

Weekly News Bulletin

Week Ending: 12.1.24

A great start to the Spring term!

The children have settled back in brilliantly following the Christmas break and they have been excited to start their new topics and books. It is important that children all have access to as many experiences visits as possible so that they can relate to their learning. Often a visit can really bring a topic alive or create an exciting buzz for learning. Staff are extremely mindful that it has just been Christmas and they look at visits over the course of the year so that if a visit is more expensive one term, then they will try to make the next term's visit a lot less costly. Sadly, with fuel being so expensive, the cost of all trips has increased substantially. We do heavily subsidize the transport costs at North Park and make sure we are as cost effective as possible with the experiences we plan.

Please also take time to look at the new curriculum leaflets that tell you all about what your child is learning and how you can support at home.



Blue Badge owners only:

Please make sure that you only park in the disabled bay next to the school office if you are a Blue Badge holder. It would also be really helpful if Blue Badge owners could display their badges clearly on



the dashboard. We have had a few instances lately where people have used this bay unnecessarily and therefore prevented people who rely on easier access from being able to get to the school.

Big Ambition Survey

Over 300,000 children, young people, parents and carers have participated, making it one of the largest surveys of its kind!

This is the final push to hear from even more children before the survey closes, it is so important that every child in England has an opportunity to tell policy makers what they want and need ahead of the General Election.

By completing the survey, parents/carers can make sure that the children and young people of County Durham are fairly represented in the results.

Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition
KS2 are doing this in school this week.

Starbooks every Tuesday from 2.55pm:

Every Tuesday we are inviting a different year group's parents/carers to attend a Starbooks session.

Starbooks is where the teacher will model reading a story or hearing a child read or they may share some fantastic books for your child's age group. Parents can then read a book to their child or hear them read and enjoy coffee/tea and a biscuit. Every adult who attends will receive a loyalty card to collect points each session for a special treat when the card is full. Let's get reading!



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Swimming Change for 3A

We have been fortunate to receive an additional swimming slot while the Spennymoor Leisure Centre pool is out of access. To help parents/carers out with the earlier time of 8.40am each Friday, any siblings of swimmers are welcome to come into school earlier each Friday and join Breakfast club. Normally the cut off point is 8.30am but to help parents of swimmers, we are allowing siblings to come at the slightly later time. Please catch a member of SLT (in HiViz) at the gate if this needs further clarification.

Pupils in 3A will still receive their awards each week but this will be given out in Monday's assembly. When the Friday session returns to the afternoon, we will invite parents who missed seeing their child receive an award to a Star Assembly so that no one misses out. Thank you for working with us because it is so important that the children continue to swim and maintain the excellent progress they were making.

Dates for your diary this term so far:

Date:	Event:	Who is involved:
Tuesday 9 th January	Starbooks (Come to the main entrance)	Mrs Wood's class and Y5/6
Wednesday 17 th January	Y2 visit Durham Cathedral	Y2
Tuesday 16 th January	2.55pm Starbooks	Reception parent/carers
Tuesday 23 rd January	2.55pm Starbooks	Y1
Tuesday 30 th January	2.55pm Starbooks	Y2
Tuesday 6 th February	2.55pm Starbooks	Y3
Monday 12 th February	KS1 & Reception <i>Valentines Disco 4-5.30pm</i>	Y1/Y2
Tuesday 13 th February	2.55pm Starbooks	Y4
Thursday 15 th February	KS2 Valentines Disco 4-5.30pm	Y3/4/5/6