

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
Spennymoor,
Co. Durham
DL16 6PP

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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

The children have settled very well into school after their summer break and our new Reception class are now in school full time, enjoying the exciting activities in class. Already this term is proving to be very busy and a timetable of forthcoming events and dates is attached for your information. You should have also received information from your class teachers detailing when PE takes place and what the arrangements are for homework – your support for homework, especially reading is vitally important for your child and always much appreciated.

What's been happening?

- Friends of the School have met again and have some lovely fundraising and fun activities planned. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Mrs Spooner.
- The term kicked off with PSHCE week when each class had a focus on a special topic;
Year 6 focused on democracy and undertook voting for the school council;
Year 5 had a visit from a chef helping them learn all about healthy lifestyles;
Year 4 learnt all about rules and responsibilities;
Year 3 focused on recycling and re-using rubbish – they created some lovely artwork;
Year 2 learnt all about feelings;
Year 1 enjoyed interviewing lots of people who help us, including doctors, caretakers, cooks and police;
And the PSHCE themed week finished with the children presenting information, songs and facts about everything they had learnt that week.
- Pupils from Year 5 and 6 have played in the Spennymoor Fun Day 5-a-side tournaments, and our football team went on to play three matches last week at Trimdon.
- Year 4 and 5 pupils have begun their FISCH project – healthy living and exercise
- Buddies and Mini-buds have undertaken training for their important role in school
- Year 4 pupils had an exciting week learning about the environment in the Valley Burn Project work
- Year 3 and Reception class have started swimming lessons and Year 2 are attending gymnastics at the Gym;
After school sports clubs have also started
- Eco club have done a great job clearing the garden and have plans for planting underway

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are holding a coffee morning on Friday for all classes, all donations going to Macmillan Cancer Research. We look forward to seeing you there at the following times:

Reception and Nursery – 9 till 10.30am in the EYFS unit

Year 1, 2 and 3 – 9 till 10am in the hall

Year 4, 5 and 6 – 10.15 till 11.15 in the hall

Harvest

We will be holding our service at 2pm on 7th October at St Andrew's Church. Once again we will be supporting the local Foodbank charity and all donations will be gratefully received and transported to the church on that day. A list of those items requested can be seen overleaf.

Vandalism

Unfortunately we have had further vandalism to school property. The bicycle shed has been damaged once again. This is very costly to repair and we cannot afford to continually mend the damaged roof – unfortunately we may ultimately have to have this removed. In addition some people are throwing dog excrement into the yard and front entrance making this very dirty and unhygienic for children and families. I am trying to find out if we can get any help with this issue. In addition there has been damage to the roof. All of these repairs are very costly and of course take away from the funds we have available for the many things we wish to purchase for the children. I am sure you share my frustration about this thoughtless damage and your support in calling the police if you see anyone on school premises after hours or at weekends is always appreciated. Police have access to the property and hold keys to the grounds, so



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regular checks are made. We now have CCTV cameras on the yard and in the EYFS outside area for police to check too.

School dinners

Lunches are now free to all KS1 pupils. For those of you who have to pay, the cost is £1.95 per day (£9.75per week), if you wish to change from packed lunch to school dinners, or vice versa, please make sure you give **one week's notice** so food can be ordered in advance. Unfortunately we cannot change on a daily basis and ordering food day to day is also difficult to manage, other than in a genuine emergency.

School uniform and lost property

On parent's evening we will be putting out some spare second hand uniform for parents to take if they wish to. This is good quality clothing kindly donated by families when children leave. Also available will be lost property to look through.

Up to date phone numbers

Please make sure we have up to date emergency contact numbers, and to inform the school office if you change number.

Diary Dates

September

- 26 Macmillan Coffee Morning
- 29 Year 2 trip to Low Barns
- 30 Year 6 visit to Whitworth Park

October

- 2 Adopt a cow assembly
- 7 Harvest Festival – St Andrew's Church – 2pm
- 6 Year 6 Sports Crew Training
- 7 Year 6 Vision screening
- 13-16 Book Fair
- 13-16 Parents Meeting Week (*appointments will be sent out*)
- 14 Parents Evening
- 20 Science Life Centre Planetarium workshop – Reception and Year 5
- 21 Reception class gymnastics festival
- 21 School Disco
- 22 Year 6 Family Assembly – 10.10 am
- 24 **School closes for half term**

November

- 3 **School re-opens**
- 4 Year 5 and 6 Athletics
- 5 Multicultural cooking – Chef in school
- 6 Year 5 – Chinese artist visit
- 7 Artyfact Theatre visit – WW1
- 14 Children in Need
- 17-21 Anti-Bullying week
- 21 Anti-Bullying Roadshow
Including Parent Workshop 2-3pm
- 22 St Andrew's Church Fair – Fair Trade Stall and Choir Performance
- 25 Owlman to visit Year 1 and Year 3
- 26 Year 5 Family Assembly – 10.10am

December

- 1 EYFS Parent Craft Day



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- 5 EYFS Parent Craft Day
- 5 Year 1 visit to Crook Hall
- 8 Music show
- 9 Whole School visit to Gala - Pantomime
- 11 Christmas Show – Year 1 to 4 – 10.15am
- 12 Christmas Show – Year 1 to 4 – 1.45pm
- 15 Year 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Disco
- 17 EYFS Show – 10.30am
- 17 Year 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Disco
- 18 EYFS Party – morning
- 19 Christmas Carol Service – 1.30pm St Andrew's Church
- 19 **School closes for end of term**

Mrs Monk

24.9.14

Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and giving them to Durham foodbank at our Harvest Festival at St Andrew's Church.

Thank you!

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Sugar (500g)
- Fruit Juice (carton)
- Tinned Meat / Fish
- Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- Cereals
- Pasta sauces
- Tomatoes (Tinned)
- Rice Pudding (Tinned)
- Tea Bags/inst coffee
- Instant Mash Potato
- Pasta
- Tinned Fruit
- Jam
- Biscuits or snack bars

