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Dear Parents,

Thursday 29th September 2016

Federation Newsletter - September Edition

Welcome to the very first edition of the monthly federation newsletter, which is published on the last Thursday of every month. Existing parents will be well-used to this but for new parents, I try to ensure that all of the relevant information about past and future school events. Before I do this, however, I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you all back to what promises to be a very exciting year ahead.

Macmillan Coffee Mornings

Just a quick reminder that we will be holding our Macmillan Coffee mornings at both schools tomorrow morning. If any of you would like to make donations of cakes or sundries, please feel free to bring them into school on the day. Equally, when you drop your child off in the morning, please come and join us in the hall and enjoy a cup of coffee, cakes and various other tempting goodies. All monies collected on the day will be donated to Macmillan and collectively, we have set a target of £250.00 across both of our schools. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Dinosaurs and the Cavemen!

As you will know, we always like to begin our new topics with an Engage Day experience and the pupils in Key Stage 1 and Upper Key Stage 2 have already been out into the local community learning about dinosaurs and the cavemen! These visits are always very well received and it has been good to see the ways in which the children have been inspired to learn about ancient history. Since their return to school, they have been busily learning more about these important historical eras. The children in the respective Class 3's still have their visits to look forward to so look out for further details in the near future.

Staffing

Over the next few weeks, you may begin to notice some changes in the office staff at both schools and this is due to the departure of Mrs. Matson and Mrs. Johnson. Mrs. Matson, who has been with us since joining as an apprentice, is taking up a new role at the Peele School and I know that all of the experiences she has engaged with at Gedney will serve her well as she embarks on this next exciting chapter in her career. Mrs. Johnson will also be moving to a school in Market Deeping and both will leave with our best wishes for the future. During the interim period, Miss Lewis will be managing all financial matters and on Friday, I will be in a position to announce who will be taking over the admin role across both sites. Going forward, we will be looking to appoint two members of staff at Senior Admin level, to take responsibility for managing the budgets at both schools.

Junior Police Cadet School Officer (JPCSO)

Our schools are always eager to forge links with other providers and I am pleased to be able to report that children in both Class 4's are now involved with the Junior PCSO Scheme. Children that are successful will have additional responsibilities in school that often relate to vulnerability. They will also be looking at some of the social issues that schools face including safe parking, online safety, healthy lifestyles and inclusion. All our Junior PCSO's are easily recognised as they will be wearing high-viz jackets, name badges and lanyards. I am very much looking forward to working with them, in conjunction with Lincolnshire Police, and know that this scheme will help them to become responsible young citizens of the future.

Tuition

Now that the 11+ has concluded, Mrs. Tracy Pegler, one of our parents, has asked me to publicise her tuition services. Tracy, as a long standing friend of our schools, has been working successfully with Key Stage 2 pupils from a number of different schools in the curriculum areas of English, maths and Verbal/Non-Verbal Reasoning. If any of you are interested, she can be contacted via the following:

- pegkertutor@sky.com
- 07495 183359

Diary Dates

We have now agreed some important diary dates for the autumn term and I wanted to give you advance notice, as I know how much you like to be prepared. The table below is well-worth keeping and if my house is anything to go by, it usually goes up on the fridge door with a magnet!

Gedney Church End		Lutton St. Nicholas	
Date	Event	Date	Event
30.09.16	Macmillan coffee morning	30.09.16	Macmillan coffee morning
04.10.16	Wrates individual photos	30.09.16	Harvest festival 2pm Lutton Church
06.10.16	Pupil Premium afternoon tea	04.10.16	Pupil Premium afternoon tea
11.10.16	EYFS Open Day (am)	07.10.16	Wrates individual photos
12.10.16	Gifted and Talented Workshop	11.10.16	EYFS Open Day (pm)
17.10.16	Forest School Trip – Snipe Dales	12.10.16	Gifted and Talented Workshop
18.10.16	Redeemed production	17.10.16	Forest School Trip – Snipe Dales
19.10.16	Redeemed performance at St Mary's Long Sutton	18.10.16	Redeemed production
20.10.16	Harvest festival at Gedney Church 2pm	19.10.16	Redeemed performance at St Mary's Long Sutton
21.10.16	Close for half term	21.10.16	Close for half term
01.11.16	Return to school	01.11.16	Return to school
03.11.16	Longtown Parents Meeting – 7pm at Lutton School	03.11.16	Longtown Parents Meeting – 7pm
08.11.16	Parents evening	07.11.16	Parents evening
10.11.16	Parents evening	09.11.16	Parents evening
11.11.16	Remembrance Service at Gedney Church – 11am	11.11.16	Remembrance Service
18.11.16	Children in Need	18.11.16	Children in Need
11.12.16	Yr 6 pupils leave for Longtown	11.12.16	Yr 6 pupils leave for Longtown
16.12.16	Yr 6 pupils return from Longtown	16.12.16	Yr 6 pupils return from Longtown

And Finally....

Just a quick note of thanks to you all for the amazing way your children have come into school since the beginning of the year. They have all settled into their new classes and I am really looking forward to seeing how much they can achieve in their learning, social and emotional development. Exciting times indeed....

Yours sincerely,

Mr. L. Whitney - Head Teacher

Gedney Church End and Luton St. Nicholas Federated Primary Schools