

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

Head Teacher: Mrs P Monk
Deputy: Mrs E Atkinson

Tel: 01388 815943
Fax: 01388 815260

E-mail: northpark@durhamlearning.net
Web-site: www.northpark.durham.sch

End of Spring Term Newsletter

What's been happening in school?

Another busy time across the classrooms!

- A big thank you for the support you showed to our good cause this term – Sport Relief raised **£92.80**.
- Key stage 2 pupils were amazing in the rehearsals for and production of the Wind Road Boys – it was lovely to be involved in this project.
- Year 6 delivered a fabulous assembly on the Titanic – great to see all of their hard work. Well done!
- Thank you to all those parents who visited school for this term's parents' meetings, and thank you to the Dentist for the screening and check-ups!
- Whitworth Park organised a transition visit for pupils attending in September.
- Friends of the School organised an Easter 'Name the Bunny' competition and Easter Egg decoration competition – thank you for the support you have shown **Friends of the School** – the activities they have organised help raise funds for events and resources in school. Their hard work is always much appreciated.
- Year 3 and 4 pupils loved the Gymnastics festival they attended.
- Year 5 also delivered an assembly this month – we found out all about Earnest Shackleton and his expedition – a brilliant assembly. Well done!
- Key Stage 2 pupils have enjoyed a visit from the Mad Alice Theatre Company – they enjoyed a great show and follow up workshops.
- Our Easter service at St Andrew's Church was a lovely way to end the term.

School Bank

- We are excited to announce we will be launching our new **School Bank** after the Easter holidays. We are inviting you to a coffee morning where we will explain more about the Durham Savers scheme. There is also the opportunity for parents (and school staff!) to join the savings scheme – a great way to save for a rainy day or special occasion! There will be lots of financial advice available too for families. We will send more information out after the holiday – in the meantime out the date in your diary – **Thursday 26th April – 9am**.

Reminders

- Book day activities have also been rearranged for Thursday 29th March – come dressed up or in pyjamas, for the share a story and book swap activities.
- After Easter Year 1 pupils will go swimming again for half a term, followed by Year 2 in the second half term. Year 3 continue to go swimming.
- **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 say a fond (temporary) farewell to Mrs Alderson this week – her baby is due just after the Easter holidays – we are all looking forward to meeting the new arrival!
- Our congratulations also go to Mrs Willcock and her husband, who are expecting a baby in September.

Attendance - Our current attendance is 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.

- You will be receiving your child's certificate for the year up to the end of Tues. this week. Well done if you are Green (96% or more) – for those who are Amber (90 – 95.9%) or Red (below 90%) there is still time to improve your attendance in the coming term.
- 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.



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- **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
28.3.18

Diary Dates

March

- 28 Art Exhibition
- 29 Book Day fun activities – dress up, share a story, book swap
- 29 **School closes for Easter Break. Re-opens 16th April**

April

- 16 **School re-opens**
- 17 Bishop Auckland Food Festival workshops
- 18 Show Racism the Red Card – NUFC stadium visit – Year 5
- 18 Year 6 Netball tournament
- 19 Year 4 visit to Richmond Castle and Easby Abbey
- 23 PCSO visit to Year 1 and 2 – What do the Police do?
- 26 School bank launch – coffee morning

May

- 3 Father John Assembly
- 7 **School closed – May Day**
- 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
- 22 World Cup Day
- 25 New Reception class Parent meeting – 9.15am
- 26 Year 1 Farm visit
- 27 Year 4 Farm visit
- 27 Year 1 Family assembly – 10.15am

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**

