



DOGSTHORPE ACADEMY

Executive Principal: Mrs V Redhead

Head of Academy: Mrs E Peacock

Deputy Principal: Mr Z Warner

Central Avenue, Dogsthorpe

Peterborough PE1 4HL

Telephone: 01733 343581

Email: admin@dogsthorpeacademy.org

Website: www.dogsthorpeacademy.org

Twitter: @DogsthorpeAcad

Thursday, 28 March 2024

Newsletter: March 2024

Dear Families,

Staffing update

We are excited to welcome new staff members to the team. Mrs Peacock our new Head of Academy joins us after Easter. Mrs Peacock is an experienced school leader and will bring a wealth of skill and expertise to our academy. We have also been joined by two new members of staff in our office; Mrs Bennett, our new Office Manager & Attendance Officer and Mrs Edis, our new Office Administrator. We also have a new Premises Officer, Mr Cymberlist – I know many of you have already met Mr Cymberlist on the playground - thank you for making him feel so welcome.

Communication with the academy

A gentle reminder, should you wish to contact a member of our staff team, please make contact either face-to-face at the school office, by telephone or via email on admin@dogsthorpeacademy.org. We will respond as soon as possible regarding your query during school hours. Our class teachers continue to be contactable via class dojo – this is something we will be reviewing in the Summer term. If you contact via class dojo, please do not expect a response outside normal school opening hours or over the weekend. We will only respond to those with parental responsibility, not wider family members.

Academy uniform

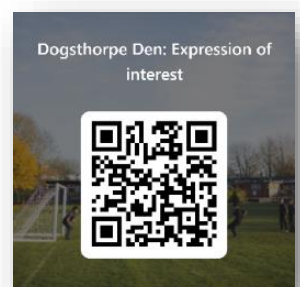
Please can I take this opportunity to remind parent/carers of our uniform policy. Further details can be found on our website here [Dogsthorpe Academy - Uniform](#)

- Children should wear black school shoes, not trainers with their uniform
- Pupils may wear plain, black tracksuits over their Dogsthorpe Academy PE kit on PE days only

Whilst many of our families adhere to our academy policy, there are still a number of children who regular come to school not wearing appropriate uniform. Uniform creates both a sense of pride and belonging. Please be advised, after Easter, in the event, any child(ren) are sent to school not wearing academy uniform, we will make contact and request uniform be brought to school. If you are experiencing financial difficulty and require any support providing uniform, please do talk to us. Likewise, any donations of good condition uniform that your child has grown out of would be gratefully received.

Dogsthorpe Den

This half term we reopened our Breakfast Club and After School Club running out of the Dogsthorpe Den. We are currently almost full to capacity at Breakfast Club. We do still have a small number of places at After School Club. We are able to offer places for pupils at Dogsthorpe Academy, Dogsthorpe Infant School and other Greenwood Academy schools. To register your interest please complete the attached form link or visit our website. Our **Easter HAF Camp** (funded places for pupils eligible for pupils entitled to Free School Meals) is now full. We will also be offering a four-week funded HAF Camp in the Summer holidays – please look out for details.



Curriculum Redesign

This term we have launched a new curriculum offer. This is now available to view on our website. Please do take a look! www.dogsthorpeacademy.org > under the Curriculum section



Lujenna Project

We are delighted to be working with the Country Trust, taking part in their Lujenna Project, bringing opportunities for children leaving in City Centre locations to visit farms. During the Spring Term, all of our Year 3 pupils were given the opportunity to visit Harvest Farm in Farcet. They had a great day learning about types of soils and where our food comes from. The children were fascinated listening to the worms using specialist sound equipment – as one pupil shared, “It sounded like they were having a party!” During the Summer term, all Year 4, 5 & 6 pupils will also take part in farm visits linked to their year groups curriculum – details to follow. Dates shared below.

Behaviour Protocol Review

We are currently reviewing our behaviour protocol for the academy, this will include a review of our reward system as well as consequences we will take for those pupils displaying inappropriate behaviour. Whilst many of our children display excellent behaviour, we wish to take the opportunity to remind all families of the behaviours that we will not tolerate. Behaviours we will not accept in the academy include:

Any derogatory comments relating to protected groups, non-compliance, leaving the classroom without permission, swearing, disruption of the learning of others, physical aggression toward other pupils or staff. We expect all parent/carers to support us with the above. All our pupils and staff have the right to feel respected and safe in the academy and to learn without disruption from others.

School attendance matters!

Mrs Bennett our new Office Manager & Attendance Officer will be making contact with all families after the Easter holidays where attendance meets the governments definition of “persistent absentee”. This is any pupil whose absence has fallen below 89%. Mrs Bennett will be out on the school gate each morning with Mrs Peacock, Head of Academy to promote the importance of attending school regularly and on time. **Did you know? Arriving just 5 minutes late every day equates to 3 days of missed learning over a school year.** As a school, we follow Peterborough City Council’s Attendance policies and procedures – please be advised we will be sending letters and inviting parent/carers to attend SAM (School Attendance Meetings) where attendance has fallen below the expected threshold. This is to help us understand and support our pupils to improve their attendance. Currently 23% of our pupils are persistent absentees (have attendance below 89%), the national average is 17%. Our current whole school attendance stands at 93%, the national FFT average is 94.3%. Whilst we review every case individually, we will not authorise requests for leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please be advised, leave requests taken without authorisation may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.



Dates for your diary

Monday, 15 April 2024 Term starts
Wednesday, 24 April 2024 Mike Mullen and BMX Academy Experience Day at DGA, including whole school assembly and BMX Workshops for all Year 5 pupils
Year 6 SATs Week
Friday, 24 May 2024 Term ends

WC 29, May 2024

MAY HALF TERM

Monday, 3 June 2024 Year 6 Larch Class visit to Whitehall Farm, detail to follow
WC 3, June 2024 Year 4 MTC (Multiplication tables check) testing week
Monday, 10 June 2024 BMX Academy Experience Day including whole school assembly and Scooter Workshops for all Year 3 pupils
Monday, 10 June 2024 Year 6 Maple Class visit to Whitehall Farm, detail to follow
Tuesday, 11 June 2024 Year 6 Cherrytree Class visit to Whitehall Farm, detail to follow
Friday, 14 June 2024 Team from Year 5/6 to GAT Athletics Tournament, Braunstone, Leicester
Monday, 17 June 2024 Year 4 Chestnut Class visit to Bulwick Farm, Northampton
Wednesday, 19 June 2024 Year 4 Elm Class visit to Bulwick Farm, Northampton
Friday, 21 June 2024 Year 4 Ash Class visit to Bulwick Farm, Northampton
Wednesday, 3 July 2024 Move Up Day (Time in new classes for 2024 25)
Friday, 5 July 2024 Year 5 Sycamore & Birch classes to visit Park Farm, Thorney

Friday, 19 July 2024 Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday, 19 July 2024 Term ends

Thank you for your continued support. Have a restful Easter holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs V Redhead
Executive principal

