

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

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End of term Newsletter 2018

What a lovely end of term we have had – it has been so nice to see parents in school enjoying the wonderful Christmas performances, the carol singing and craft mornings, as well as having the opportunity to join the children at Stay and Play and Stay and Read sessions. As we have some parents in school who have requested we do not share any photographs of children online, please can you respect their wishes and ensure that if you have taken any photographs and choose to post them, they are only of your own child.

We have enjoyed a lot of activities in these last few weeks:

- Children have enjoyed taking part in the gymnastics festival
- The DLI visited school to undertake a workshop with Year 6 pupils – some fascinating work was done with pupil
- Children have enjoyed listening to 'Tilly Two Tales' – a storyteller working with classes in RE workshops
- Year 6 enjoyed a visit from the Life Centre, undertaking some amazing science work
- The children enjoyed their visits to Santa in the Town Hall this week
- Year 2 enjoyed an amazing visit to the Methodist Church this week, taking part in the 'Christmas Journey'
- We are all partied out this week – and we also enjoyed our delicious Christmas Lunch in school.
- Parents enjoyed a Christmas activity morning in Nursery
- We closed the term with our exciting Christmas X-Factor contest – always a highlight of the year to see children working together, joining in with the fun and ending our term on a spectacular high.

Your ongoing support in school is always appreciated – donations for mufti days, cookies and juice, etc. have all helped support activities in school for the children (such as the Christmas Party discos, party food, Christmas presents, awards and prizes etc.), as well as helping us to continue to reduce the costs of visits and visitors for the all the children to enjoy throughout the year.

We would like to take this opportunity in wishing Mrs Swindells luck – she 'temporarily' leaves us today to begin her maternity leave – we can't wait to meet the new arrival and look forward to seeing you and your family in the New Year!

Attendance

Overall attendance for the term for the whole school is 94.7% - this falls below the current Government target of 96%. End of term attendance certificates (up to Weds 19th December) are being sent home today. Well done to everyone who has a green certificate – this term we have seen a couple of nasty bugs and understandably some children have absence through illness. And well done to those pupils who have 100% attendance – 33 pupils this term!

If your child has a red certificate, this means attendance has fallen below 90%, which is considered by Government to be persistent absence. Medical evidence will need to be provided for any future absence due to illness. Where attendance falls below 90% and there are unauthorised absences, this may result in the Local Authority taking enforcement action. If you have any concerns about attendance, please contact Mrs Harris in school.

Reminders:

- An updated list of diary dates is attached for your convenience.
- Any child wishing to join the **school bank** and start saving each week, please see Mrs Harris – we collect and bank monies every week.
- Please remember to avoid nut based products in packed lunches – for those pupils on packed lunch we do not allow sweets of any kind, fizzy drinks or pop.
- Your child has a **reading book** to read over the holiday break – please remember to return these to school on the first day back. Your support in encouraging reading is much appreciated.
- A reminder that we ask that parents **do not drive into school to drop off or pick up, including for breakfast club – especially into the staff car parking area** - unless by prior agreement with the headteacher. The speed limit for those with permission is 5mph – some parents are not adhering to this,



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unfortunately.

- We are continuing to look at the feasibility of offering full day Nursery provision. If anyone is interested and eligible, and would like a 30 hour place, please can you let Mrs Harris know; I will let you know if we have enough interest in order to offer this to families in future.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Mrs P Monk

Spring Term Dates - 2019

January

Tuesday 8th - School reopens for teaching purposes

- 8 Foundation of Light assembly
- 10 KS1 PE coaching starts – 5 weeks; Year 1 and 2 pupils must have a PE kit
- 16 Year 1 Multiskills
- 16 Y5 Beamish Museum – outreach programme workshop in school
- 18 Year 6 visit to Tyneside Cinema – film making
- 22 Basketball Festival
- 24 School photographs – individuals and family groups

February

- 1 Year 5 writing workshop with Adam Bushnell
- 5 Year 4 Class Assembly
- 6 Reception class visit to Hancock Museum and Northern Stage – Bear Hunt
- 7 Valentines Disco
- 7 Year 1 visit to St Andrew's Church
- 8 Whole school fencing workshop
- 12 Theatre Show – The Selfish Giant
- 15 Reception Multiskills festival
- 15 Archery day
- 15 **School closes for half term – re-opens 25th February**
- 25 Multicultural week
- 25 Chef in school
- 26 Zulu warriors visit to school – presentation and workshops

March

- 5 Football tournament
- 22 Dance Festival
- 26 **Parent night** – more information to follow about daytime meeting dates
- 27 Intra-school sport competition

April

- 2 Class 3 Assembly
- 2 Netball Tournament
- 4 Easter Service – 2pm – St Andrew's Church
- 5 **School closes for Easter break. Re-opens Tues 23rd April 2019.**

May 13-16 – KS2 SAT week

June 10-14 – KS1 Phonics Check week

