

# North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,  
Spennymoor,  
Co. Durham  
DL16 6PP

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## October 2015 Newsletter

### What's been happening in school?

- PSHCE week at the start of term saw children learning about democracy, feelings and friendship, people who help us, rules and laws, recycling and healthy minds and healthy bodies; the children did a great presentation to each other at the end of the week, and we had a wide range of visitors including the PSCO Sam Stephenson, Dr Bowron, Mrs Atkinson, a local magistrate, Sarah a chef, Jet and Ben the police dogs, and our cook and caretaker also visited classes. A busy week!
- Year 5 have begun their enterprise project, working with the Foundation of Light to design trainers – all very busy and having a great time each week. EYFS held their Macmillan Coffee morning, and it was lovely to see families coming in and enjoying a cuppa and cake. Well done and thank you for your donations – raising £87.
- Year 6 pupils had their first chance to visit Whitworth Park School.
- Family groups have been meeting to discuss ideas for a school motto.
- We have had our Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew's Church – it was lovely to have families joining us and thank you for your kind donations to the Durham Foodbank.
- Year 3 have started their Pedestrian Training.
- Year 6 pupils have attended training to become Sport's Leaders – they do a great job each week organising games for the KS1 children.
- Friends of the School have been meeting to organise events in school – the Halloween Disco is the first of these.

### We look forward to seeing families at the following:

**School Book Fair** – this will start tonight and be on **Monday to Thursday next week** after school – come along and buy a book – the school benefits from any commission made and we can buy more books for the library using this.

**Parent Meetings:** These will take place after half term and you can make an appointment to meet your child's class teacher in either a morning slot or after school.

**Stay and Read:** Class teachers will be organising opportunities for parents to stay and read, sharing stories and books in the coming weeks – look out for notes and texts about this.

**Year 6 Family Assembly** – 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 10.15am.

### Reminders

**Attendance:** A reminder that the Government has now changed the level at which children are deemed as a persistent absentee from 85% to 90%. In accordance with the changes the Local Authority has also changed the threshold at which they intervene via statutory enforcement. As you already 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 more than **seven days** of unauthorised absence in a term. This might involve visits from the Welfare Officer, fixed penalty fines, or even court action in extreme cases.

**PE Kit:** A number of children have been coming to school without a suitable kit to change into for PE – please help your child remember that a kit is needed, which includes a change of footwear; some children have no plimsolls or trainers and we cannot allow children to do PE in shoes. Jewellery should also be removed for PE for health and safety reasons.

**Fruit:** children in KS1 have fruit each day and fruit is available for children in KS2 at a charge of 20p each day.

**Wrap around care - Jack in the Box After School Club:** after school provision is available for children run by Jack in the Box. The club offers snacks and a range of activities for children, running from 3.15pm to 5.45pm every day, at a cost of £7 a session. Registration forms are available in school. We will be offering some free taster sessions.

**Half term:** School closes for children on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and re-opens Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Mrs P Monk  
9.10.15



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## Diary Dates

### October

9-15 Book Fair in School  
13 Reception Gymnastics  
15 Year 5 Share a Story Coffee Morning  
16 Year 1 Stay and Read session  
19 Year 1 and 2 FLU vaccinations  
20 'SEND a COW' celebration assembly  
20 Friends of the School Halloween Disco  
22 Year 6 Family Assembly – 10.15am  
22 Y2 to Hardwick for Grufalo visit  
22 EYFS stay and read session  
22 School closes for Half Term break

### November

2 School re-opens  
2-6 Poetry Week  
**2-6 Parent Meeting week**  
2 Morning session (9am -12 noon) Year 2 and Year 6  
3 Morning session – Year 1 and Year 4  
3 Whole school Parent Evening (3.20pm - 6pm)  
4 Morning session – Year 3 and Year 5  
5 Morning session – Reception  
  
3-4 Destination Judo – taster sessions  
10 Y5 and 6 – Sportshall Athletics Festival – Newton Aycliffe  
16-20 Anti-Bullying week  
20 Anti-Bullying Roadshow  
20 Youth Forum event  
23 Year 5 visit to Stadium of Light  
23 Year 6 Safety Carousel  
25 Year 5 visit to Centre for Life  
26 Year 5 Family Assembly – 10.15am  
30 EYFS visit to Beamish

### December

1 Father John Assembly  
1 KS1 Gymnastics Festival  
2 Nursery to Year 2 visits to Town Hall – Santa's Grotto  
4 EYFS Christmas Craft Morning  
8 Change for Life Celebration event  
10 Year 3 visit to Bowes Museum  
11 Year 1 and 2 Christmas Show – 1.50pm  
14 Year 5 and 6 Christmas Carol, Craft and Coffee Morning  
14 Year 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Party  
15 Year 3 and 4 Christmas Carol, Craft and Coffee Morning  
16 EYFS Nativity Show – St Andrew's Church  
16 Year 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Party  
17 EYFS Christmas Party Morning  
17 Carol Service – St Andrew's Church – 2pm  
18 School closes for end of term. Re-opens 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

