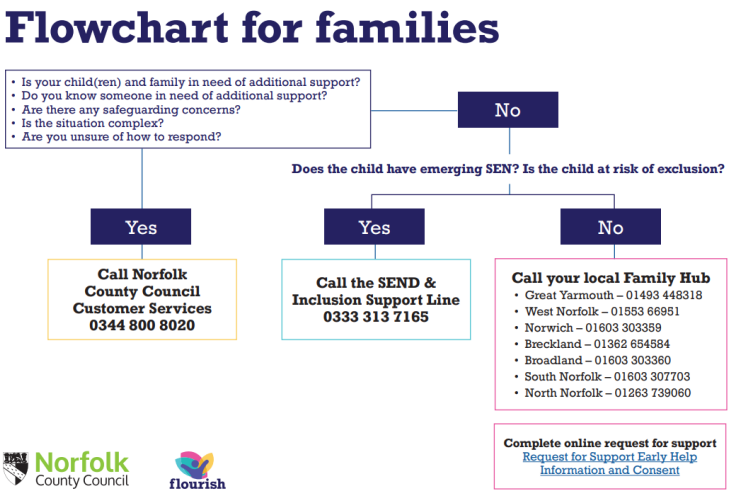
Stoke Holy Cross Primary School
Long Lane | Stoke Holy Cross | NR14 8LY
E office@stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk
T 01508 493132

Friday 14th February 2025

A shorter newsletter to say we hope you have a safe and happy break with your children. The last couple of weeks have included many different educational experiences for all the children. Y6 have been learning about keeping themselves safe online through a 'Safer Internet' webinar. The Digital Leaders delivered an impressively informative assembly about internet safety to the whole school! Y1 had a creative experience making their puppets. The input from the puppet theatre technician helped the children to really elevate their ideas and products.

'Aspiration and Careers' Initiative

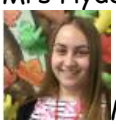
We are very grateful to Mrs Bates for supporting our 'aspiration and careers' initiative by explaining the work of a radiologist. The children now know why keeping focussed in science is so important!



Young Carers

Our school is raising the profile of young carers and we will be planning further initiatives across this year. Staff have received training and we have designated two Young Carers Operational Leads amongst our staff. They are:

Mrs Hydes, who works in Lower School at the moment on Wednesdays to Fridays



Miss Mayhew, who works primarily in Lower School, Monday to Friday.

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CARERS TRUST & The Children's Society

Below is a little more information about Young Carers:

A Young Carer is a child under 18 who regularly looks after someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled or has a mental health problem or addiction.

Children may engage in:

- Shopping, cooking, cleaning

- Managing medicines or money

- Providing personal care

- Helping get people out of the house

- Keeping an eye on someone

- Providing emotional support

Stoke Holy Cross Primary School can support young carers.

If you, or a family member, needs support please contact

Mrs Hydes or Miss Mayhew through office@stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk or head@stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk All contact will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Morning Interventions

Just a polite reminder for anyone attending the Morning Intervention sessions across the school, that these begin at **8.20am**. We appreciate that it is sometimes difficult to leave the house in the morning for a whole host of reasons, but we have recently had children arriving up to 8.30, which means they are not receiving the maximum impact from these sessions.

Suggested reading lists – something for the holidays!

We often get asked for book recommendations and suggestions for what children could read next, depending on their current year group. To help you navigate through the hundreds of thousands of possibilities next time you visit the library or book shop, here are some year group appropriate links with suggestions.

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https://www.thereaderteacher.com/reception
https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year1
https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year2
https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year3
https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year4
https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year5
https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year6

Uniform Policy

Governors have recently reviewed and approved the Uniform Policy 24-25. We have taken a common-sense and fair approach to uniform, for example not insisting on clothing with the school logo and simple PE clothing for Lower School of white T-shirt and black shorts, so we are not adding further stressors to busy family lives. That said, all staff have been asked to monitor the uniform that is worn to school and will contact parents and carers where there are concerns.

https://stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/SHC-Uniform-Policy-Jan-25.pdf

World Book Day

World Book Day 2025 is on Thursday 6th March.

As always, we would like to offer children the chance to dress-up as their favourite book character this year. We are aware that many of our children love to take part in this and will already have their outfit planned. However, this isn't a requirement as we are aware that organising an outfit for World Book Day can often prove to be a significant headache for parents!

Regardless of whether your child comes to school dressed-up or not, there will be lots of other activities which everyone can do in class (and at home) to mark the day.

Look out for more details and information.

Parents' Evening

A reminder that these will take place, face to face, on Wednesday 26th March within the hours of 3.30-7.30pm and Thursday 27th March within the hours of 3.30-6.30pm. Booking through Pupil Asset is now live.

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A reminder, that when parents/carers are on the school site or in-school for meetings, cafes, assemblies (or anything else), we expect them to adhere to our Parent/carer and visitor behaviour policy which can be found here:

https://stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/SHC-Parent-Carer-and-Visitor-Behaviour-Policy-2025-2028.pdf

MSA vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisory Assistant. If you are interested, further details can be found here: https://www.educationjobfinder.org.uk/job/939b2357-7aef-44a6-acc5-fb46ca86bc52.

Please note the closing date is Wednesday 19th February.

Illnesses and reporting an absence

We are hopefully coming to the end of the season of coughs, colds and illness, but just a reminder that if your child is unwell, please report their absence by 8.30am each morning on the automated absence line. Please give their name, class and full details of the illness, we will contact you to ask for more information if the message left is under the weather/feeling poorly!

Parking outside school

In spite of polite reminders, through this newsletter and face to face at the gates, there have been further concerns from our parent and wider community about inconsiderate and dangerous parking by our parents and carers. Parents and carers are reminded to note registrations and contact 101 to report.

