

Captain's Close Newsletter

April 2016

Hello Everyone

Wow..where has the time gone?

As we move into May we move into SATs season. At Captain's Close we recognise the importance of developing skills and knowledge throughout the year, rather than focusing all our attention on test results. Our teachers assess children as an integral part of our teaching process and, with changes to National expectations this year, we have spent a lot of time working across school and the Trust getting up to speed with these and making sure we support children in achieving the very best they can. However, we are aware we are part of a National accountability framework and this forms part of the Ofsted agenda. The tests are very different this year, and expectations are much higher. It is important parents understand that we do not talk about levels any more, but Age Related expectations. As children develop at different rates, they may be at different stages in achieving these, but this is where we pitch our teaching. In mixed age classes, our teachers consider this very carefully in terms of organising learning.

We are keen that children develop a healthy attitude to tests and challenges they inevitable face as part of life, and to that end, we do not routinely test continuously throughout the year, but we do integrate challenge and risk taking into our teaching activities. All we ever ask children is to approach tests with is a positive attitude to learning and a commitment to doing their best. If they do this routinely as part of everyday learning behaviours then they have nothing to worry about.

We know children and families may undergo some anxieties in the run up and we encourage children to keep up little and often learning activities at home to support their growing confidence, then we aim to support all children positively during SATs week, starting with breakfast in school. Usually the children quite enjoy realising how much they have developed as learners and get a sense of pride from facing ...and finishing them.

One week in their life does not define the amazing people they are...and only assesses a small area of their achievements across our much wider curriculum skills. This is what we will focus on celebrating in their end of year festivities...Productions, Sports days , art events, trips and the Leavers' assembly.

Let's enjoy our Summer Term! (Hopefully it will get warmer!)

Staffing

I am now able to announce that we are expecting a new addition to the Captain's Close family...well Mr and Mrs Llewellyn are! Many congratulations ...and we can't wait to meet baby Llewellyn who is due to arrive in September. This means that Mrs Llewellyn will be starting her

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Maternity leave as we all return to school. Mrs Chapman will be welcoming our new Reception Class in the Autumn term and will be working with Mrs Llewellyn and our parents and children to ensure they have a smooth and welcoming transition into their life at Captain's Close. Mr Simon Toole, who some of you know from DSAT arts events and may have seen around school recently, will be taking on Mrs Llewellyn's leadership role in school as Key Stage 1 Phase lead and will be our Year 2 class teacher next year. We are very excited to be welcoming him to our team and I know everyone will give him a warm welcome. Mr Toole is visiting school regularly to get up to speed with the organisation of the school and to get to know our children so we will be ready for the new term. He is also working closely with the leadership team and class teachers to make sure we continue to build on the firm foundations we already celebrate.

Secondary Ready

I had a great meeting with some of the other Melton Senior Leaders looking at opportunities to support children for transition to secondary. We visited Longfield School and had a tour to see all the fantastic developments they have worked on this year. There are plans for Year 5 workshops and an open event in the Autumn term, but they are also having an opening evening the same day as ours from 6pm (ours is earlier to accommodate families who may want to visit both). Alternatively, individual visits can be arranged with the headteacher.

We also discussed curriculum expectations and how we can all work together to increase curriculum offers for all children in the area, and how we can share expertise. I loved the new Reading room and the vibrant atmosphere across the school. Staff have been working with Primary teachers across Melton to make sure they build on the progress they make with us to help children meet the emotional demands of the move to Secondary school.

Bikes and Scooters

Please note that due to health and Safety Concerns these are not to be used on the playground at all, particularly before and after school.

FOACC

Hello from the FOACC Team! Firstly we would like to thank all those that came and supported our Family Bingo Night a few months ago! We raised a fantastic £204.50. We would also like to thank all the children that took part in the sponsored bounce earlier this week. Please remember to return your sponsorship money by **Monday 23rd May**. Please send it into school in an envelope marked "Sponsored Bounce" We are looking to help the school raise funds towards new changing facilities including a shower/toilet for the swimming pool, so all your help and support will be very much appreciated.

Future Events;

[Friday 20th May](#) - Family Fun Night (more details to follow)

[Thursday 30th June](#) - Summer Fete (after school) There will be a dress down day before the fete in exchange for Tombola items.

