dates for our Harvest and Christmas celebrations. We hope you can come!

Important Dates

Some important dates, so you can get planning early:

Harvest Festival will take place at St Mary's church at 2pm on Wednesday 14th October at 2pm.

Individual and Family Group Photos will take place on the morning of October 23rd.

The Christmas Concert will take place in the village hall on:

Monday 14th December at 2pm (noisy performance, younger siblings and Sunbeams invited!)

Wednesday 16th December at 2pm (Quietish performance!)

Attendance

A big thank you to everyone for getting into school on time! We have noticed the effort everyone has made, and the positive difference it is making to an organised and settled start for the children.

A reminder that staff are not on duty until 8.50, and that no child should be left without the supervision of a parent or carer before this time.



We will be sending a survey this week to find out about your childcare needs. As you know the school used to offer morning and afterschool clubs, which closed because of lack of demand. We will endeavour to offer clubs again should the demand be sufficient.

Mrs Cerea will not be in the office on **Wednesdays** this year. Other members of staff will deal with urgent office business on Wednesdays.

Please try and leave routine enquiries until another day. Thank You



Sorry You're Leaving!

Mrs Ann Kinney, one of our MSAs has left Surlingham after many years of service to the children to concentrate on family commitments.

Everyone at Surlingham wishes her well.

If anyone would like to make a contribution to her leaving present, please hand it in to the school office.

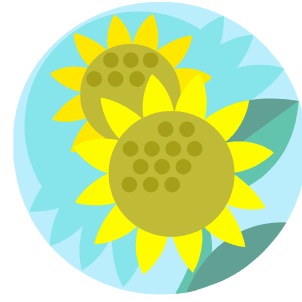
Uniform Reminders:

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE remember to label all your child's uniform. We have already collected several brand new un-named items, and do not know who to return them to.

Thank you to all keen labellers!!

We have noticed most children coming to school in appropriate footwear. The staff are concerned that all children need shoes that will enable them to take a full part in all activities.

Please make sure shoes fit well and are safe for running and climbing. "Croc" style shoes, mules and flip flops are unsuitable for school.



Year 5 and 6 are off to Ringsfield Hall Residential Study Centre in Suffolk from Wednesday to Friday this week for an eco-study and team building adventure.

Mr Taylor, Miss Pennick, Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Parry-Jones will be with them, so any urgent school matters can be directed to Mrs Cerea or Mrs Hamilton-Smith who will deal with them.

We will all be back in school next week!

Holidays in Term Time

A reminder that the head teacher and governors can only authorise holidays in term time for annual family holidays, where parents are restricted to certain times by their employers.

We understand that sometimes parents do need to take children out of school, and we seek to be as flexible as possible. We cannot, however authorise 'odd days off' unless the circumstances are exceptional and have to take into account each child's attendance record. Thank you for your support in this important matter.

Office Extension and Classroom Upgrade!

The building of the extension will be finished by the end of September, so we should be settled in before Christmas. The extra space will provide us with two offices and a much larger entrance lobby.



The carpets, and 'revealed' windows in the main building are making a big difference already. There is so much more natural light for the children to work in, and noise levels have been dramatically reduced.

Clubs and Activities

The staff are again planning to offer the children a wide range of activities for lunchtimes and afterschool including...

Skipping Club, Gardening Club, **Film Club**, Warhammer Club, **Computer Club**, Dance Club and **Sewing Club** as well as FOSS's Saturday Football club, and a free lunchtime drop in football club run by Football in the Community. Sarah Jarrett continues to offer her popular art club to children of the school on Thursdays.

We will be consulting with the children to find out levels of interest in our offers, and let you know about dates, times and the age groups the club is offered to soon.

Teacher Learning.

Our aim is to have staff committed to their own learning, so that we can provide the very best education for your children that we can.

This year nearly everybody is engaged in working towards new qualifications and skills. Below are just some of the things we are working and studying for.

All staff will be learning about Active Listening Techniques to help support personalising the learning in school further.

Mr Taylor, Mrs Hamilton-Smith, Mrs Parry-Jones and Miss Pennick are all studying for Masters level degrees concerning drama and arts education.

Mrs Hamilton-Smith is undertaking the Leadership Pathways Programme with the National College for School Leadership.

Mrs Regan is studying for a Level 3 qualification as a Special Needs Teaching Assistant

Mrs Lloyd is studying English and Maths for the Higher Level Teaching Assistant qualification.

Mrs Wilson, Primary Languages subject leader has attended French language courses, and will be attending further training in October.

Mrs Steward, Art Design and Technology subject leader is attending network meetings with Art Leaders, and developing portfolios within school.

Mrs Champion has just completed her Forest Schools Level 3 qualification, and will be learning how to make 'cob' for building this term.

Mrs Cerea is undertaking the Qualification in School Business Management.

Volunteers in school

We always value the help parents and carers can give us in school.

If you would like to help regularly with reading, Forest Schools, school trips or any other activities you will need a CRB check. Forms (and help!) are available from Mrs Cerea.

The forms take a few weeks to process, so please get them in as soon as possible if you would like to come into school regularly to help.



A big *Thank You* in advance!



...and finally!

All classes will be holding meetings for parents of Y1-6 over the next couple of weeks to cover general issues for each class.

These will be held after school, and teachers will let you know the exact dates and times.

Written information will be provided for any parent or carer unable to attend, and as ever if you have any specific questions or concerns please do contact your child's class teacher directly.

Thank you

SURLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Term Dates for 2009/10

Autumn Term 2009 7th September to 18th December 2009

Teacher training day:	Thursday 3 rd September 2009 (pupils do not attend on this day)
Teacher training day:	Friday 4 th September 2009 (pupils do not attend on this day)
Term begins Monday:	Monday 7 th September 2009
Half term holiday:	Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October 2009
Teacher training day:	Monday 2 nd November 2009 (pupils do not attend on this day)
Term ends for Christmas holidays:	Friday 18 th December 2009

Spring Term 2010 5th January to 1st April 2010

Teacher training day:	Monday 4 th January 2010 (pupils do not attend on this day)
Term begins:	Tuesday 5 th January 2010
Half term holiday:	Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February 2010
Term ends for Easter holidays:	Thursday 1 st April 2010

Summer Term 2010 20th April to 23rd July 2010

Teacher training day:	Monday 19 th April 2010 (pupils do not attend on this day)
Term begins:	Tuesday 20 th April 2010
May Day Bank Holiday:	Monday 3 rd May 2010
Half term holiday:	Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June 2010
Terms ends for summer holidays:	Friday 23 rd July 2010

