



# Inspire Believe Achieve

Our aim is to inspire and encourage our children to believe in their ability to succeed through learning. This vision will enable them to achieve and succeed in reaching their full potential and beyond, now and for their future.

February 2018

## Head Teacher Update

2018 has certainly started at quite a pace here at Whaplode! Pupils in our Reception class spent a week working with Robin developing their skills using balance bikes. All children worked really hard, even during the chilly days, and Robin was very impressed with them. As a school we are very proud of how well they have settled in and their super attitude to school life. Many pupils have taken part in a number of sporting events and competitions already with representation at dodgeball and swimming competitions already completed. As always, our children were real ambassadors for the school and showed a great sporting attitude. The great news is that the swimming team have made it through to the small schools' swimming competition in Louth at the end of March and will be undertaking extra training at the Spalding pool in order to prepare them for this event. Pupils also brought home bronze medals from the dodgeball competition. Well done to all who represented the school!

## Attendance

The school attendance for September 2017 until February 2018 is 96.6%. As part of our work to improve attendance, and in line with our attendance monitoring procedures, letters are sent out to the parents of children whose attendance is causing us some concern.

Please remember that holidays during term time will not be authorised and will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

## Safeguarding

We believe that safeguarding is an important part of our work with children and young adults so will keep this reminder in all of our newsletters. Safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us. If you have concerns about the safety of any child, you should let somebody know. Both Mrs Flack and Mrs Adie are the designated safeguarding officers within the school.

## Start of Day

We have noticed that an increasing number of pupils are arriving to school after 8.45 am which is creating additional work for our office staff at an already busy time of day. Although the school day doesn't start until 9am, pupils have a variety of tasks to complete from 8.45am so it is important that children are present and able to participate in these additional learning opportunities. We thank you for your support in this matter.

## Term Dates:

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

## Other Dates:

9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Break for half term
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Return to school
20/21 <sup>st</sup> March	Parents evenings
28 <sup>th</sup> March	End of term

## Parking

Please could we ask that parents show consideration to the needs of local residents when parking in Millers Rest. Please ensure resident's drives are still easily accessible.

## Safer Internet Day

Tuesday February 6<sup>th</sup> is Safer Internet Day and as a school that embraces the use of digital technology in our curriculum it is the kind of day that we relish. During the day itself children will be taking part in a number of different activities that involve looking at how they can stay safe online as well as who they can talk to should they see something that is inappropriate. We will also be sending home a short questionnaire for parents to fill in about the access to technology that your child has at home and how they use this technology. We would really appreciate your feedback as it helps us to shape the provision that we make in school going forward. Should you wish to find out more about the topic of e-safety in the modern world, an ADE colleague of mine (Simon Pile) has written a number of simple, downloadable, eBooks that talk about the subject of internet safety in a child friendly manner. They are all free and make for a nice way to start discussion about the topic. Should you wish to download these books you can find them on the Apple iBook store.

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\*\* Please note our new email address\*\*