

# 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

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Web-site: [www.northpark.durham.sch](http://www.northpark.durham.sch)

**October 2022**

We have had a busy start to the year as usual. The children are enjoying lots of activities in school and working hard in lessons (see the School Facebook sites for examples of their lovely work).

## **What have we been up to?**

- PSHCE week was a great success – a lovely start to the term! We enjoyed visits from Chef Sarah, the police, the fire service, Humankind and Langton medical services. Children enjoyed visiting Asda to shop for healthy food, and the Town Hall for a special meeting of the local councillors.
- The Foundation of Light held a coffee morning in school, in preparation for some family sessions running in school. These will give parents a great opportunity to upskill themselves about sleep, behaviour etc and sessions will run for 8 weeks, with opportunities to workshop with your child. If you are interested and did not get a chance to sign up, please contact Mrs Logan.
- Go Well coaching sessions are underway with pupils in Year 2 and Year 5 learning about all things outdoors! They are loving these sessions. We are also underway with movement coaching, dance and yoga, as well as extra sessions for swimming and gymnastics – all of this has contributed to our Gold School Games award! Brilliant stuff!
- Key Stage 2 pupils held their Harvest Festival Assembly at St Andrew's Church – it was lovely to be able to share this with families again. Thank you so much for the kind donations to the Durham Foodbank – much appreciated in these challenging times.
- Year 6 have been invited to visit Whitworth Park Academy and enjoyed their day.
- Our school council and Head Boy and Head girl nominees have all been voted for – the children are full of ideas for school.

Coming up in October!

- Year 5 are looking forward to their visit to Yorvik this month to discover about all things Viking!
- For parents who have registered, pupils will receive Flu jabs
- Nursery children will enjoy a bedtime story session
- There will be an Open Evening for parents wishing to visit our unit before applying for a Reception place on 13<sup>th</sup> October at 4.30pm.

Breakfast club and After School Club continue to run; please ensure you are in school before 8.30 for Breakfast Club and if you wish your child to attend After School Club please register at the office – sessions cost £7 per day.

## **Parent Governor**

We have a vacancy for a parent governor post; if you are interested, please contact the school office by 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022. There is a nomination form to complete and if we have more than one nominee, then this will go to parent vote.

## **Attendance information**

- A reminder that attendance is mandatory. You will have read that the DFE have updated guidance for families and schools that stresses the importance of good attendance and actions needed to improve this. The school policy has been updated to reflect this – please contact school if you have any concerns about attendance so we can help.
- Where attendance falls below 90%, due to lateness or absence, we will contact parents to see if we can offer any support to improve the attendance.



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- Attendance to date is **92.18%** - this is well below expected levels of 96% as set by the DFE and is affected by illness and holidays. The best attending class was Year 1 – 95% - well done and – keep this up!
- Please remember the DFE and Local Authority regularly review and monitor attendance with us and analyse school data; the LA may intervene if your child accrues unauthorised absence in a term (this includes ALL unauthorised absence – holidays and any other unauthorised sessions, including late after registration). **Holidays are not authorised** unless in exceptional circumstances.
- DFE attendance guidance can be found here:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

TERM		Number of sessions (half days) missed before becoming a persistent absentee
<b>AUTUMN</b>	<b>HALF TERM 1</b>	7 or more (3.5 days)
	<b>HALF TERM 1 and 2</b>	14 or more (7 days)
<b>AUTUMN + SPRING</b>	<b>HALF TERM 1 to 3</b>	20 or more (10 days)
	<b>HALF TERM 1 to 4</b>	25 or more (12.5 days)
<b>AUTUMN + SPRING + SUMMER</b>	<b>HALF TERM 1 to 5</b>	31 or more (15.5 days)
	<b>HALF TERM 1 to 6</b>	38 or more (19 days)



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## Diary Dates – Autumn Term

\*Some dates may be subject to change

**North Park Primary will be closed for the following four Professional Development Days:**

**19.12.22      20.12.22      17.2.23      17.4.23**

### **October**

- 4 Year 5 Yorvik Trip – 8.30am
- 5 Flu vaccination day – whole school (you need to register for this)
- 7 Nursery bedtime stories
- 12 Year 6 visit to St Paul's Church
- 19 Year 6 Family Assembly 10.20am
- 21 School closes for half term
- 31 School re-opens

### **November**

- 1 Skipping day
- 17&24 Parent Evening (details to follow)
- 19 St Andrew's Church Fair
- 22 Year 5 Family Assembly 10.20am
- 23/24 Year 3 Stone Age cooking sessions

### **December**

- 5 Year 5 Craft, Carol and Coffee Morning
- 6 Year 3 Craft, Carol and Coffee Morning
- 7 Year 4 Craft, Carol and Coffee Morning
- 9 Year 6 Craft, Carol and Coffee Morning
- 9 Mrs Wood's group – Craft and Mince Pies – afternoon
- 9 Gala Family Pantomime trip – after school
- 12 Nursery Parent Christmas Crafts
- 12 Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party
- 13 Year 1 Christmas Music Show – 10am
- 13 Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party
- 14 Reception Nativity Shows – 10.30 am and 1.30am
- 15 Year 2 Christingle Show – 10.30am
- 15 Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party
- 15 KS 2 Carol service – St Andrew's Church – 2pm
- 16 Nursery and Reception Party – am
- 16 School closes for end of term
- 19&20 School closed for PD days

### **January 2023**

- 4 School re-opens
- 31 KS2 Escape Room activity

### **February**

- 13 Multicultural week activities
- 16 School closes for half term
- 17 School closed for PD day
- 27 School re-opens

### **March**

- 14 The Wind in the Willows Theatre show
- 27&28 Captain Chemistry visit
- 31 School closes for end of term

### **April**

- 17 School closed for PD day
- 18 School reopens



SCHOOL  
MEMBER

