



WELCOME BACK

It is lovely to have everyone back for a new school year!

Children have settled into the routines of their new classes very well today. We look forward to seeing our Reception Class make new friendships with each other, while children in other classes develop their relationships with each other and their new teachers. Throughout the school, children are excited about new topics. We have an exciting healthy week next week (so children will need their PE kit every day) and we are looking forward to seeing some great work over the coming weeks!

Parent/Teacher meetings

There will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher on Wednesday 12th September. There will be 2 sessions; one at 5.30 and then repeated at 6pm (In case you have a child in more than one class). No appointment needed.

This is an excellent opportunity to find out new routines and expectations and share important information.

We hope to see you there!



PE Kits:

There has been an increasing problem over the summer term with pupils not having any or correct PE kit. Could you please ensure that pupils have both an indoor and outdoor kit – this is especially important for KS2 pupils as many of our games activities take place on the school field. This should include plimsolls, school shorts and school t-shirt, which can be bought from JD Fashions in Seaham Harbour, as well as trainers for outdoor PE because plimsolls can be slippery on the field. Please note that children need to have a change of footwear and top – they will not be able to wear the shoes and polo shirt they wear during the school day. You might also wish to include a hoodie and tracksuit bottoms for cold weather.

All schools receive extra funding for those families on a low income and who are entitled to free school meals. In addition to free school meals, school also provides free milk for these children. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals, please call at the office with your name, date of birth and NI number. Thank you.

We have a sponsored run taking place next week. Please see the attached sheet from Mrs Parlett.



back2school prayer

Dear Lord, use my eyes to see new friends.
Open my ears to hear my teacher.
Open my mind to learn new things.
Let my heart remember YOU are ever when I'm absent.
Help me to love others like you do.
I want to shine your light if so bright in my school.
Amen

Early Morning Routines

- Access to school is via the footpath next to the church. If you are arriving by car, please join this footpath, so leaving the school gates free for deliveries etc. This is for the safety of the children.
- Children should be arriving around 8.45am to ensure they are ready to line up when the bell goes.
- When the bell rings at 8.55am, we would like parents to allow the children to line up independently please. Parents should not be standing in line with children holding their bags etc, or walking into school with their child's line. Also it would be appreciated if parents left the main yard when the bell rings before the children walk into school.
- If you are waiting for the start of the day, your child can stand with you until the bell rings. All other children must be on the school yard, not standing with/among parents or on the path leading to the gate.
- We are sorry, but we are unable to open the daisy path gate at the moment (please see the attached letter).

Music Lessons

Years 4, 5 & 6

Guitar lessons -

Monday

Years 5 & 6 Violin lessons - Friday.



As part of their music curriculum, school pays for Year 3 to have First Access violin lessons from Durham music service. This happens every Friday morning and violins are kept in school, not sent home like private music lessons. There will be a concert at Christmas so you can see your child play.

If you have a new mobile number or you have changes such as addresses, home numbers etc, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Families are invited to come along.



Parents are welcome to come for tea/coffee from 9am.

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| 14th September (9:10am) in school | Year 6 Assembly |
| 21st September (9:10am) in school | Year 5 Assembly |
| 5th October (9:10am) in school | Year 4 Assembly |
| 19th October (9:10am) in school | Year 3 Assembly |
| 9th November (9:10am) in school | Year 2 Assembly |
| 23rd November (9:10am) in school | Year 1 Assembly |

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Thank you to those parents who try and keep medical appointments outside of school time.

We know at times appointments in school time can't be helped, but please keep appointments to as close to 9am or 3pm as possible. If an appointment is in the middle of the day, children should be in school before/after the appointment. Evidence of a medical appointment should be taken to the office.

OFFICE HOURS

The office is manned at the following times:

Monday: 8.30am-4pm
Tuesday: 8am-4pm
Wednesday:
8am-4pm
Thursday: 8.30am-4pm
Friday: 8am-4pm

Please remember we are now cashless, It is a new system and we are learning as well as you! If you have any difficulties, please contact the school office and Mr Graham can help you between 2.50 and 3.30pm or before school.

Attendance

As mentioned in previous newsletters the government has given new guidelines to schools that mean that family holidays during term time cannot be authorised. Any holiday requests will unfortunately have to be declined unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Absence

The school has a messaging service on our school telephone number (5813090) for parents to record their child's absence. This should be done as soon as possible at the start of the school day on the first day of absence.

Lateness

Lateness can cause serious disruption to the learning of all children in school. There can be NO excuse for children being late on a regular basis. The new Durham County guidelines state that lateness will be recorded on your child's record and will remain on their record throughout their school life.

Children arriving after the close of registration (9.15am) will be deemed absent without permission. Anybody who arrives after 8.55 must be brought to the entrance by an adult.