

DRIFFIELD NORTHFIELD INFANT SCHOOL



'All Moving Forward Together'

20th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here are a few items of news and information for this half term.



We are excited to announce that our new outdoor area for the children is now ready. The children have been accessing the new equipment, but we plan to have a grand opening soon!

Balance Bike Training

Foundation children will be taking part in Balance Bike training on Friday 15th May. More details to follow.



Morris Dancing



The children will be invited to take part in a Morris Dancing on one afternoon during this term, we will send more details nearer the time.

ParentPay

From September, we will no longer be using ParentPay. All bookings and payments for Before and After School Club will instead be made through Arbor. Full instructions on how to use this system will be shared before the summer holiday. We wanted to inform you in advance as we are now unable to issue credits through ParentPay, giving you time to plan for any upcoming payments.



Y2 Outdoor Learning



Please note that the days have changed for Y2's outdoor learning this term. Dragonflies is now **Monday 11th May** and Grasshoppers is **Monday 18th May**, many thanks.

Foundation Trip

Please remember to return the consent form and payment for the Foundation's trip to Playdale Farm as soon as possible, thank you.



Bumblebees

Just a reminder that Ms. Aschettino will be leaving us this Friday. We would like to say a huge thank you to her for her contribution to the school community and wish her all the very best for the future. We are delighted to welcome back Mrs. Bull to Bumblebees from her maternity leave on Monday 27th April, many thanks.

Thank you for your continued support

Absence from School in Exceptional Circumstances

You are required under the Education Act (1996) to ensure your child attends school regularly (95% is considered to be good attendance). If your child accrues 10 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence you may be liable for a penalty notice (one day's absence equals two sessions, a five-day absence is equal to 10 sessions).

An unauthorised absence is any absence that the Head teacher has not given permission for or where an explanation has not been provided by the parents.

Parents must complete a request for Absence from School in Exceptional Circumstances form and submit this to the school, allowing for sufficient time to enable the school to consider the request and inform the parents of the decision.

Where parents do not follow the school's procedures of submitting a request and simply remove their child without seeking prior approval, a warning may not be given, and you may be liable for a penalty notice.

If your request is declined or you do not follow the correct procedure, and you still take your child out of school each parent within your household may be issued with a £160 penalty notice for each child you have taken out of school. If a penalty notice is paid within 21 days, it will decrease to £80. If after 28 days, it remains unpaid you may be summonsed to appear before Magistrates to explain why your child has unauthorised school absences and you may be liable for a fine up to £1000. Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there has been ten sessions of unauthorised absence in a ten-week period.

First offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term-time leave or irregular attendance, the amount will be £160 per parent per child, to be paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days.

Second offence (within three years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for term-time leave or irregular attendance, the amount will be £160 per parent per child, to be paid within 28 days.

Third offence and any further offences (within three years)

The third time an offence is committed for term-time leave or irregular attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to the 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

