



The John Harrox Primary School

Broad Lane, Moulton, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 6PN

Telephone 01406 370426

enquiries@johnharrox.lincs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Pilsworth (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs. S. Amess (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)



November Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to term two. I hope you have had an enjoyable Autumn break. I hope to bring you up to date with news and forthcoming events. We are looking forward to a busy and enjoyable term.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you all for your donations provided for our Harvest Festival. As a school, we raised money and donated items to the Holbeach Community Larder. Thank you all for your kind donations.

STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025

If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, then they will be due to start school in September 2025. Please remember that the online application process will be open from Friday 15th November, <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school-place/2>

All requests for a primary school place must be received by the Lincolnshire County Council Education Department before Wednesday 15th January. Furthermore, if you know of other families whose children are hoping to start school from September, please remind them that they will need to follow the same procedure as above.

Policies

Key school policies, such as Equal Opportunities Policy, Health & Safety Policy, Parent Code of Conduct Policy and Behaviour Policy can be found on the school website: [John Harrox Primary School - Policies](#) If there are any policies you cannot find or require a hard copy of, please contact the school office. Similarly, if there is any information you require, please do not hesitate to contact the school either through the class teacher or the school office, in the first instance.

SAFEGUARDING

At The John Harrox Primary School, we recognise and take our responsibility seriously regarding safeguarding children and having arrangements in place for promoting the welfare of children. To achieve this, we work with a range of agencies and follow the guidance and procedures outlined by the Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership (LSCP). Our safeguarding policies can be found on the school website.

Mr Pilsworth and Mrs. Amess are the school's safeguarding leads. Should you wish to discuss any safeguarding concerns regarding a child, we are available during normal school hours and can be contacted via the school office on 01406 370426.

Alternatively, the number for Lincolnshire's Children's Services Customer Service Centre, for reporting concerns, is: 01522 782111

ATTENDANCE

We have updated our attendance policy and appointed Ms. Wilson as our attendance lead, our policy can be found on the school website.

In any school year children attend school for a total of 190 days. The Government and the school expect children of primary school age to have school attendance of 100%.

A persistent absent rate is recorded where a child's absence is 10% or more (90% or less attendance). Falling below this causes concern to both Educational Welfare and the school as this can have a dramatic effect upon a child's education. Attendance rates can be taken across any six week period of the academic year and do not need to be considered over the whole school year.





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We monitor attendance closely and may also work directly with the local authority on attendance matters. As part of this monitoring process, we follow up on attendance which falls below 95% where these are unexplained or causing concern. Parents will often receive a letter and be asked to discuss reasons for their child's absences if attendance falls below the 95%.

With this in mind, it is very important to avoid taking holidays during term time. Holiday absences will be unauthorised unless there is an exceptional circumstance for them. Unauthorised absence may lead to legal action and a fixed penalty notice being issued. Our policy explains that fixed penalty notices can be issued for unauthorised absence of more than 4.5 days and that these notices will be issued.

Should you plan to take your child out of school during term time you must inform the school of the reasons for this. A form can be collected from the school office to do this, thank you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We pride ourselves on how smart the children present in school in our school uniform. It is often commented on by visitors to school and we think it contributes to fostering a positive working attitude towards school. The vast majority of children always wear the appropriate uniform, although we have noticed some alternative items being worn recently. We ask for your support in ensuring all the children follow the uniform policy.

As the days get colder and wetter, please ensure that your child has a suitable outdoor coat to wear every day. Please remember that fleeces are in addition to sweatshirts/cardigans and not a replacement, i.e. fleeces are for outdoor wear only and children should have a sweatshirt/cardigan to wear in school.

As always, please ensure all items of clothing are labelled. Trainers are not part of the school uniform and should only be worn for sporting activities.

On rainy (or snowy) days it would be advisable for children to come to school in wellington boots and change into their school shoes on arrival.

Thank you for your co-operation.

