

North Park Primary School

'Achieving and growing, together in friendship.'



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

Head Teacher: Mrs P Monk
Deputy: Mrs E Atkinson
Tel: 01388 815943

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

20.12.19

End of Autumn term 2019 Newsletter

Another busy month leading us into the festive season, and what a super way to end the term!

- An amazing Reception class production kicked off our festive celebrations – well done to all the superstars for their fabulous singing and performance in the ABC Nativity!
- Well done also to our superstars in Year 1 and Year 2 for their brilliant Musical performance and Christingle assembly – great stuff and you really all did wonderfully well!
- Your support for fundraising for both school and for the various charities we have supported has been so kind and heart-warming. Thank you so much for your kindness at this time of year!
 - You and staff in school have helped raise an amazing £220 for the People's Kitchen, helping them to provide 44 meals for the homeless this winter.
 - Your donations for Christmas Sock day helped raise £21 for the Teenage Cancer Trust
 - You also donated £79 for Christmas Jumper Day, in aid of Save the Children
- Friends of the School have been working non-stop over the last few weeks – thank you to them for all their hard work and dedication to the school and the children. The Christmas Fair and Christmas Raffle helped raise £393.70 for school funds – all of this money goes back to the children, to pay for Christmas presents and party activities, and to subsidise events in the future. Thank you to all those companies for their kind donations to the prizes for the raffle and well done to the lucky winners.
- Staff information - we say farewell to Mrs Cope today; we are very sad to see her leave after her years working at North Park, but wish her well in her new school. We are delighted to have appointed Mr J. Summerill as the new Year 5 teacher – he is excited about joining the school in January and has already met the children. Mrs Alderson and Mrs Eason will be taking over as teachers in Year 3 for the next two terms whilst Mrs Wood undertakes other work related to her role as SEND lead. We also look forward to seeing Mrs Swindells in January too, as she returns from maternity leave.
- Children have enjoyed a whole host of activities this month – visits to the theatre and McDonalds, and to see Fenwick's window were enjoyed by Reception class, Year 3, 4 and 5; Year 1 showed off their musical talents singing in Asda and contributing to the People's Kitchen; Year 5 loved performing to the residents of Appleton Lodge; children from Reception up to Year 4 visited Santa's Grotto in the Town Hall; Nursery children had a fabulous festive playdough session; pupils loved their Christmas Discos and the Party Bus visited Reception and Nursery classes for their party; KS2 children all loved their Carol and Craft mornings, getting messy with parents; and the term was rounded off by a super Carol Service at the church! Thank you for your support with these and all the other activities this month.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a peaceful and happy Christmas and very best wishes for 2020 – this has been a lovely end to a busy term and the children (and staff!), as always, have been great and always full of enthusiasm! We look forward to an equally busy year in 2020!

Mrs P Monk.

Polite Reminders

- A reminder that we do not allow fizzy drinks, pop or sweets in packed lunches. These will be confiscated and returned to children to take home (please see the Packed Lunch Policy). Water and milk is freely available at lunchtimes.
- Attendance and Punctuality - It is vitally important that children are at school on time each morning; school begins at **8.55am** and phonics and reading lessons begin as soon as children are in class – if children are late they are missing important teaching time. Please ensure a prompt morning start. Lateness is also recorded and could impact on your child's overall attendance. Attendance certificates for the term are included; green – well done – your attendance is above the DFE target of 96%; yellow – some room for improvement; red – classed as persistent absenteeism until attendance rises above 90% and medical evidence is required for absences. Well done to all our attendance prize winners this term.
- A reminder about **Holiday requests** - 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 (this includes ALL unauthorised absence – holidays and any unauthorised sessions not accounted for, including late after registration).



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- **2019-2020 School Holidays** - remember some of our professional development days are blocked together so families can benefit from a slightly extended closure and use this as an opportunity to book holidays at a cheaper rate. The planned dates when school will be closed for PD days in 2019-2020 are:
 - **1st, 2nd, 3rd June 2020** – these three days follow the May half term week (thus giving a slightly longer block)
 - **Monday 20th July 2020**
- Please remember we have a pupil in school with a nut **allergy**; bear this in mind when organising packed lunches for children (particularly those pupils in Year 3). **Please avoid putting nut based products and nuts into packed lunches.** School will take precautions to avoid possible cross-contamination and contact, and your support with this is very much appreciated.
- Any child wishing to join the **school bank** and start saving each week, please see Mrs Harris in September – we collect and bank monies every week and it is a wonderful way for children to save up.
- 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**.
- **Breakfast club** begins at 8am – staff are not in school to supervise before this time – please avoid arriving earlier, unless supervised.
- Remember we 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.

Diary dates – 2020

January 2020

6 **School re-opens.**
10 Skipping Day
14 Year 1 Multi-Skills
21 Year 5 and 6 Basketball
28 Reception Visit to Pizza Express

February

3 National Storytelling week
6 Year 4 Family Assembly
10 Multi-cultural week
11 Year 3 and 4 Dance and Gym Festival
11 Image Theatre – Robin Hood
14 **School closes for half term**
24 **School re-opens**

March

5 World Book Day
17,24,31 Year 5 and 6 Cycling
24 and 25 Parent meetings – evening sessions – appointment slots to follow
26 Year 2 Family Assembly

April

3 **School closes**
20 **School re-opens**
24 Year 5 Outdoor Activity and Adventure – Hardwick Park
27-30 Year 5 Bikeability training

May

4 **A reminder – school will be open on this day as the Government have changed the Bank holiday**
8 **School closed – bank holiday**
11-14 KS2 Year 6 SAT week
19 Primary Athletics
22 **School closes – half term**

June

4 **School re-opens after half term and staff training days**
8 Year 1 Phonics Screening week and Year 4 Multiplication check
8-11 Year 6 Bikeability
9 Sedgefield Dash
12 Year 5 Multiskills

July

3-5 Year 5 and 6 visit to Weardale House
17 **School closes for the summer break.**

*Dates correct at time of writing – please continue to check in case of any additional dates or changes to dates or times in the future.



SCHOOL MEMBER

