

North Park Primary School



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DL16 6PP

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May 2019 Newsletter

A busy first start of term is over and children will be enjoying their half term break. We look forward to welcoming them back to the second half of this busy term!

What have we been up to?

- Reception and Nursery classes have enjoyed sessions in Yoga – it has been great to see the children joining in and doing so well!
- Year 5 and Year 2 pupils enjoyed their Outdoor Orienteering and Activity sessions at Hardwick Park – always great fun!
- Our Year 6 pupils have completed their SAT tests. Results will be here towards the end of term – whatever the outcome they should be proud of their hard work, concentration and the efforts they have put into these and other subjects over their years in primary school; they thoroughly enjoyed their well-earned visit to Weardale House at the end of SAT week (as did Miss Dobson!)
- Year 1 treated us to an amazing class assembly – all about Trains! Well done for all your super work!
- Our older children did brilliantly at the primary athletics – very impressive, with some children winning medals and places in the finals.
- Children in Year 3 and Year 6 have enjoyed visits to High Crane Lodge Farm – these are always amazing days and the rest of the school will enjoy their visits after half term.
- Year 5 and 6 pupils have had puberty and growing up talks this week, from the school nursing service.
- Year 5 pupils have enjoyed an amazing visit to the Tyneside Cinema to learn about film and film-making.
- The Rabbits Family Group have enjoyed their well-earned treat to ROF49.
- Our Nursery pupils have had a lovely day at Hall Hill Farm.
- Pupils in Early Years have also enjoyed a visit from the Fire Service this month.

Staffing news

We congratulate Mrs Spooner on her successful appointment to a new post in another County Durham school. We will miss her when he leaves North Park after many years of dedicated service and hard work, but we all wish her luck in her new role - and she has promised to keep in touch! We are currently organising classes ready for children's 'Move up' days in the next half term and I will let you know who the class teachers will be after half term.

2019-2020 School Holidays

In setting the dates for the next academic year (Sept 2019 - July 2020) we have consulted with Governors to put our professional development days together in a block, **so families can benefit from a slightly extended closure and use this as an opportunity to book holidays at a cheaper rate** that in normal school holiday time. We are giving you this information well in advance in a hope this may be beneficial in helping you choose your holiday dates and reduce the likelihood of incurring a fine from LA. As you know we are not able to authorise holidays at other times, unless in exceptional circumstances.

The planned dates when school will be closed for PD days in 2019-2020 are:

- **2nd September 2019**
- **1st, 2nd, 3rd June 2020** – these three days follow the May half term week (thus giving a slightly longer block)
- **Monday 20th July 2020**

Polite Reminders:

- **Community news** – Father Livesley has asked me to extend an invitation to children to come along to **Messy Play at St. Andrew's Church** on Sundays at 10.30 – this includes Brunch!
- **Litter** - Livin have contacted school to inform us that there is a lot of litter around the St Andrew's Lane to Lakeside Court footpath area. They have no evidence to suggest this is school's responsibility or the fault of pupils – in fact a large proportion of the waste is beer cans, glass bottles and dog waste. As a result there will be increased warden patrols around this area.
- **Uniform** – if new uniform is required, please place orders with Mrs Harris.
- **Attendance** - A reminder that we are **not** authorised to grant leave of absence in term time except for



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exceptional circumstances, and the Local Authority will now intervene if your child accrues **seven days or more** of unauthorised absence in a term (this includes ALL unauthorised absence – holidays and any unauthorised sessions, including lates after registration). If you have any concerns about attendance, please contact Mrs Harris in school.

- Please remind your child of the need to have their **PE kit** in school, in order to avoid detention!
- Any child wishing to join the **school bank** and start saving each week, please see Mrs Harris – we collect and bank monies every week.
- 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**.
- Remember we are able to offer parents **After School Care** via **Jack in the Box Day-care** – this runs from 3.15 – 5.45pm each night. Contact school for registration forms and cost information.
- **Breakfast club** begins at 8am each day – we stop serving at 8.30am, in order to clear away.

Mrs P Monk

22.5.19

Summer Dates – 2019

(further information on events will follow)

May

24

School closes for half term – re-opens 3rd June

June

3

Durham University visit – Year 3 – Ancient Greeks

5

Year 5 High Crane Lodge Farm visit

10

Year 5 visit to Whitworth Park

10-14

Key Stage 1 Phonics check week

10

Year 4 Multiplication check week

11

Sedgefield Dash – KS2

12

Year 6 Photographs

12

Year 6 Cathedral Service

14

Year 6 Multiskills Festival

17

Year 4 High Crane Lodge Farm visit

18

Reception High Crane Lodge Farm visit

18

Super Splash Heroes Show

19

Year 2 High Crane Lodge Farm visit

21

Year 1 High Crane Lodge Farm visit

24-28

Year 5 Curriculum Week – Bishop Barrington

25

Kinetic Theatre Show

25

Year 2 class assembly

July

1

New Reception starters parent meeting

1

Year 3 and 4 Thrills and Skills OAA event

2

Reception class assembly

4

New starters – visit morning

5

New starters visit morning and whole school Move Up Morning

8

Chef – Year 6

8

Chinese students visit

9

Rock Band workshops

12

Year 2 Fun afternoon

15

Chef – Year 6

17

Year 6 Leaver's Show

18

Brass Band Show

19

School closes for Summer break. Re-opens Tuesday 3rd September 2019

