

Withinfields Primary School
 Withinfields, Southowram,
 Halifax HX3 9QJ
 Email: admin@withinfields.calderdale.sch.uk

NEWS LETTER

Learning Together To Make A Better Future

28th May 2021

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Day	Date	Event
Friday	28.5.21	Last day of term
Monday	7.6.21	First day back to school

BUN SALES – 50p

Date	Class to bring buns
11.6.21	France
18.6.21	Austria
25.6.21	Poland
2.7.21	Switzerland
9.7.21	Greece
16.7.21	Sweden
23.7.21	Germany

TOAST ROTA – 50p

Monday	Reception
Tuesday	Years 1 & 2
Wednesday	Years 3 & 4
Thursday	Years 5 & 6

OUR SCHOOL MENU

Week Commencing Monday 7th June

MONDAY

Chicken Fillet Burger in a Bun
 Quorn Chicken Fillet in a Bun
 Turkey Sandwich
 Tuna Wrap
 Diced Herby Potatoes, Carrots and Green Beans

Lemon Drizzle

Fruit

Yoghurt

TUESDAY

Fish Fingers
 Vegetables Sausage Roll
 Ham Sandwich
 Cheese Wrap
 Oven Baked Potato Wedges, Peas and Sweetcorn

Biscuit

Fruit

Yoghurt

WEDNESDAY

Roast Chicken and a Yorkshire Pudding
 Quorn Roast and a Yorkshire Pudding
 Egg Sandwich
 Turkey Wrap
 Oven Baked Roast Potatoes, Cabbage and Broccoli

Strawberry Smoothie

Fruit

Yoghurt

THURSDAY

Sweet and Sour Chicken
 Tomato and Basil Pasta
 Cheese Sandwich
 Ham Wrap
 Rice, Pita Bread and Mixed Vegetables

Chocolate Fudge

Fruit

Yoghurt

FRIDAY

Chicken and Pepper Pizza
 Vegetable Seashell Pasta
 Tuna Sandwich
 Cream Cheese and Cucumber Wrap
 Chips, Beans and Mixed Vegetables

Rice Pudding

Fruit

Yoghurt

28th May 2021

News from this week

Intra-School Sports

The final results from this half term's intra-school sports are in following the completion of the Athletics competitions on Monday. The winning classes of the Athletics were:

Sweden, Switzerland, France, Italy, Belgium and Denmark.

Over the full half term, France deserve a special mention as they have won every single competition over the whole half term!

Information for next week

Clubs

Apologies to Year 1, there was a mistake on the clubs letter. The Year 2 football club should have said Y1 and 2 football club. Please sign your child up if they would like to join.

Spice homework

The children's spice homework is attached to this newsletter. It involves showing appreciation. I'm sure every child can think of someone that they can say a thank you to. We'd love to hear about them when we get back to school.

Other information

Homework

It has been in the media this week about different thoughts about homework in primary schools. We had actually discussed this at length in a staff meeting last week and had come to the decision to try something new next half term.

The reason for the change is that we are acutely conscious of children's wellbeing and mental health and we feel that it is more important for children to enjoy life, particularly after the last year, giving them the time:

- to play out when they get home from school and at weekends
- to have water fights (if we get the weather)
- to be able to curl up with a good book
- to join a sports team or do a social activity like cubs or scouts
- to be able to go out for a walk as a family
- to visit relatives and friends where they can
- to have days out
- to learn a new skill

We feel that all of the above would contribute to positive wellbeing, physical and mental health in our children. Some parents have expressed that time is so difficult to manage at times within families and that homework is sometimes a source of stress and anxiety trying to find the optimum time to get it done. We feel life has been stressful enough in the last 12 months and therefore want to take a breath and remove this added pressure.

We realise that some children and families love getting involved with learning at home and therefore we will be sending a sheet with lots of ideas of activities that you

could try at home or as a family which would support your child's learning in topics which are coming up in their learning over the half term. For example, if the children had a topic about soluble and insoluble solids, we might suggest trying mixing different solids and liquids at home and seeing what happens. If they were learning about rivers, we might suggest that you spend some time looking at maps of different rivers or going on a walk to look at how rivers meander in valleys and how streams join the rivers. This doesn't mean that we wouldn't do practical work in school, it just gives the child more opportunity to investigate and experience learning through doing at home. We'd love you to send photographs of any activities that you do so that we can share them with the class and talk to your child about them but there is no pressure to do this at all.

We will be interested in collecting views from parents and children about this as the half term goes on so please feel free to let classteachers know or catch one of the senior leadership team at the gate.

The one thing that parents can do that as a staff we know makes a massive difference to children's learning is reading. We know that children that read regularly to an adult at home and at school make progress and children that have stories read to them usually develop a love of reading. We would therefore love you to continue prioritising this even if it's only 5 minutes a few times a week. Parents who have recently increased the amount that they do this have commented how much of a difference they have noticed. We have also increased the amount of 1:1 reading with an adult that we do in school in all year groups.

All reading can be written in their reading record whether it is the child reading to you, the child answering your questions about what they've read or the bedtime story that you have read to them. Treat the reading record almost as a diary of their reading activities. We would like to amend the format of reading records in September and if you have any views about what is useful for you in working with your child on reading or what is not quite right about the reading records, please let Miss Hallett, our reading leader, know so that she can take parental views into account when redesigning our reading records.

Thank you for your support with reading and we hope you enjoy the little bit of extra time that you will hopefully find yourself with over the Summer months.

Southowram Cricket Club

Some of our children are involved in the Southowram Cricket Club and they are looking for more children to get involved. Please find attached a flyer which provides further details. It would be lovely to think that we could support such a worthwhile local organisation.

Free Hockey Sessions

We have received information about free hockey taster sessions for children in Y3 to 6. They will take place at Halifax Hockey Club, Park Lane Academy AstroTurf on

Tuesday June 8th and June 10 from 6pm to 7pm. Please contact Paulmgraham@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

Nursery for September

The deadline for Nursery applications to be considered for September has passed but it is looking like the admissions are low at the moment so please recommend us if you have friends and family members who have a child who will be 3 on or before 31st August. I am happy to show people around our nursery if they would like to make an appointment.

Covid-19 reminder

Please can I remind parents that if anyone in the household or childcare bubble is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19, the whole household should isolate until a PCR test has been completed and has come back negative or, if positive, until the date provided by test and trace.

Over half term, if anyone that has been into school tests positive for Covid-19, they should contact myself on ClassDojo or via email (head@withinfields.calderdale.sch.uk) as soon as possible so that I can get in touch with any other parents of children who will need to self-isolate and staff who are affected.

If anyone in the household completes a lateral flow test which comes back positive, this should also lead to the whole household isolating until a PCR test has been completed.

Please can I remind parents that if anyone is showing symptoms of Covid-19, they should not do a lateral flow test but should book a PCR test to confirm whether they are positive. Lateral flow tests are to identify people who do not have symptoms of Covid-19 but are contagious with the virus.

If you need to inform us of absence, please leave a message as normal at the school office. However, if the absence is due to a positive test of a child, please email myself (head@withinfields.calderdale.sch.uk) or send me a classdojo message as soon as possible so that we can work with local public health officers to determine whether we need to inform others to also self-isolate.

Happy half term

Many thanks as always for the support you have given your children and my staff over the course of this half term. I can't quite believe that we are approaching the last half term of the year but I'm hoping that it is going to be one where we can start introducing a little more normality into children's lives and school life.

Have an amazing half term and enjoy the break!