

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

January 2023 newsletter

Happy New Year! As ever we have been very busy as 2023 gets underway! It has been lovely to see the children back in school work hard and enjoying lessons!

What have we been up to?

- Mr Logan's group enjoyed a visit to the Leisure Centre for a sport festival
- Year 3 loved their stay and read session with families coming in to share the lovely books in school
- Mrs Natrass' group loved their session swimming in Spennymoor with Mrs Berry and Miss Richardson
- More cooking clubs are underway with Chef Sarah
- Year 4 had an amazing time at Arbeia Roman Fort learning all about the Romans
- KS2 pupils enjoyed testing their groupwork skills in the Escape Room activity

Car Park

We politely request that you do not drive into the school grounds unless you have a disabled badge and are therefore permitted to do so, to avoid congestion and ensure the safety of the school community; the car park is reserved for staff and access for disabled badge holders and deliveries. Thank you.

Attendance update:

- Autumn Term attendance – to date attendance in school is at **92.58%**. Our target is 96% or above.
- Well done to everyone who achieved a green certificate in the Autumn Term; for those whose certificates were yellow or red, please work hard to improve this. Hopefully the worst of the winter infections are passing now – I know this has impacted on lots of attendance before Christmas.
- A reminder that we are unable to authorise holidays, other than for exceptional reasons. Holidays taken in school time are all referred to the LA.
- Please support us by providing a reason as soon as you know your child will be absent – we will contact you by text or phone if we have not received a message.
- If your child has had a period of extended ill health, beyond 3 days, we may ask for medical evidence, as we would assume in most cases you would seek medical advice. This can be an appointment card, the medication you have received, etc.
- The school nurse or your Health Visitor are also available to give advice if you are worried about anything in relation to your child's health needs.
- If your child is given medication that they need to take more than 3 times a day, we can support with administering this in school – please let the office staff know and we can arrange for this. Children cannot bring in their own medication to take.
- We will try to offer support whenever you feel you may need this, including if attendance is affected. We will contact you if attendance begins to cause concern – any attendance below 90% is classified as persistent absence, and we need to monitor this and work with you to improve this. Please also remember you can contact school if you have any worries or concerns about attendance.

Other news

Mrs Scotter will be leaving us to take up a new post in another school; we will be sorry to see her go. The class will be taught by Mrs Hemmingway for the remainder of the year – she knows the children well, as she teaches them each week. We also congratulate Mrs Summerill on the news that she will be expecting a baby later in the year – exciting news! We will be arranging a teacher to cover her maternity leave in the summer and will keep you up to date. And also, congratulations to Miss Richardson and Mrs Stephen who have both welcomed new grandchildren!

Industrial Action

Please ensure you have checked your emails so you are aware of which classes may be affected by planned industrial action in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Mrs P Monk



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Diary Dates 2023

**Some dates may be subject to change*

North Park Primary will be closed for the following four Professional Development Days: 17.2.23; 17.4.23

February

- 2 Mrs Wood and Mrs Nattrass groups – Sport Carousel event
- 2 KS2 Football tournament
- 2 Year 5 Stay and Read
- 7 Year 5 Multiskills festival
- 8 Year 4 family Assembly – 10.15am
- 8 Reception vision screening
- 13 Multicultural week activities
- 16 School closes for half term**
- 27 School re-opens**

March

- 2 World Book Day – more details to follow
- 8 Girls Football Festival
- 14 The Wind in the Willows Theatre show
- 21-22 KS1 Magic Flute workshops
- 23 World Maths Day
- 27&28 Captain Chemistry visit
- 29 Year 3 Family Assembly – 10.15am
- 30 Easter service – St Andrew's Church
- 31 School closes for end of term**

April

- 17 PD day – parent meetings (times to be confirmed at a later date)**
- 18 School re-opens**
- 18 Parent meetings - times to be confirmed at a later date
- 18 Year 1 and 2 – Magic Flute performance – Town Hall
- 20 Year 4 – Alternative Sports Festival
- 25 Year 5 – OAA – Hardwick Park
- 27 Girls' Football (4 weeks)

May

- 1 School closed – Bank Holiday**
- 2 School reopens
- 2 Year 1 Height and Weight checks
- 3 Year 1 OAA – Hardwick Park
- 5 School photographs – individual photos
- 8 The school will be closed for the recently announced additional Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May 2023.**
- 9-12 KS2 SATs week**
- 23 Y6 – Primary Athletics festival
- 24 Year 1 Family Assembly – 10.15am
- 25 Girls Football Shield
- 26 School closes for half term**

June

- 5 School re-opens**
- 5-9 Year 4 Multiplication Tests
- 8 Year 2B – Alternative Sport Festival
- 12-16 Year 1 Phonic Test week
- 23 Skipping World Record Day

July

- 5 Year 2 – Mr Logan – Family Assembly – 10.15am
- 10-12 Weardale House Residential Visit – Year 5 and 6
- 12 Year 2 – Mr Lamb – Family Assembly – 10.15am
- 14 Year 6 Fun afternoon
- 19 Year 6 Leaver's Show
- 21 School closes for summer break**



SCHOOL MEMBER