PARENTS' MEETINGS

Hopefully you are aware of our parents' meetings that are arranged for Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th November.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

We are planning on the usual Christmas productions this year. Further information will come out nearer the time, however, please hold the following dates in your diary.

EYFS Christmas Nativity: Wednesday 11th December 9:30am

KS1 Christmas Performance: Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th December 1:45pm

A further letter will be sent home detailing ticket arrangements soon.

KS2 Christmas Concert in All Saints Church: Thursday 12th December 2pm

This is a non-ticket event like the Harvest Festival.





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CHRISTMAS FAIR – FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER AT 5.00P.M.

We are already involved in preparations for the Fair which is always a major fund raising event for the school. Each year the money raised helps us to organise the children's Christmas celebrations, and to buy new items of equipment to benefit all children within the school. We rely heavily on your generosity and help and would be grateful if you could supply us, nearer the time, with any items for the following stalls:

Bottles and Jars; Groceries; Tombola prizes; Raffle prizes. We shall send home a flyer with details shortly.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and we look forward to seeing you at the Fair.

We will be using the sports hall, so we request that **NO STILETTO HEELS** are worn as they will damage the flooring.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Arrangements for the Christmas parties have now been finalised. Details are as follows:

The party day for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be Tuesday 17th December and they are welcome to come to school in their party clothes for the day. All food will be provided at lunch time, please order through Ideal School Meals and the party will finish at 3.15p.m.

The party day for Year 3 and 4 children will also be Tuesday 17th December. The children will be going to see the pantomime Snow White at The South Holland Centre in Spalding. They will need to bring a packed lunch to school which they will eat in the classroom on return from the pantomime. The children will need to wear their school uniform. (A permission slip will be sent home shortly).

The party for Year 5 and Year 6 children will be Wednesday 18th December and they are welcome to come to school in their party clothes for the day. All food will be provided at lunchtime, please order through Ideal School Meals and the party will finish at 3.15p.m.

All parties will be funded using the money we raise at the Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December.

PARKING

I would like to remind you of the parking restrictions that are in effect close to the entrance of the school and that the school safety zone includes the bus layby. These restrictions are in place for the safety of the children. It is important that the school bus can use the layby so that children can get on and off the bus away from the road. This includes secondary school children who are often dropped off at the end of the school day when children who attend here are being collected from clubs. I understand that it becomes very congested during peak times of the day. However please keep the safety zone clear. The area is very congested, particularly on a morning with many pedestrians accessing the main school entrance.

Please also continue to be considerate to our neighbours in relation to driving and parking around school, including in Westmoreland Road. Thank you.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that the school staff car park must not be used by parents; this is a county wide policy. In addition, and for your own safety, please use the pedestrian access, which goes around the car park via the separate gate, when visiting the school office or dropping off children.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

We are very fortunate to have the range of equipment available for the children to use in the school playground including the outside gym. However, the equipment is to be used at designated times by the children. We ensure a member of staff checks the equipment and the children are supervised while they are using it. These precautions help to provide a safe experience for the children. I ask that parents support the school and follow





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the signs that are clearly visible, by not allowing children (both school and pre-school aged) to play on the equipment particularly at times when children are being brought to school or collected at the end of the school day. May I also ask that children do not ride their bikes or scooters on the school playground. In the interest of the safety of the children and preventing accidents, thank you for your support with this matter.

RAISING CONCERNS

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding your child or other school matters at any time during the year. Do not hesitate to contact us. Often things heard on the playground get misinterpreted or only provide part of the information so please check with a member of school staff. We are committed to working with you to try and ensure concerns and minor irritations are resolved, and the facts are clarified as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely
D. Pilsworth

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS – ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/25

Autumn Term 2	29 th October 2024 19 th December 2024
Spring Term 3	6 th January 2025 14 th February 2025
Spring Term 4	24 th February 2025 4 th April 2025
Summer Term 5	23 rd April 2025 23 rd May 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May 2025
Summer Term 6	2 nd June 2025 22 nd July 2025