Here are some reminders so that we can make sure everyone stays safe:

- ! Please do not park opposite the zig zags, as this causes an obstruction to traffic, people and children crossing the road.
- ! Please do not park close to junctions.
- ! Please do not turn in the school car park entrance or use the staff car park (unless given specific permission from the school).
- ! Please do not park or wait in front of the entrance to the car park, this must be kept clear at all times.

Allergies: we are a nut and sesame free school

Please remember that we have a number of children with food allergies and so ask that no products containing nuts are brought into school or in lunch boxes (this includes seeded bread or rolls with sandwiches). Please check ingredients lists on anything you may be uncertain about.

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Packed Lunches

Thank you to everyone who is supporting the school position on lunch box provisions by sending children in without sweets and chocolate. There has been a significant decrease of these items in boxes, to such an extent we are hardly seeing any. This situation is helping the children, who can confidently eat their lunch knowing they have no chocolate or sweets.

School attendance (4th September 2024 – 14th February 2025)

Year	Attendance	Absence	Minutes Late
Year R	92.98%	7.02%	282
Year 1	96.93%	3.07%	989
Year 2	97.46%	2.54%	1,020
Year 3	96.08%	3.92%	189
Year 4	95.51%	4.49%	2,439
Year 5	95.93%	4.07%	1,058
Year 6	94.14%	5.86%	487
Overall	95.80%	4.20%	6,464

If you need to request a leave of absence for your child (e.g. medical appointments) forms, where possible, must be completed prior to the absence. Forms are available on the website at https://stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Absence-request-form.pdf or you can pick up a paper copy from the school office.

School Dinners

We ask that you order all meals for the following week, on a Friday before 9am. Upper School parents must have credit on their account to be able to make the order. You are still able to be flexible about the days you choose.

Please note, that when Parents and Carers book after the deadline, your meals will not be included in the order because required meal numbers go to Norse Caterers on Fridays.

Lost Property

Lost, unnamed property is kept on a rail in the foyer. **If items are named, we always try to return to their owner.**

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What's on the horizon…?
Diary dates: -

HALF TERM
17th to 21st February 2025

Ancient Egypt Workshop (Y3)
Monday, 24th February
(Funded by the School Association)

Intergenerational Singing Event (Choir members) – Lakenham Day Centre
Tuesday, 25th February 11:00 – 12:00

Parents Maths Café (Reception)
Thursday, 27th February 09:15 – 10:15

World War II Day (Y6)
Monday, 3rd March

Parents Writing Café (Year 6)
Tuesday, 4th March 09:15 – 10:15

Parents Writing Café (Year 3)
Thursday, 13th March 09:15 – 10:15

Parents Writing Café (Year 5)
Friday 21st March 09:15 – 10:15

Parents Maths Café (Year 2)
Wednesday 26th March 09:15 – 10:15

Parents' Evening
Wednesday, 26th March 15:30 – 19:30

Parents' Evening
Thursday, 27th March 15:30 – 18:30

Year 6 boys football festival - Colney, NCFC training ground
Monday, 31st March 09:30 – 12:00 Further details to follow…

Year 6 Netball - Diss High School
Thursday, 3rd April 09:30 – 14:00 Further details to follow…

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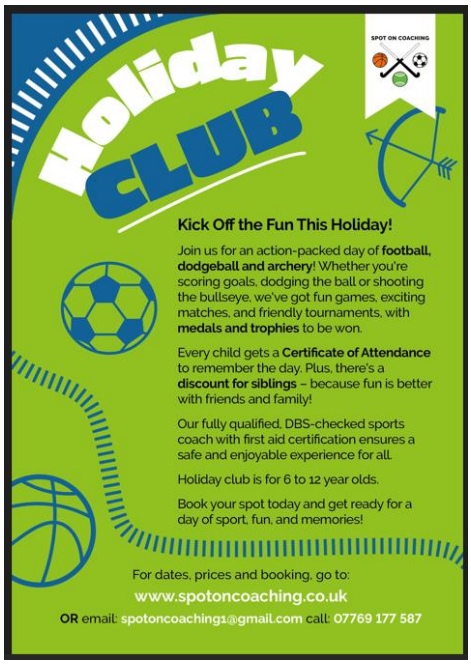
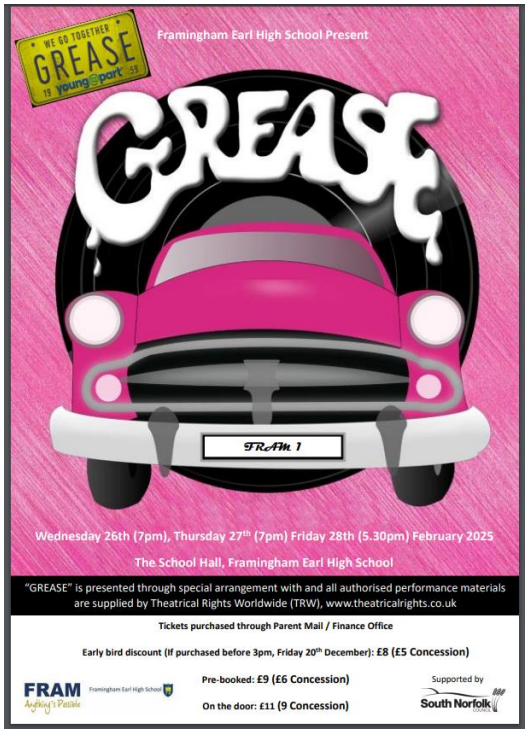
Community Notices:



Use exclusive code SCHOOL20 at checkout to receive an extra £20 off when booking a minimum of 2 days!