



North Park Primary School

Bessemer Green
Spennymoor
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

Head Teacher: Mrs P Monk
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April 2016 Newsletter

Building work update:

Our extension is now underway – the new yard is complete and children will soon have access to the field again too at break and lunchtimes.

Thank you for your support during this period and for your consideration in parking away from school. As we are all using one exit instead of 3 now, inevitably it takes a little longer for children to come out after lessons finish – your kind patience is appreciated. The children have coped brilliantly well with the changes.

Our Travel Plan has been submitted to the LA and the contributions of children, parents and Governors have been included in this. Our request for a change in the speed limit outside of school has also been sent off.

Staffing

After many years of very loyal service to the school, Mrs Thompson has decided to retire at the end of the summer term. She will be a huge miss and we will be very sorry to see her go, but she is looking forward to spending time with her lovely family and grandchildren. We will say a special goodbye later in the year and hope to appoint a new Administration Manager soon.

We also say a fond farewell to Lisa Rowley, our PSA, who has been successful in gaining a new post. She has worked hard to support families in school; we will still have access to a PSA shared by local cluster schools in the immediate future.

What's been happening in school?

As usual we have had a busy start to our new term!

- Year 4 had a wonderful visit to Richmond Castle and Easby Abbey – they learned all about life in medieval times and about the mystery of the Drummer Boy!
- Members of the school council have been working with a charity to find out about the impact of dementia.
- Year 5 pupils have had a puberty talk from the school nurse
- Year 4 and 5 pupils visited the settlement to take part in activities as part of the Bishop Auckland Food festival
- Some of our children have been starting to go for walks as part of our plans to encourage walking and running a mile – we want to develop pupils' stamina and fitness through regular activity.
- Year 3 developed their outdoor skills with a visit to Hardwick Park.
- Captain Raggy Beard sailed into Year 2 this week to join the pirates and bring along his stories of the sea!
- Thank you for your donations for MUFTI day – the funds will go to support ex-pupil Courtney Tallentire who has been chosen to go to the Rio Olympics. She will come in and tell the children all about this fantastic experience.

Reminders:

Attendance: A reminder that the Government has now changed the level at which children are deemed as a persistent absentee from 85% to 90%. The Local Authority has also changed the threshold at which they intervene via statutory enforcement - as you already know, 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 more than **seven days** of unauthorised absence in a term. If you have any concerns about attendance please contact school or the EWO Jen Quigley on 03000 261113 (Ferryhill One Point)

After School Care - Jack in the Box Daycare – available for after school care from 3.15 – 5.45pm each night. Contact school for registration forms and cost information.

Mrs P Monk





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Diary Dates

May

- 2 School closed for Bank Holiday. Re-opens 3rd May.
- 3 Magical Mathematicians assembly
- 9-12 KS2 SATs week
- 13 Year 2 Outdoor Orienteering – Hardwick Park
- 19 Dentist visit to school
- 23-27 Design and Make week – DT challenges
- 24 Chef in school – Year 4
- 25 Chef in school – Year 5
- 26 Year 1 Family Assembly, Also children's last day
- 27 *School closed for Staff training and half term holiday. Re-opens Monday 6th June.***

June

- 7 Father John Assembly
- 13-17 Phonics Week – Year 1 and 2 testing
- 13-17 Science week
- 17 Kinetic Theatre – Electricity Show
- 20 Year 6 Primary Maths Challenge
- 20 Reception Class – New Starter's Parent Meeting
- 22 Spennymoor Schools' Conference
- 23 Year 6 Induction visit to Whitworth Park
- 23 Reception Class – New Starters visit morning
- 23 Move-up Morning – whole school
- 24 Year 5 Outdoor Orienteering – Hardwick Park
- 27 Robinwood – Parent Meeting 5pm.
- 29 Year 2 Family Assembly
- 29 EYFS trip to Alnwick

July

- 1 Reception Class – New Starters' visit morning
- 4 Go Giver's Celebration Event – Year 5
- 6 Whole school trip to South Shields - TBC
- 8 Year 6 Fun Day
- 12 Year 5 theatre visit – the Groovy Greeks
- 14 Year 6 Show
- 15-17 Robinwood residential visit
- 19 Children's last day in school.

