



Fulmodeston Rd, Stibbard, Norfolk,
NR21 0LT

Tel: 01328 829228,

Email: office@stibbard-allsaints.norfolk.sch.uk

website: www.stibbardallsaints.com

Holt Rd, North Elmham, Norfolk,
NR20 5JS

Tel: 01362 668318,

Email: office@northelmham.norfolk.sch.uk



Newsletter week beginning 24th April 2023

DIARY DATES

Dear families,

We have some disrupted weeks ahead and I wanted to write and explain what is happening, what it will look like for your child(ren) and why.

Teacher Strikes:

Taken from the NEU (National Education Union)

'Teachers don't want to be out on strike. We want to be in the classroom, doing what we do best – teaching and supporting our pupils. But education is being destroyed by a Government that doesn't value us or the work we do.'

Teachers and support staff are leaving the jobs they love because of years of low pay rises and high workload. One in four teachers leave within three years of qualification – a third within five.

Special needs support assistants leave for jobs with higher pay, less hours and less stress. Hundreds and thousands of children are taught by staff who are not qualified in the subject they are teaching.

Primary class sizes are the highest in Europe. And secondary class sizes the highest since records began. Schools need funds to give your children the education they deserve. And teachers and support staff need to be paid properly for the essential work they do.'

I do, personally understand the impact of striking on our children and families. Our teachers are striking for the future of our profession and for all of us.

For that, I thank them.

Summer Term:

Industrial Action/Teacher strike days: 27th April and 2nd May.

Bank holiday Monday's: 1st and 8th May.

Y6 SATs week: 9th – 12th May.

Breakfast for Y6 from 8am in the hall.

Residentials: Y3, 4 and 6 throughout May.

Half term: 29th May – 2nd June.

Sports day 22nd (North Elmham) and 23rd (All Saints) June

Reserve: (29th/30th June)

New Teacher day: 12th July

School reports to parents: 7th July

Leavers celebrations: 19th July.

Last day of Summer term: 21st July.



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SATs:

What are SATs?

SATs are national curriculum tests that measure children's academic development. SATs are authored and distributed to schools by the STA (Standards and testing agency).

SATs are taken at the end of each key stage (KS) KS1 – end of Y2, KS2 – end of Y6 and KS3 – end of Y9. In Y2, the children are assessed by their teachers. In Y6 the children will sit their first externally marked tests which are sat in test conditions.

The children are tested on English grammar, punctuation and spelling. English reading and Maths. English writing is teacher assessed.

We know some of our year 6 pupils are feeling anxious. All we ask of them is that they do their best! On the week of the KS2 SATs (Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May) we will open school at 8am for breakfast for Y6 if they would like to join us. This will give them time in school to prepare for their tests to begin at 9.15.

Tuesday 9 th May	Wednesday 10 th May	Thursday 11 th May	Friday 12 th May
9.15 English grammar and punctuation (45 mins)	9.15 English reading (1h)	9.15 Maths 1 (30 mins)	9.15 Maths 3 (45 mins)
10.30 English Spelling (30 mins)		10.30 Maths 2 (45 mins)	

For more information on SATs:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-and-2-national-curriculum-tests-information-for-parents>

Victoria McConnell



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