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Dear Parents/Carers

I know it's hard to believe, but we are now entering the last four weeks of the academic year. Where did the time go? As you can appreciate, this term is really busy and there are number of events and important dates coming up. Hopefully this newsletter will help to further explain these to you.

Attendance

The DfE's national expectation is for children's attendance to be a minimum of 95% across the academic year. It is therefore our responsibility to monitor each child's attendance and support families to ensure that each child is receiving the education they are legally entitled to. With this in mind, we will be doing more to ensure that you are aware of what your child's attendance is and what action, if any, may need to be taken. As you will know, we prefer to reward and be positive at Surfleet Primary School, but also to work with families that need help and support. Based on this ethos, we will be rewarding 'good' attendance weekly (i.e. children who have attended every day at school during that week) with a raffle and also we will celebrate 'excellent' attendance (97%+) each term with certificates and... maybe a few surprises! We will publish full details in September but hopefully this information will give you an insight into the plans we are making to further develop the good practice and high expectations in our school.

Lateness

Recently we have noticed that more and more children are coming into school after the door has closed at 8:55 am. Please can we remind you that lessons start promptly at 9 am and if children are not present before this time, then their learning will be affected. This also does not help the children settle into the day and may impact their whole morning of learning – no child likes to be the last one in the classroom. If there are genuine issues that affect why the children can't be at school on time and you would like our support, please make an appointment to see Mr Chipperfield in the first instance.

Sports Day

Please accept our sincerest apologies for the change of Sports Day date, which is now July 4th. This was genuinely due to no fault of our own but we were forced to make this change so that all of our year groups could be present. We are hoping for good weather and a fantastic turnout like last year. We welcome as many of you to attend as possible – we are not limited by fire regulations as we will be outside. We are pleased to announce that the PTFA will once again be on hand to provide refreshments and run a raffle, so don't forget to bring some money, just in case!

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Transition

We take the children's mental health and well-being very seriously at our school and, as part of this, we have created more opportunities this year than ever before to ensure that the children can prepare for the next part of their educational journey. Some of these opportunities are external, e.g. open days at secondary schools, Y7 transition days, and some are internal, e.g. nursery open mornings, transition sessions with new class/teacher. Rest assured that we will do everything we can to keep you informed of the external opportunities (as long as we know about them!), however the internal events we try to keep 'low key' so as not to over burden the children emotionally. Whilst many children will stay in the same class with the same teacher, we are still finalising which class some children will be in in September. This information will be provided to you with the end of year reports. However, if you have any questions in the meantime, do not hesitate to ask Mr Chipperfield.

PTFA

The PTFA are out in force again this term with various events coming up. For up to date information regarding these, please check their Facebook page, which is open to all current parents. We strongly advise you to sign up to this page and to also check our website regularly.

The PTFA do a fantastic job, regularly running events that you all support so well. Whilst they are made up of a hardworking, tight-knit group, they would always welcome more volunteers and also ideas on potential fundraising ideas. If you feel that you could give some time to help out, even if you don't want to officially join the PTFA, then please let them know via their Facebook page.

Changes for September

As you already know, Miss Ingle is leaving us at the end of the year to take a promotion at another primary school. We held interviews recently for a new class teacher and we are pleased to announce that we have appointed Miss Alayna Bates, who will be an NQT in September. Miss Bates is currently completing her training at a school in Boston and really impressed us during the interview process and was the standout candidate. Her induction will start at the beginning of July and so her 'new' class, and you, will have the chance to meet her before the end of this school year.

Each new school year gives us the chance to reflect on what we have done over the past year and to see where we might be able to improve going forwards. We always want to do the best we can for your children and we are constantly thinking about what we can do to help the children learn. With this in mind, exciting plans have been submitted to transform the hall into a dual purpose room. A part classroom will be created by installing a partition, lowering the ceiling and installing new lights. This will provide us with a valuable extra learning space that we currently do not have. One of the plans for this space is to split our three classes into four for each day's Maths and English lessons as follows:

Reception/Year 1	Mrs Baxter/Mrs Craft
Year 2/Year 3	Miss Stringer/Miss Thomson
Year 4/Year 5	Miss Bates/Mrs Quadling
Year 6	Mr Chipperfield

We are just awaiting final approval from the Governing Body before the work can go ahead.

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This new structure will not only keep the teaching groups smaller, but it will also help staff to ensure that teaching is more targeted at what the children need in order to progress. For the rest of the day and lessons, the children will revert to their classes and class teacher, which will follow the current structure, as follows:

Class 1	Reception/Year 1	Mrs Baxter/Mrs Craft
Class 2	Year 2/Year 3/Year 4	Miss Stringer/Miss Thomson
Class 3	Year 4/Year 5/Year 6	Miss Bates/Mrs Quadling

If you have any questions regarding this or need more clarification, please make an appointment to see Mr Chipperfield, or catch him on the door.

Pupils' artistic efforts have been rewarded.

Recently, we took part in the annual daffodil art competition organised by the Springfield's Horticultural Society and three of our children were lucky enough to win prizes! Head gardener Andy Boyton and Springfields Outreach Officer Inga Maxwell came into school and presented Leonardo, Taylor and Gabriele from Class 1 with their awards for producing the top three best daffodil paintings. The school was also presented with a £100 cheque to spend on something special for the Forest School area. Hopefully even more children will participate in next year's competition and perhaps we can even have another winner or two!

Dates

27 th June	Year 6 at Thomas Cowley Secondary School
28 th June	Year 5 "Taster day" at Thomas Cowley Secondary School
1 st July	Non Uniform day – Contributions to bring something in for a Raffle prize for the Summer Fete.
4 th July	Sports Day
5 th July	Year 6 at Spalding Academy
9 th July	Class 3 Production 6.30pm
10 th July	Class 3 Production 1.30pm
12 th July	PTFA Summer Fete 3.15 – 5.30
16 th July	Year 6 to Go Ape, Thetford
18 th July	Leaver's Assembly
19 th July	Trophy Assembly
19 th July	Last day of term

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