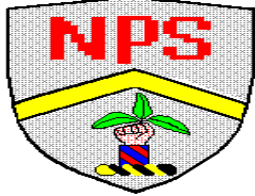


Summer Term Newsletter



Beginning of New Term

Hope you have had a lovely holiday and welcome back to the beginning of our new term.

We are delighted to share with you Miss Little's exciting news. She had a beautiful baby girl yesterday- Ada Lily Evans.



Punctuality

It is great to see so many children arriving to school on time and being involved in their learning right from the beginning of the day. Class 1, 2 and Class 3 begin their phonics sessions at 8.45 am and Class 4 and Class 5 begin their challenge time activities at 8.45 am. We also have co-ordination programmes, reading/maths/speech and language interventions and lego therapy running at that time.

Being frequently late for school means lost learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year.
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year.
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 19 days a year.

Lateness to School

School starts at **8:45 am**. Your child will receive a late mark if they arrive after this time. If your child arrives after the register closes at **9.15 am** they will be given an unauthorised late mark. Persistent Unauthorised late marks will result in a referral to the Local Authority School Improvement Officer for further intervention and enforcement action may be taken.

Please can you ensure children arrive at school for 8.45am. Thank you so much to parents/carers for your continued support.

Holidays in Term Time

We have seen a large increase in requests for holidays in term time. Due to this, our school attendance has fallen from 96.7% to 95.5%. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is National Average. Ofsted evaluate school attendance and a low attendance can affect school's Ofsted judgements. Just to remind parents and carers that as of 1st September 2013, Head

Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Absence during term time should be avoided because children can fall behind with their work and may find it difficult to integrate. An application using the leave of absence form (available from the school office) for leave must be made in writing to the Head Teacher, detailing the exceptional circumstances. The Head Teacher must be satisfied the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. If you do not apply for leave in advance, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. You can be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

Texts/Emails

We regularly send texts to parents with details of events happening in school or just reminders. We are now also sending emails. Thank you for your patience while we are updating this. Letters have been sent out explaining our new systems. Please notify school if you haven't received any texts/emails in the last week. Your contact details may need updating.

School Website

Please continue to look at our school website on www.nettleworth.durham.sch.uk for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

Year 2/6 SATs Tests

Key Stage 1 SATs are used to test children's knowledge and understanding of English and mathematics in Key Stage 1. They provide a snapshot of children's

attainment and help Year 2 teachers arrive at a secure judgement for their final 'teacher assessment' at the end of Key Stage 1.

Key Stage 1 SATs take place in week beginning **May 8th** at Nettlesworth Primary School. (same time as Year 6)

Key Stage 2 Assessment (Year 6 pupils)

Schools are required to administer the following tests: English Reading; English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (new from 2013); and Mathematics.

The 2023 end of Key Stage 2 national curriculum tests will be held in the week beginning **Monday 8th May 2023**.

Tuesday 9th: English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2

Wednesday 10th: English reading

Thursday 11th: Mathematics papers 1 and 2

Friday 12th: Mathematics paper 3

The children have worked so hard in preparation for the tests and more than ready just to try their best. Their progress is phenomenal and a true credit to you and our school.

Diary Dates

Thursday 27th April- Y2 SATs Parents Meeting
-Y4 Times Tables Check Parents Meeting (Further details to follow)

Monday 1st May- Bank Holiday

Tuesday 2nd May- Children return to school

Friday 5th May- Celebration of King's Coronation (Further details to follow)

Monday 8th May- Bank Holiday for King's Coronation

Friday 3rd March- Science Day

WB Tuesday 9th May- Children return to school
Year 2 and Year 6 SATS Assessments Week

-Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Paper

Wednesday 10th May- Reading Paper

Thursday 11th May- Maths Arithmetic and Reasoning Paper 1

Friday 12th May- Maths Reasoning Paper 2

WB Monday 15th May- Bikeability Y5/6 (Further details to follow)

Friday 26th May- End of Half Term

Monday 5th June- Children Return to School

Absences

By law, all children of compulsory school age must get a suitable, full-time education. As a parent/carer, you are responsible for making sure this happens. **Once your child is registered at Nettlesworth Primary School, you are responsible for making sure your child has regular and punctual attendance at school.**

The Local Authority (LA) is responsible for making sure that parents/carers fulfil their responsibilities, and the school must tell the LA if your child is regularly absent from school. As a parent/carer, you are committing an offence if you fail to make sure that

your child attends school regularly. You run the risk of being prosecuted by the LA if your child's attendance is poor.

Reporting School Absence

We appreciate there may be times your child is unwell or unable to attend school. As a parent you have a responsibility to:-

- Contact school on the first morning of absence, providing a reason for their absence.
- Keep school informed on a regular basis if your child is absent for a long period.
- Provide medical evidence if this has been requested by the school

If school are not informed and unable to contact you via telephone regarding your child's absence a letter will be sent requesting details of the absence or our Parent Support Advisor will come out and visit to see if you need any support. If this is not returned and still no reason for the absence is provided the absence will be marked as unauthorised.

Only head teachers can authorise absence and it is at their discretion as to whether the reason provided is acceptable or not.

If your child is unwell, please contact school office as soon as possible by 9am. It is important that children attend school as often as possible because if they are not in school they cannot learn.

The minimum acceptable level of school attendance is 96%. **We believe as a school that identifying poor attendance early as well as working in partnership with parents we can**

significantly improve attendance and prevent a child becoming a persistent absentee and involvement with the Local authority. Below outlines the procedure that we follow to support and improve attendance:

- Notice to Improve Letter - sent home to indicate to parents/cares that attendance is starting to decline. This will be sent to students below 96% attendance.
- Medical Evidence Request Letter - sent home to request medical evidence to be provided to support absence, without this future absence will be marked as unauthorised. ***This could be in the form of an appointment card or proof of medication given by the doctor***
- Parents/carers to be invited to attend a school attendance meeting to discuss concerns and set targets to improve attendance.
- If your child's attendance falls to 90% or below, this is considered, by the Government, to be persistent absence. Where attendance falls below 90% and there are unauthorised absences a referral will be made to the Local Authority School Improvement Officer for further intervention and enforcement action may be taken.

County Durham Dance Festival – 31.3.23

UNCRC Article 31 – leisure, play and artistic culture

Congratulations to all the children in Class 5 who have been working incredibly hard all term in PE – Dance to choreograph a dance routine that provided awareness for our PSHCE LGBTQ+ work and incorporate dance moves that challenged all.

We are immensely proud of you all and you gave all our parents a true treat when you performed at the Gala Theatre in front of a full audience.

Rights Respecting Gold ethos demonstrated by all children.



Artist of the Half Term!

UNCRC Article 29 – Education should develop a child's personality, child's and abilities.

This half term we have chosen an artist who was very inspired by Kandinsky and his work. He worked so hard to create this piece of artwork independently and kept on producing different pieces of artwork!

Our Artist of the Half Term goes to Jay. Well done Jay!