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In our school we:
Follow instructions with thought and care.
Care for everyone and everything
Show good manners at all times



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Primary School

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Dates for your diary Please note these are subject to change

April 29th	Gym finals
May 1st	Help4Heroes Choir
May 2nd	Bank Holiday
wc May 9th	Year 6 SATs PLEASE ENSURE CHILDREN ARE IN
May 12th	Coffee and chat 2pm all welcome
May 13th	New EYFS Parent meeting 10am
May 20th	FOACC Family Evening
May 24th	Y456 Parents Unicef workshop e Safety
May 27th	Quad Kids
May 27th	HALF TERM BEGINS
June 8th	Literacy Parliament
June 10th	New EYFS Stay and Play
June 11th	Pupil Science Conference
June 13th	Parent Maths workshops
June 14th	EYFS Transition visit
June 15th	Arts parliament
June 16th	Year 2 trip
June 23rd	Open evening ALL Welcome 4pm-6pm
June 24th	Non uniform (Items for Fete)
June 28th	Production
June 29th	Production
June 30th	Summer fete 3:15pm
July 1st	DSAT Awards night 6pm Marriott Hotel(some children and parents have been nominated)
July 2nd	Summer Fete
July 4th	RSC Stratford production (Y456 trip)
July 6th (provisional)	Sports Day
July 8th	Reports to parents
July 15th	Leavers' assembly 9am
Open evening and new starters dates to follow.	
Wc 18th July Summer Drama workshops: Please see office to sign up	
Children back to school August 30th	

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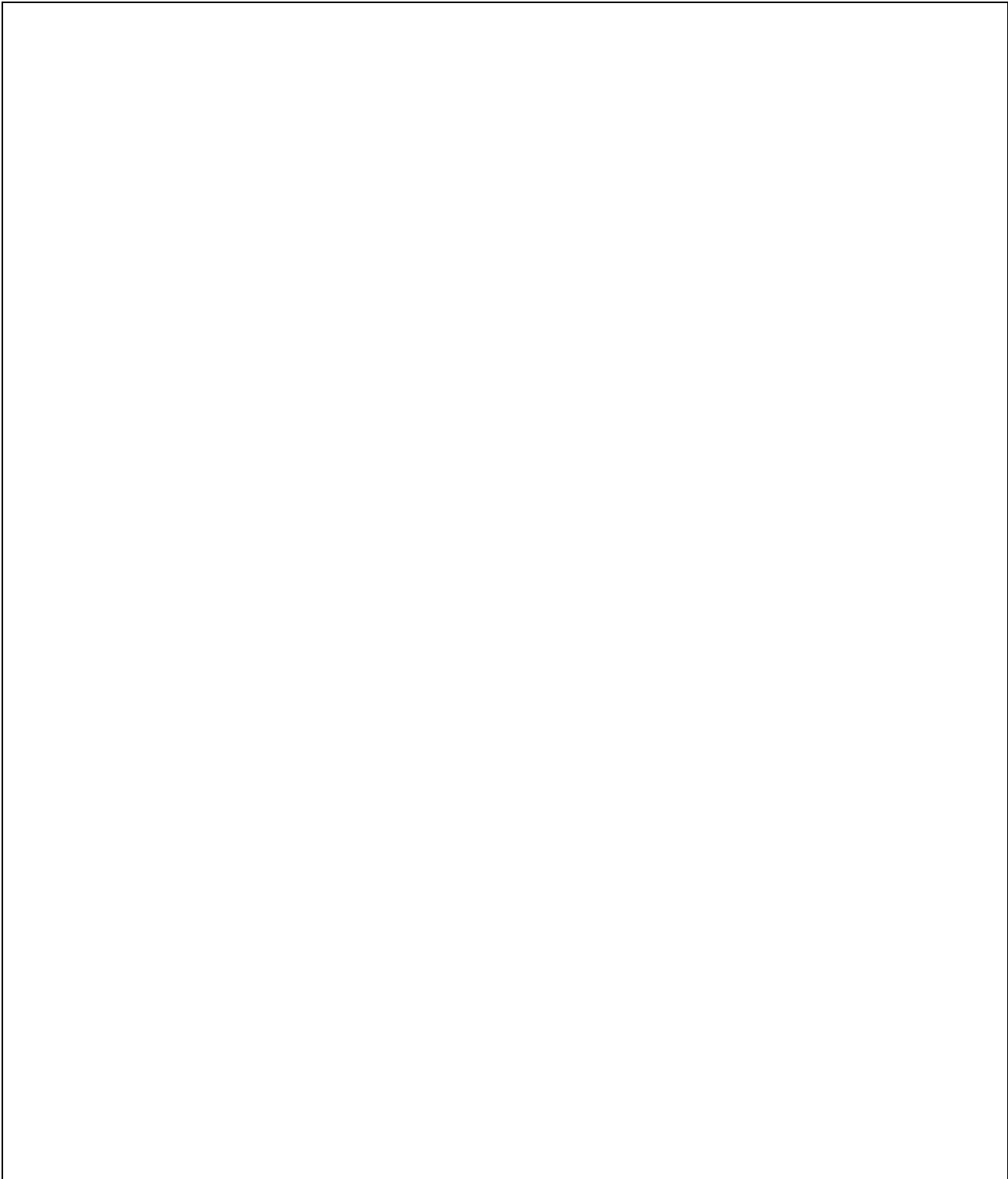
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