



# HEACHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015

## Welcome

A warm welcome to the new school year. I hope your child has settled well into their new class and that they are looking forward to the busy term ahead.

Apologies for the vast amount of information that follows in this newsletter – but I felt it was better to have all the information at the beginning of term!

## New Website

We have an exciting new website this term. We hope it will make it easier for everyone to access information about the school. It has a new address: [www.heachamjunior.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.heachamjunior.norfolk.sch.uk). (You will be redirected from the old site or just google Heacham Junior School). We will be adding to it as the term progresses. Many thanks to Mr Haines in the school office for all his hard work in setting it up!

## Whole School Topic

This term the whole school is following the topic of 'The Time Machine.' This will cover historical subjects such as stone-age and bronze-age history and science topics such as extinction and fossils. We have lots of exciting activities planned to bring the topic to life. Next week we will be sending home a topic web which will outline the curriculum areas your child will be covering this term, so that you can support their learning at home.

## P.E.:

P.E and swimming are part of the National Curriculum and all children are required to take part in activities. It is very important that children have the correct clothing and footwear – to keep them warm and avoid injury.

**Games: All year groups: Mondays from September 7th**

**Please ensure that children have a suitable pair of trainers for games lessons and sports clubs.** They do not have to be expensive branded items, but a stout pair of training shoes which will support and cushion feet and ankles during running, jumping activities. This is important for health and safety - outdoor shoes are not suitable. Once the weather turns colder children may like to bring in jogging bottoms and fleece tops to keep them warm. We do try to get outside even if the weather is a bit drizzly. **Please label everything!!**

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**HEAD TEACHER**  
**Mrs N. Darley**

**ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER**  
**Mrs E. Hunt**

## Swimming

You may be aware that Smithdon High School closed their pool at the end of the summer term. We have been very fortunate to be offered the use of the swimming pool at Heacham Park Resorts on South Beach for our swimming lessons this year. We will be able to use the pool, free of charge, in the weeks running up to October half term and then from the Easter holidays (when the park is open for business.) We will have sole use of the pool and the park is also providing a lifeguard. Lessons will be coached by Ryan Sykes, a qualified coach with the West Norfolk Swimming Club. Children will walk to and from the pool and will be accompanied by two members of staff at all times.

We are very grateful to Mr. Vince Marshall, manager of the park and a parent of a Year 5 pupil, and, of course, Heacham Park Resorts for their very generous offer which has meant that we will be able to offer swimming to all our pupils this year.

W6, B45 and S5 will swim this term, starting on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Girls will need a one-piece swimming costume (no bikinis) and boys will need short swimming trunks (no long-legged or baggy shorts which impede swimming). Please may I remind parents that ear-rings must be removed or covered with tape / plasters before P.E. Ear-rings must be removed completely before swimming. If pupils are unable to remove and replace their own ear-rings then please remove them before they come to school on that day. Please avoid having any piercing done in the six weeks prior to swimming, as pupils will not be permitted to swim if they are unable to remove ear-rings. R4 and H3 will swim in the summer term. Please make sure that all items of school uniform, P.E. kit, lunchboxes, wallets and purses and water bottles have your child's name on.

P.E. Kit (indoors – Heacham Junior School P.E T-shirt and dark shorts, plimsolls)

H 3, R3/4,	Wednesdays
W6, B4/5, S5	Swimming this term (Fridays)

## Music Tuition

Our violin / piano teacher, Mrs Estelle Furnell, will begin lessons on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September during the morning. Any remaining spaces will then be allocated to those pupils on the waiting list. Brass and woodwind lessons will be available from the Music Foundation for Schools charity, which helps to provide instrument hire, purchase and tuition at reduced cost. There is a charge for music tuition/ instrument hire. Lessons take place during the school day.

## Healthy Tuckshop

We operate a healthy tuck shop every day. The school kitchen closely follows nutritional guidelines issued by the government and are not allowed to sell certain products including items with high sugar content (such as breakfast bars, cereal bars, cakes, crisps or biscuits) The trolley provides a choice of fresh fruit (from 25p) toast 20p - 40p as well as drinks including milk (30p), milk shakes (40p), fruit juice (from 20 -50p) and still water (30- 50p). Money should be kept in a named purse or wallet. Children are responsible for looking after their money. Children are not allowed to lend or give money to other children. To encourage healthy eating in school we ask all

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children to bring a healthy snack to school such as fruit or a bread based product as offered by the tuck trolley. **Crisps, cake, biscuits and cereal bars are not permitted at break** (although you may wish to include them in a balanced packed lunch to be eaten at lunchtime.) Children can also buy drinks at lunchtime (water is provided). **Sweets and chewing gum are not allowed in school at any time.**

### **Water Bottles**

There is always water available on the table at lunchtime and we have water coolers dispensing chilled, filtered water in two cloakroom areas. Water bottles are permissible in class but must be filled with water (not juice or squash - as any leaks would ruin work.) Bottles must be fitted with a valve top to prevent spillages. Please label all bottles with your child's name. These can be filled up at break time from the water filter machines. Please do not put full water bottles in book bags as we have had several incidents where school books have been ruined by leakages. Library Books damaged in this way (or any other accidental or deliberate damage) must be replaced by parents.

### **Health & Safety**

Please may I remind parents that pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school. If a pupil needs to bring their mobile to school for a valid reason it must be left in the school office first thing in the morning and collected at home time. Pupils who are found to have a phone in their possession on school premises during the school day will have the phone confiscated and parents asked to collect it. Jewellery can be a health and safety hazard. Please ensure that your child does not wear jewellery to school. Ear-rings are permitted but must be a small stud. Inappropriate or large ear-rings are not allowed. Make-up, including nail varnish is not appropriate for school. Coloured hair is not encouraged.

### **Parking**

The school car park is for staff and official visitors only; there is insufficient space for parents to drop off and pick up children at the beginning and end of the school day. In the interest of safety, please do not use the car park to park or to turn around. If you do use a car to transport your child to school, please ensure that you do not block the driveways or pavements of our long suffering neighbours. Please share this information with grandparents or other carers who may pick up or drop off children at school. I know that the local police are monitoring the situation following complaints from local residents. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

Apologies again for the enormous amount of information! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries. The school office is open from 8.30am until 4.30pm. There is an answer-phone to leave messages when the office is unattended.

We look forward to working with you this year.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs N. Darley  
Headteacher

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