

# North Park Primary School



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## JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

### *What's been happening?*

Happy New Year - we have had a busy start - as usual!

- Year 3 have visited St Andrew's Church to find out about the important symbols and practices as part of their RE studies
- Year 2 have had a super visit from Captain Raggy Beard! He interrupted his busy life at sea to tell them all about the adventures of a pirate and there was even treasure to be found!
- The photographer has been in school taking individual and family group photographs
- Year 6 pupils have been visited by Whitworth Park transition workers
- Year 4 and 5 pupils have had the opportunity to continue with the FISCH After School club for this term
- Key Stage 2 pupils have been taking part in a Dance Club, leading to a festival later in the term
- We are delighted to have been awarded the Sainsbury's School Games Mark Bronze Award for our commitment, engagement and delivery of sport and competition – well done to everyone who took part in this last year!
- Unfortunately there have been two incidents of vandalism – the EYFS door has been badly damaged and cracked and the Bike Shed has also been damaged – repairs will cost a considerable amount of money. Your vigilance whilst school is closed is always appreciated. Police are investigating the incidents.

### *A few polite reminders!*

- **Jungle Gym** - Please ensure you keep your children off the jungle gym before school – it is very slippery at this time of year and we do not want anyone to have an accident
- **Lost property** – remember to check this in the entrance – some has had to be disposed of but we still have a large box full!
- **Wet mornings** – please bring your child to the entrance nearest the gate – teachers will accompany children through school and parents do not need to come in – this helps avoid congestion and ensures pupils are safe.
- **Jewellery** – please remember jewellery should not be worn for school. Stud earrings only are allowed and these must be removed for PE. Children will be asked to remove necklaces and bracelets and they could cause injury if caught.
- **PE kit** – please ensure your child has a suitable PE kit for lessons – many children are not bringing kit into school when they need it.
- On **non-uniform days** remember to send your donations into school – these are all used to benefit the children and help us subsidise the cost of the activities we organise for all the children – your support is always gratefully received. Also remember children do play at school and high heeled shoes are not appropriate for school.

### **Safe and appropriate internet use**

Recently we have had several worrying incidents reported to us by concerned parents relating to social media sites. These include unkind and abusive remarks posted by groups of children about other pupils; and online threats of violence being made by individuals and groups of pupils.

We do our best to offer support and guidance for parents and pupils when matters do arise, but obviously school has no authority to act regarding matters that arise outside of school. As parents and carers I am sure you are concerned for your child's safety and well-being and I would urge you to **please make sure that you know who your child is communicating with online and what kind of material they are sending and/or receiving**. Many of the sites children mention, such as Facebook, have clear guidelines that they are **not** appropriate for children of primary age.

In school we continue to do all we can to educate children about e-safety, but parental support is vital if this is to be effective. I have liaised with Durham Police recently regarding some of these incidents and if parents feel they would



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like similar support I would recommend they contact the police. We have a police visit in the near future to offer pupils guidance and support.

Useful guidance for parents and carers is available at: [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

## Friends of North Park Primary School

The next meeting will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come along!

## Parent meetings

Mrs Wood will be writing to parents whose children need some additional support, and will give you an appointment to discuss your child's support plan and targets. Please try to keep this appointment as it is an important opportunity for you to discuss this and review the support your child receives.

In addition we will have our normal parents' meetings in February – details are below and you will be sent an appointment slip soon. We look forward to seeing you.

**Mrs Monk**  
**30.1.15**

## Diary Dates

### February

- 3 Year 3 and 4 Multiskills Festival
- 3 Father John Assembly
- 5 Durham Police Assembly – Safer Internet Use
- 9 Poetry Week
- 10 Key Steps Gymnastics Festival
- 11 Year 4 Family Assembly – 10.10am
- 13 **SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HALF TERM HOLIDAY**
- 23 **SCHOOL RE-OPENS**

### 23-25 **Parents Meeting Week**

- 23 Year 2 and Year 4 morning appointments  
Nursery afternoon appointments
- 24 Year 1 and Year 6 morning appointments  
Whole school – after school meetings 3.30-6pm
- 25 Year 3 and Year 5 morning appointments  
Reception afternoon appointments
- 25 Reception and Nursery Parents Nurturing Course – *Getting off to a Good Start 1-3pm*
- 27 Friends of the School Meeting – 2pm

### March

- 6 Reception Health Screening
- 13 Year 6 to work with Adam Bushnell – Author
- 17 Father John Assembly
- 19 Zoolab for Key Stage 1 classes
- 20 Science Boffins – KS2 show and workshops
- 24 Year 3 Family Assembly – 10.10am
- 25 Dance Festival
- 27 Easter Service – St Andrew's Church – 2pm

### Other important dates

**11-15 May** - KS2 SAT week

**15-19 June** - Year 1 Phonics screening week

