

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

Head Teacher: Mrs P Monk
Deputy: Mrs E Atkinson

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April Newsletter

What's been happening in school?

Another busy time across the classrooms in the last two weeks!

- We were able to take 60 pupils to the leisure centre to see food workshops as part of the Bishop Auckland Food Festival – the children really enjoyed their trip.
- Year 6 pupils took part in a netball competition – brilliant bronze medals.
- Year enjoyed a superb visit to Richmond Castle and Easby Abbey last week.
- We held our Bank Launch this week – we have our first parent and pupil savers – your child has an application form and we would strongly encourage you to get them to start saving – **forms should be returned by Friday 4th May** so we can process these and get back books ready! We will let you know when to start sending in your child's money each week – this will be collected on Wednesday mornings.
- Year 5 enjoyed their Outdoor and Adventure Activities at Hardwick Park – a super morning.
- Year 4 had a fabulous time at Newcastle United football ground to have a tour and undertake a workshop on Show Racism the Red Card.
- Our fantastic reading stars have been for their awards this week – keep encouraging your child to read at home and they can also win.
- Family group winners will be having their treat soon.

Reminders

- Let's hope the good weather is here for a while – remember to send your child in with a cap and to apply sun cream at the start of day – to prevent any injuries, please ensure no flip flops are worn as the school floors are slippery.
- We are still waiting for some pupils to return their new school menus. Until these are returned children will have to choose from the sandwich selection.
- School meals will be increasing from September 2018 to £2.05 per day - £10.25 per week.
- **Parent Governor** - we still have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in this important role.

Staffing news

- We congratulate Mrs Alderson on the birth of her baby, George. We look forward to seeing him soon.

Attendance - Our current attendance is still at 95.6% - this is slightly below the expected 96% target for schools; your support in helping us improve and maintain a good standard of attendance is vital.

- Remember pupils whose attendance falls below 90% are classed as persistent absentees. Any absence will need to be supported by medical evidence. We will monitor this absence with the Local Authority. If you would like to discuss any concerns about attendance, please contact school.
- Please also remember, we are not authorised to grant leave of absence in term time except for exceptional circumstances, and the Local Authority will now intervene if your child accrues **seven days or more** of unauthorised absence in a term.

Reminders:

- We politely ask that parents **do not drive into school to drop off or pick up – especially into the staff car parking area**, unless by prior agreement with the headteacher; some children are dropped off by prior arrangement so we cannot lock the gates – however, no-one should be driving in unless you have arranged this with the headteacher.
- **Free School Meals** - Do you think your child is entitled to Free School Meals? Are you unsure? **Then please ask at the main office and complete a form – we can then check for you.**
- Remember we are able to offer parents **After School Care** via **Jack in the Box Daycare** – this runs from 3.15 – 5.45pm each night. Contact school for registration forms and cost information.

Mrs P Monk
30.4.18



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Diary Dates

May

- 3 Father John Assembly
- 7 **School closed – May Day**
- 10 Year 1 trip to Shildon Locomotion
- 10 Year 4 trip to Arboretum
- 10 Year 3 OAA activities – Hardwick Park
- 14th – 18th May – **KS2 SATs**
- 22 Dr Tom Robson visit to school
- 24 Year 3 Family Assembly – 10.15am
- 25 Year 6 Farm visit
- 25 Year 5 Athletics festival
- 25 Chef visit to school
- 25 **School closes for half term – reopens 4th June**

June

- 4 Year 6 Police workshops – 5 weeks
- 5 Year 6 Treat day – visit to Weardale House – OAA activity
- 7 Whole school skipping workshop
- 11 **Phonics screening week – KS1**
- 12 Year 6 Leaver's Service – Durham Cathedral
- 13 Year 6 Leaver's photos
- 14&15 Adam Bushnell working in school – whole school outdoor learning visit
- 19 Kinetic Theatre – Down to Earth - show
- 20 Primary Maths Challenge
- 21 Year 1 Family Assembly – 10.15am - **change of date**
- 22 World Cup Day
- 25 New Reception class Parent meeting – 9.15am
- 26 Year 1 Farm visit
- 27 Year 4 Farm visit

July

- 2 Year 2 Farm visit
- 4 New starters – Reception class – visit morning
- 5 Move up morning and Reception class visit morning
- 5 Father John Assembly
- 6 Jet and Ben visit to EYFS
- 11 Reception class Family assembly – 10.15am
- 12 Sports for Champions day – athlete visit
- 13 Year 6 Fun Afternoon
- 16 Proposed Sport afternoon
- 18 Year 6 Leaver's Show
- 19 Year 6 – Chef visit
- 20 **School closes for Summer. Re-opens Tuesday 4th September 2018**

