

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

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January 2019 Newsletter

Children have settled well into the new term – it is flying by already, and they have been very busy in school!

We have enjoyed a lot of activities in January:

- The Foundation of Light have begun working with children and families across the school delivering Family Learning
- Year 1 and 2 have been working with a Sport Coach this half term
- Beamish Museum have worked with children in Year 5 and as part of that work the children enjoyed an amazing (and very cold!) visit to Beamish
- Year 6 all became film producers and directors at the Tyneside Cinema this month – we look forward to sharing their work soon.
- Some of our Year 5 and 6 children have enjoyed a Basketball festival – well done on a fantastic result!
- Year 3 are enjoying an extra sport club on Wednesday lunchtimes this half term.
- We have attached some advice for families in relation to You Tube.

Mrs Swindells

Our congratulations to Mrs Swindells and her husband David, on the birth of their beautiful son Arthur. We are all looking forward to him visiting and having a cuddle!

Attendance

- Overall attendance for the autumn term was 94.7% - we are aiming to improve this, with your help, this term, to reach the government target of 96%.
- A reminder that 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).Pupils whose attendance falls below 90% are classed as persistent absentees. Any absence must be supported by medical evidence. We will monitor this absence with the Local Authority. If you would like to discuss any concerns about attendance, please contact school.
- Attendance issues also arise for lateness – if your child is late after 15 minutes (9.10am) their absence is marked as unauthorised. Please ensure children arrive promptly at 8.55am, ready for the school day. Lessons begin immediately and if children are late they miss vital parts of phonics and reading lessons at the beginning of the day.

Polite Reminders:

- Non-uniform days will now be held at the end of half term only. As we are collecting money from families for juice and cookies each week, we did not want to do non-uniform too often, as it could prove to be costly.
- Please can we show consideration to local residents when parking morning and evening and picking up children, to ensure driveways are not blocked? We have had an incident reported to school and the police have been notified to check on parking again.
- Please remind your child of the need to have their PE kit in school, in order to avoid detention!
- Any child wishing to join the **school bank** and start saving each week, please see Mrs Harris – we collect and bank monies every week.
- Please remember to avoid nut based products in packed lunches – for those pupils on packed lunch we do not allow sweets of any kind, fizzy drinks or pop.
- Please remember to return reading books to school each day. Your support in encouraging reading is vitally important.
- 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 – some parents are not adhering to this,



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unfortunately.

- 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** begins at 8am each day – we stop serving at 8.30am, in order to clear away.
- Anyone interested in supporting **Friends of the School**, we would be grateful for the support. Please check with Mrs Spooner.

Mrs P Monk

Spring Term Dates - 2019

February

- 1 Year 5 writing workshop with Adam Bushnell
- 5 Year 4 Class Assembly
- 6 Reception class visit to Hancock Museum and Northern Stage – Bear Hunt
- 6 Year 4 visit to Arbeia Roman Fort
- 6 Pollard's Bear workshop – Year 3
- 7 Friends of the School Valentines Disco
- 7 Year 1 visit to St Andrew's Church
- 8 Whole school fencing workshop
- 12 Theatre Show – The Selfish Giant
- 13 Reception Class Stay and Read session – 2pm
- 15 Reception Multiskills festival
- 15 Archery day
- 15 **School closes for half term – re-opens 25th February**
- 25 Multicultural week
- 25 Chef in school
- 26 Zulu warriors visit to school – presentation and workshops

March

- 5 Football tournament
- 22 Dance Festival

Parent Meeting week (appointment slips will be sent out soon)

- 25 Year 2, Year 4, Year 6 – Afternoon session
- 26 Year 3 – Afternoon session
- 26 **Parent night** – whole school , **except Year 1 and Nursery**
- 27 Year 1, Reception and Year 5 afternoon session
- 27 **Year 1 Parent night**
- 28 **Nursery – Parent night**

- 27 Intra-school sport competition

April

- 2 Class 3 Assembly
- 2 Netball Tournament
- 3 Oriental Museum workshop – Year 3
- 4 Easter Service – 2pm – St Andrew's Church
- 5 **School closes for Easter break. Re-opens Tues 23rd April 2019.**
- 26 Year 5 Outdoor Orienteering and Activity session – Hardwick Park

May 13-16 – KS2 SAT week

June 10-14 – KS1 Phonics Check week

