

# North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,  
Spennymoor,  
Co. Durham  
DL16 6PP

Head Teacher: Mrs P Monk  
Deputy: Mrs E Atkinson  
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## Start of term newsletter

It is lovely to see everyone back after the summer, ready for the new school year! Our new starters have settled in quickly and everyone is looking really smart in their uniforms! We have lots of lovely things planned for the term ahead – these are detailed in the term dates, and further information will be sent to you soon.

### Staffing

We welcome Miss Dobson to our school – she joins us as the Year 6 teacher. Should you have any need to catch a member of staff about anything they are usually available as they collect children each morning or straight after school. Alternatively please ring school or make an appointment if necessary.

Staff in each of the classes is as follows:

- EYFS – Mrs Wilcock, Mrs Eason, Mrs Alderson, Mrs Swindells, Mrs Cahill
- Year 1 – Mrs Spooner, Miss Bewick, Mrs Farley
- Year 2 – Miss Bowron, Mrs Macdonald, Miss Diaz
- Year 3 – Mrs Wood, Mrs Atkinson, Mr Fothergill, Mrs Sidebottom
- Year 4 – Mr Logan, Mrs Richardson
- Year 5 – Mr Donkin, Miss Welch
- Year 6 – Miss Dobson, Mrs Stephen, Mrs English

### Reminders and forms:

- **School lunches** - meals cost £2 per day. Please send money in a named envelope or purse. Children in Key Stage 1 continue to have access to a free meal each day. Anyone else who thinks they may be eligible for Free School Meals, please feel free to check with Mrs Dowson – **forms are enclosed for you to return to school**. Even if you do not take up the meal, but know you are eligible, we ask that you complete the paperwork for our school records, and this in turn helps us access additional funding to support your child's schooling. We are still waiting for some **menus** to be returned – these will be re-issued if we do not have your child's menu – **please return as soon as possible**.
- **Please note** – Taylor Shaw have asked me to remind parents that it is **not** possible to alternate between packed lunch and school meals for part of the week – food is ordered well in advance and they cannot accommodate changes or part weeks, unless in an absolute emergency. If you wish to change from school meal to packed lunch, or vice versa, we must know at least a week in advance.
- **Attendance:** As you 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 **seven days or more** of unauthorised absence in a term. If you have any concerns about attendance please contact school. Pupils whose attendance falls below 90% are classed as persistent absentees. We operate first day absence procedures – please inform us by phone, message or text if your child is absent and the reason for absence. In the case of illness lasting longer than a short period school may need medical evidence to authorise this. We enclose a leaflet about attendance for your information.
- 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.
- **Breakfast club** continues to run from 8am each day.
- We enclose new **data collection sheets** for you to complete – it is important we have up to date and correct information in case of emergency. Please return these as soon as possible.
- In addition we enclose an **EV (Educational Visits) form** to be updated and returned to give permission for school visits

Thank you for your cooperation in returning these forms as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mrs P Monk



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## Diary Dates – 2017

### September

- 6 **School re-opens for teaching purposes**
- 7 Father John Assembly
- 7 Year 5 and 6 Smoking cessation and information sessions
- 11 Smoothie bike in school for the week
- 11 Chef visit to Year 5
- 11 Year 1 cleanliness talk
- 11 Year 4 visit from police and visit to Police Station
- 12 Foundation of Light Assembly
- 13 Buddy and Mini-Bud training
- 13 Year 1 – 'Teeth' magic show
- 13 Fire Brigade visit to Year 3
- 14 Mini-Library workshop
- 14 Year 1 Dental talk
- 14 FOS meeting
- 15 Handwashing machine in KS1
- 19 Happy Puzzle Company – challenge and investigation day. **Parent session after school at 3.30pm.**
- 22 Foundation of Light Family Learning – 10 week course – begins (1pm)
- 29 Harvest collection for the Food Bank

### October

- 12 Year 3 proposed visit to Centre for Life
  - 12 Year 2 trip to the Word and Durham Cathedral
  - 16 Year 3 – Stone Age Cooking
  - 17 Halloween Disco
  - 19 Year 1 proposed visit to Beamish
  - 23 **Half term week**
  - 30 School re-opens
  - 30 Poetry week
- 2 Artyfact theatre show – Eureka!  
3 Father John Assembly  
7 Year 6 Box-Fit course  
13 Anti-Bullying Week  
16 Year 4 and 5 Diversity workshops  
13-15 Parent meeting week (appointments will be sent out)  
**Nursery parent session – 3.15-6pm - 14<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Whole School Evening - 3.15-6pm - 14<sup>th</sup> November**

#### **Afternoon sessions (12.50-3.15pm)**

- Years 3 - **13<sup>th</sup> November**
- Year 2,4,6 and Reception – **14<sup>th</sup> November**
- Year 1 and 5 – **15<sup>th</sup> November**
- 17 Children in Need
- 21 Owl Man to visit Year 1
- 22 Year 6 trip to Eden Camp

### December

- 15 EYFS Christmas Craft morning
- 15 Year 1 and 2 Christmas Show – 1.50pm
- 18 Year 5 and 6 Christmas Carols, Crafts and Coffee Morning
- 18 Year 1, 2 and 3 Party
- 19 Year 5 and 6 Christmas Carols, Crafts and Coffee Morning
- 19 EYFS Christmas Show
- 20 Year 4, 5, 6 Party
- 21 EYFS Christmas party
- 22 **School closes. Re-opens Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**

