

# North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,  
Spennymoor,  
Co. Durham  
DL16 6PP

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## October Newsletter 2018

### What's been happening?

We have had a great start to the new school year at North Park – lots going on and some great news to share too!

- We were delighted to be awarded the **Bronze School Games** award 2017-2018 in recognition of the work the children do and the activities that take place in PE.
- We are also delighted to be awarded **Investors in Children** again this year – we are really proud of the way pupils contribute to the ongoing life of the school and share their ideas and opinions.
- We were also awarded the **BIG Anti-Bullying award** for a further year – again this recognises the work of the children and staff in school to tackle this issue. Part of this work involved training the Buddies and Mini-buds, so children have a friend to go to on the yard and in school.
- School has also successfully achieved the **Basic Skills Quality Mark** in recognition of the work we do to targets standards in English and Maths.
  
- We enjoyed the Chef's visit to Year 2 – Sarah taught the children about lots of different healthy foods and we enjoyed tasting them too!
- The Fire Brigade and Police visited Year 3 – children loved finding out about how people help us in emergencies
- Year 1 are now experts on brushing their teeth thanks to the magician who came to school to help them learn about this!
- We have had a great series of talks and advice from the dental health nurse in several classes.
- Year 3 also had a visit from a nurse who told them how to help in an emergency.
- Local councillors, the Mayor and Mayoress visited Year 6 – what a fabulous question and answer session!
- Year 4 pupils have been learning about the importance of rules and laws with their visit to Spennymoor Police Station.
- Children showed off all their knowledge about personal, social, health and citizenship in a showcase assembly – very impressive? Debates, songs, poetry, letters, advice – wonderful work!
- Father John delivered an assembly for the children
- Year 6 have had a visit to Whitworth Park, organised by the school
- The whole school enjoyed another amazing skipping day – what fabulous skills they all showed!
- Reception class parents have attended an information meeting to support with reading at home.
- Children have been enjoying 'Top Ten Fitness' minutes each day – walking or running half a mile – we intend this to build up to a mile soon – all to help them keep fit and raise energy levels.

### Reminders:

- We will be sending out **clothes collection** bags this week in support of the **Great North Air Ambulance** – look out for the text about the collection day and start clearing out!
- Pupils in Year Reception to Year 5 – please check your text messages to ensure you have responded to the **Flu vaccination** text.
- 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 also do not allow sweets of any kind, fizzy drinks or pop. A policy offering guidance on healthy choices will be coming home to parents of children having a **packed lunch** soon.
- Please remember **reading books and bags** should be returned to school every day so we can hear children read, change books and encourage reading.
- A reminder we are holding our **Harvest Assembly** on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October – we are supporting the **Durham Foodbank** and all donations towards this are gratefully received – even just one item can help – please send donations in on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> in a carrier bag. Many thanks.
- **Attendance – your support to help us reach the Government target of 96% is vital.** Please remember we are **not** authorised to grant leave of absence in term time except for exceptional circumstances, and the Local Authority intervenes if your child accrues **seven days or more** of unauthorised absence in a term.



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Unauthorised absence could result in a penalty notice. 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.

- 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.
- Any change of personal details, phone numbers, etc – please make sure you let Mrs Harris know so we have a number to contact in emergencies.
- 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.
- A sheet with diary dates is attached for your use.

## Parent Governor

We are delighted to have had the parent governor posts filled and welcome Mrs Pentland and Ms Robinson to the Governing Body.

**Mrs P Monk**  
1.10.18



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## Diary Dates for the Autumn Term

### October

- 4 Year 1 Trip – Theatre (Snail on the Whale) and Life centre
- 5 Harvest Assembly – food bank collection
- 9 Year 1 Stay and Read – 2.15pm
- 12 Year 3 visit to Life Centre and Mandir
- 12 Year 4 Multiskills session
- 16 Year 6 Class Assembly
- 17 Year 6 visit to the Town Hall for debating session
- 18 FOS Halloween Disco – 4pm
- 19 **School closes for half term; re-opens 30<sup>th</sup> October**

### November

- 1 Poetry Showcase Assembly
- 1 Football Cup
- 2 Artyfact Theatre
- 5 and 6 Judo session

### 5-7<sup>th</sup> – Parent Meeting Week (appointments to be arranged)

- 6 **Whole School Parent Evening** (3.30-6pm)
- Afternoon sessions** (1-3pm)
- 5 Year 2 and Year 4
- 6 Reception and Year 1
- 7 Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6

- 6 Dentist in school for check-ups - afternoon and evening
- 6 School Nurse drop in session – 3.15pm
- 6 Book Fair – after school Tues to Fri.
- 7 Netball Tournament
- 8 Year 6 visit to Eden Camp
- 10 Poppy Parade
- 13 Year 5 visit to Seven Stories
- 13 Owl Man visit to Year 1
- 19 Chef in Year 5
- 27 Year 5 Class Assembly
- 28 Father John assembly

### December

- 4 Gymnastics festival
- 7 Reception to Year 5 Flu Immunisations
- 14 Year 1 and 2 Show -pm
- 17 Year 5 and 6 Carol, Craft and Coffee Morning
- 17 Year 1, 2 and 3 Disco - pm
- 18 Year 3 and 4 Carol, Craft and Coffee Morning
- 19 EYFS Show – am
- 19 Year 4, 5 and 6 Disco – pm
- 20 Reception and Nursery party and magic show – pm
- 20 Carol Service – St Andrew's Church – Year 1 to 6 – 2pm
- 21 Whole School Archery experience
- 21 **School closes; re-opens Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

