



WINTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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learning together - growing together

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Whole School Newsletter, Friday 28th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Mr Smith

As I'm sure many of you are aware, Mr Smith and his wife are expecting their first child, with the due date next week, and I'm sure you'll all join in me in wishing them all the best for the safe arrival. Mr Smith will be taking his Paternity Leave, which if all goes according to plan, will fall before and after the Easter Holidays. Whilst Mr Smith is acclimatising to a new life of nappies and nighttime feeding sessions, Class 3 will be covered by myself, Mrs Edmonds and Mrs Palmer.

Parent's Evening

A reminder that our Parent's Evenings are on Monday and Tuesday next week. There's only a couple of you who haven't made an appointment, but appointments are still available if you would like one – please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

Clubs Next Week

Due to Parent's Evening and end of term fun, unfortunately there are no clubs next week.

Music Concert

A reminder that you are all invited to our end of term Music Concert on Wednesday 2nd April, starting at 2:45pm on the playground. We hope you can join us as Mr Stanton comperes a show of what the children have been learning this term.

Last Week of Term

Next week is the last week of the Spring Term, with school closing at 3:20pm on Friday 4th April, with After-School Club open as normal until 5:00pm.

School reopens for the Summer Term on Tuesday 22nd April.

We will have a Gold Book Assembly on Friday 4th April with a 9:00am start, and then we'll have some last day of term fun during the day with a traditional Easter Egg Hunt and a couple of rounds of Chocolate Bingo.

Thanks for your support,

Mr Rob Cook
Headteacher



ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW STATUTORY RULES MEAN FOR OUR FAMILIES

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes have come into force for all schools and academies from the 19th August 2024. You can find out more about these changes online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>. Thank you, as always for your support.

WHAT IS IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE?

If your child is absent for 10 or more unauthorised sessions in a 10 week period, this is classed as irregular. Work with your academy to help understand and address the reasons for absence and any barriers.

PENALTY NOTICES

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued after 19th August 2024. Penalty Notices will continue to be issued by the Local Authority, they are not issued by the Trust or our Academies.

WHAT IS A SESSION?

2 sessions is equal to 1 day! Attendance is recorded as AM and PM sessions daily.

10 IN 10!

If your child is absent for 10 sessions in a 10 week period (5 days) and these are unauthorised, our academies have to consider referring for a Penalty Notice to be issued.

PER PARENT PER CHILD

Penalty Notices will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. Example: a penalty notice issued for 2x siblings resulting in both parents receiving 2 fines, one per child, 4 penalty notices in total for the family.

THE FUNDS RAISED FROM FINES ARE PAID TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND NOT OUR ACADEMIES. IT CAN BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATION COSTS AND TOWARDS ATTENDANCE SUPPORT BY THE LA. ACADEMIES DO NOT DIRECTLY BENEFIT.

FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued the amount will be:

**£160 PER PARENT, PER CHILD
REDUCED TO £80 PER PARENT PER CHILD IF PAID WITHIN 21 DAYS.**

What if I am a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week in term time?...

**YOUR REQUEST CAN NOT BE AUTHORISED FOR ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!
A WEEK IS 10 SESSIONS THAT YOUR CHILD WILL MISS AND YOU WILL BE ISSUED A PENALTY NOTICE. THE FINE WILL BE £160 BUT REDUCE TO £80 IF PAID WITHIN 21 DAYS. HOLIDAY ABSENCES CAN NOT BE AUTHORISED.**

WHAT IF (IN A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 3 YEARS) YOUR CHILD HAS A 2ND AND 3RD LEAVE OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OR PATTERN OF IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE?...

SECOND OFFENCE

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. No Reduction.

THIRD OFFENCE

AND OTHER FURTHER OFFENCES

(Within 3 years) A penalty notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

ABSENCES REPORTED AS ILLNESS

All absences reported as illness will be monitored. All academies have to refer to the Local Authority, Nottinghamshire County Council once they total 15 days absence collectively. Please don't worry if your child is ill and please don't send them to school if they are not well enough, please do communicate openly with your academy to enable us to support and work together. Not sure if they are well enough for school? Check out <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Our Trust wide updated Attendance Policy can be found at: www.aspire-mat.co.uk/policies