



Newsletter

January 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year everyone and welcome back to the new term. I hope you all had a lovely break.

For those of you who didn't see the letter that went out at the end of term, I am pleased to inform you that the Governors have appointed an excellent Head Teacher to take over from me at the end of this term. Mrs Shelley Bennett is currently the Deputy Head Teacher at Crescent Primary in Mansfield and I am sure she will build on the strengths of the school in taking John T. Rice into the future.

Yet again we have some exciting things planned for this term so please make a note of the dates opposite.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Zoe Anderson
Head Teacher

Infant/Junior Admissions

Just a reminder to all parents of children currently in the Nursery and in Year 2. Online admissions to Full Time school (F2) or to Newlands Junior School need to be completed by 15th January. Your child will not automatically get a place so we urge you to apply as soon as possible.

Website

This is a reminder that our school website is www.johntrice.notts.sch.uk. There are always copies of the newsletters on there as well as other information and important dates. Each class also has their own page on the website where you can see what has been going on in school.

Contact Details

Some of you may have had new phones and contact numbers over the Christmas period. Please can we ask that you inform school of any new phone numbers, including those of emergency contacts, as soon as possible to ensure we can get hold of you if needed.

Diary Dates

15 th & 16 th Jan	Ranger Matt from Vicar Water den building with children
15 th Jan	Closing date for Infant/Junior Admissions
31 st Jan	am Year 2 visiting Garibaldi College
13 th Feb	Parents Maths Morning
15 th Feb	Break up for half term
16 th Feb	INSET Day
26 th Feb	Back to school
1 st Mar	World Book Day
2 nd Mar	Blue Class to visit Allotment
9 th Mar	Red Class to visit Allotment
16 th Mar	Green Class to visit Allotment
20 th Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews
22 nd Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews
23 rd Mar	Pink Class to visit Allotment
23 rd Mar	Sports Relief
27 th Mar	Easter Fundraiser
29 th Mar	Break up for Easter
16 th Apr	Children back to school
20 th Apr	Purple Class to visit Allotment
27 th Apr	Blue Class to visit Allotment
4 th May	Red Class to visit Allotment
4 th May	May Day Picnic
7 th May	May Day – No School
8 th May	Class Photographs
11 th May	Green Class to visit Allotment
18 th May	Pink Class to visit Allotment
22 nd May	Parent Morning
25 th May	INSET Day

Breakfast & After School Club

Our Clubs are very popular and we do have waiting lists for some days. Please ensure that you have booked in at the school office at least the day before and that if you have booked a place but no longer require it you let us know asap so that we can offer it to someone else.

PE Kits

Could we please remind you that for PE your child needs a named bag containing a **white /emerald green round necked T-shirt, navy/black shorts and plimsolls/trainers**. A set of PE Kit in a bag can be bought online from School Trends.

On days when your child takes part in PE, could we please ask that all jewellery is removed and hair is tied back. If earrings are new and cannot be removed then please provide plasters/tape to cover them.

Uniform

As the weather is colder, can we please remind parents that children need to come to school in suitable clothing including a warm coat for playtimes. Please can we ask that all uniform is named, including hats, gloves and scarves. We are having a large number of items left at school, particularly when the children are changing for PE, which we cannot trace. We understand how expensive uniform can be so would like to ensure it gets returned to the right owner.

Water Bottles

We recognise the importance of keeping hydrated during the day and the impact on learning so please can you ensure your child has their water bottle in school on a Monday morning. Each child is given a water bottle when they start at the school but if you wish to replace this you can do from the school office for £2. Water bottles are emptied daily and the lids sterilised at school but we then send them home on a Friday to be cleaned thoroughly.

Attendance / Punctuality

Although our attendance target for this year is to get over 96%, the Supreme Court have ruled that good attendance is every day that the school is open. For December we reached **95.8%** which is below what is expected.

Class Attendance for December

Green Class	93.3%
Pink Class	94.8%
Purple Class	95.4%
Red Class	97.3%
Blue Class	97.5%

Well done to **Blue Class** for having the best attendance last month! Let's try and get all our classes over 96% next month.

Some of you will have already received letters if we are concerned about your child's attendance or punctuality and we will continue to monitor this closely. Obviously we understand that your child is unable to come to school if they are ill, however if their attendance is below 90% they are a cause for concern for us.

Please make sure you phone the school before 9.00am on the first day of your child's absence. If you do not phone or give us a reason for the absence, it will be marked down as unauthorised.

Punctuality continues to be an issue, with almost 20 hours of learning time being lost in December alone. Please can we also remind you that our doors open at **8.40am** to give the children time to put their coats and bags away before they start at **8.45am**. The children have important 'morning jobs' that they do at this time to consolidate and improve their learning.

We also finish the school day at **3.15pm** and staff often have meetings after school so we would appreciate your promptness in collection.

