

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

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January Newsletter

We need your support!

Walk a Mile – Read for a while

We have a fantastic development project in school where we are planning to install a path that takes us around the edge of our field – we want to make this walkway as inviting and interesting as possible for children. We want this to become part of our project to get children to undertake a daily walk, to increase levels of fitness, and to improve the school grounds for all pupils. In addition we want to develop the area between the two yards so children can benefit from somewhere to sit, chat and also read if they wish to (reading boxes are also part of the plans!). All of this will cost quite a bit of money, so we are currently submitting bids for funding from various sources.

One of those bids is from the local Area Action Partnership (AAP). Community groups can bid for funding and people who live, work and volunteer in Spennymoor get the chance to choose. ***We want you to help us get as many people as possible to vote for us*** as one of those bids. Information about the project will also come home from the children and they have been out campaigning themselves.

Please support us by going along to Spennymoor Leisure Centre on **Saturday 4th February, between 10am and 2pm** (and take all your family and friends along too!) – cast your vote and wish us luck!

What's been happening in school in January?

- Magical Maths Club has started – lots of children doing wonderful things after school each week.
- Year 3 had visitors from Auckland Castle telling them all about Myths and Legends
- Year 2 visited the Church to learn all about Baptism – thank you Father John
- Captain Raggy Beard came to visit Year 2 and everyone walked the plank!
- Family Learning started – The Foundation of Light are working with parents each week

Polite Reminders:

- **Attendance: Attendance overall last term fell to 93% - your support in helping us make sure we meet national targets is vital. It is especially important to make sure your child is punctual – lates beyond register are classified and unauthorised absences. Please make sure your child is in school at 8.55am.** 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. A review of attendance has been undertaken – the Government target is 95%. Anyone under 90% is deemed by the Government to be a persistent absentee. Please contact school if you have any concerns or worries about attendance – remember the PSA can offer advice, or you can also ask for advice from the Attendance and Inclusion Officer, Jen Quigley, on 03000 261113 (Ferryhill One Point).
- After School Care via **Jack in the Box Daycare** is available each day in school – 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. Please ensure your child is at school before 8.30am, as we clear up after that time.
- **Jungle Gym** – please make sure children are **not** playing on this first thing in the morning – it is quite slippery, especially on cold mornings!
- **PSA** – Wendy Clark, our PSA is available should anyone need advice. She can be contacted on 07825341214.

Mrs P Monk



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Diary Dates - 2017

More information will be sent out in January – here are a few dates for now.

January

23 KS1 SATs Meeting – Year 2 pupils – 2.45pm and 5pm.
24 Father John Assembly

February

4 AAP funding bid – Spennymoor Leisure Centre 10am – 2pm.
7 Sponsor a Grown Up assembly – more information to follow
13 Multi-Cultural week
14 Year 1 Visit to Durham Castle
14 Whole School Show – The Jungle Book
14 Chef in school
15 Year 3 Family Assembly – 10.15am
16 Intra School Festival of Sport
17 Chef in school
17 School closes for half term.
27 School closed – PD day
28 School re-opens.

March

2 Father John Assembly
2 Dance Club starts – 6 weeks
6 **Parents Meeting Week**
Morning sessions
6th – Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5
7th – Year 2
8th – Year 3 and Year 6
9th – Reception class
Whole School Evening session – Tuesday 7th March (including Nursery)
21 Taekwondo Taster Session – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
22 Year 1 – Football Festival
29 Year 5 Family Assembly – 10.15am

April

5 Year 4 visit to Richmond Castle and Easby Abbey
6 Easter Service – St Andrew's Church – 2pm
7 School closes for Easter holidays. Re-opens 24th April.

May

1 School closed – Bank Holiday
SAT Week – 8th – 11th May
22 Design and Make Week
24 Year 1 Family Assembly
29 School closed for half term. Re-opens 5th June.

June

12 Phonics test week

July

14 Robinwood
21 School closes for summer. Reopens 6th September 2017.

