



WELCOME BACK

A big welcome back to all our children both old and new! We hope you have all had a fantastic summer.

It has been a real joy to see all of the children return from their summer holidays looking so smart and we would like to thank all of our parents for their efforts in this. We look forward to working with everyone this year.

Teacher Meetings Year 1 – Year 6

There will be a chance to meet your child's teacher on Tuesday 12th September to discuss the year ahead and class routines.

For parents who have children in more than one class, there are 2 sessions available at 5.30pm & 6.00pm.

Please try to attend these meetings to enable you to support your child fully with school/homework etc.

UNIFORM

I have been impressed with how smart many of the children are looking. May I remind you that uniform states:

Black shoes/trainers (brightly coloured shoes/trainers are not allowed).

Jewellery should not be worn other than a wrist watch or stud earrings.

No nail varnish or make up should be worn for school.

As you will appreciate, it is vital that your child's name should be on all uniform, PE kits etc. It is impossible to return unnamed items to their owner.

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.

Jewellery

I know that many schools have banned the wearing of earrings due to health and safety concerns. Our policy has been to allow children to wear studs only for school **BUT they must remove earrings to take part in PE.** I have already noticed that some children are not keeping to this policy and I would ask for your support in this. We must take every precaution to minimise the risk of injury to the children.

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.

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.

Music Lessons

Years 4, 5 & 6 Guitar lessons - Thursday

Years 5 & 6 Violin lessons - Friday.

Please ensure your child brings their instrument on the relevant day.



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.*

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 right when I'm afraid.
Help me to love others like you do.
I want to shine your light so bright in my school.
Amen

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Parents are invited to come along.

15th September (9:10am) in school	Year 6 Assembly
22nd September (9:10am) in school	Mini Vinnies (anyone welcome)
6th October (9:10am) in school	Year 5 Assembly
13th October (9:10am) in school	Year 4 Assembly
3rd November (9:10am) in school	Year 3 Assembly
10th November (9:10am) in school	Year 2 Assembly
17th 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

All monies (except yellow breakfast club) should be sent to class with your child in an envelope. Please use pink envelopes for dinners.

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.