

# CANON POPHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Church Balk, Edenthorpe, Doncaster. DN3 2PP

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Headteacher: Mrs A. Navas

Chair of Governors: Mr D. Milnes



Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term! We hope you had a lovely Easter break.

## Academy Update

The minutes of the parents meeting held last term with Andrew Waldron CEO of Diocese of Sheffield Academies Trust are on published on the school website. If you would prefer a hard copy of these minutes, please ask at the office and we will be happy to provide them.

The process of academisation is continuing with **parent consultation and feedback now open**. If anyone has any questions, please feel welcome to speak to me or to any of the governors. If you would like to formally register any concerns please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr David Milnes by e mail or in writing. His e mail address is available from the office and any written concerns can be passed on to him via the school office. This will need to be done **within the next 2 weeks**, as after this time the consultation window will close. If we do not hear from parents we will assume your consent to the academisation. Governors will consider any formal concerns raised before a final decision is made.

We will keep parents informed as the process continues.

## Uniform

For the summer term- weather permitting- children can wear the summer uniform if parents wish them to do so. If you are unsure about the detail of the summer uniform, please see the school website where this information is available or speak to a member of the school staff. Children need to wear appropriate school footwear and please ensure that hair accessories are small and appropriate and not the large, colourful hair bows that are currently in fashion.

Please ensure that children bring a coat to school as the weather is still not warm and they will need this for outdoor breaktimes.

We will be doing a uniform check next week. Thank you for your support in maintaining the high standards of uniform that we expect at Canon Popham.

## Testing times ahead

As Year 6 parents will no doubt be aware, the Year 6 SATs tests will take place this year in the week beginning May 14<sup>th</sup>. All the children are invited to attend breakfast club FREE for the 4 days of the test week ( Monday to Thursday). We encourage all the children to come to breakfast club in that week because it gets their day off to a calm, relaxed and positive start, which we find helps with settling nerves!

Year 2 pupils will also be doing their SATs tests over an extended period during this half term. We try to administer the tests in as relaxed a manner as possible, so please try not to worry about them. The children have already done lots of practice and we are confident that they won't even know when they are taking the tests! We would ask that parents ensure that children continue to read regularly at home and to complete homework, which is intended to help children practice skills that have already been taught in class.



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Year 1 children will be doing their phonics screening test in June. Therefore, it is important that parents practice the phonics sounds that their child is struggling with and read daily at home to prepare them for this. All Y1 parents who attended parents evening will have been given the information about the sounds their child needs to practice. If you aren't sure please speak to Miss Smithson, who will be happy to help you.

For all other year groups tests will take place next half term. Please ensure that your child completes homework and regular reading practice in preparation for these.

## Special Events

Diary dates will be coming home this week- updated for the summer term.

We are looking forward to our own very special 'royal wedding' on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May for Foundation Stage. On this day all the children in years 1 to 6 can come to school wearing non- uniform, red white and blue to celebrate. (Foundation stage will have their own special arrangements because of the 'wedding'.)

On the same date- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May, this will be the end of Y6 SATs week and they will be having their own celebration day. Look out for details closer to the time.

## Parental Feedback Questionnaires

Many thanks to everyone who completed a feedback form for governors on the parents' evenings last half term. We received responses from 126 families. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Where parents have given specific feedback, I will do my best to contact you individually to discuss your ideas/ concerns.

Key feedback has included:

- 97% say their child enjoys school
- 99.2% say that school keeps their child safe.
- 99.2% feel that the teaching in school is good
- 100% were overall happy with their child's experience at Canon Popham.

## Summer Fair

Our school summer fair is fast approaching. This year it will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June. We are looking for anyone who can help in any way with the planning, preparation and organisation of this event or on the day itself. Many hands make light work and if you feel that you could help in any way, however small please speak to the office staff or to Mrs Whittaker, Chair of the Friends of Canon Popham, so that we can make this another successful fund-raising event for our school.

As always, many thanks for your support. If you have any queries or concerns about any aspect of your child's education please feel very welcome to come into school and speak to any member of staff.

Mrs. Navas

