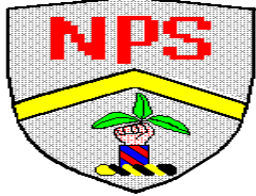


Autumn Term Newsletter



Nettleworth-School Community Group NSCG

This Group is the charity run by some of our teachers, parents and carers to support and fund fun learning and social activities in school. When we waved goodbye to our Year 6 children back in July, we also lost a number of our most active parents, so we're looking for new members to join the fun! It isn't a big commitment involving regular meetings or months spent planning, we're all juggling children and work too. Most of our planning is done via Whatsapp or at the schoolgate!

We welcome everyone from our school community to join in. If you want to know more or can spare some time to help, please email Kelly the NSCG Chair. k.lofthouse500@nettleworth.durham.sch.uk

Alternatively, contact the school office for further information

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.

Open the Book Assembly

UNCRC Article 28—right to education

Well done to all our children today when we welcomed Rev. Michael and friends for our latest Open the Book Assembly. Brilliant participation from everyone who demonstrated our rights respecting gold ethos.



Diary Dates

Sun 22nd Oct- Messy Church 3pm-5pm (Kimbleworth Church)

WB 23rd Oct- Parents Meetings- AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS WILL BE CANCELLED THIS WEEK

Tue 24th Oct- Harvest Festival at Kimbleworth Church

Thur 26th Oct- Halloween Disco 4.30pm-6.00pm

Fri 27th Oct- Class 1 Stay and Play Day

Fri 27th Oct- End of Half Term

Mon 6th Nov- Children return to school

Mon 6th Nov- Launch of Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thur 9th Nov- Maths Day

Mon 13th Nov- World Kindness Day

Wed 15th Nov- Parliamentary Coffee Morning

Fri 17th Nov- Children in Need Day

Fri 17th Nov- CRISIS- Class 5 School Sleepover

Fri 24th Nov- **INSET DAY/Teacher Training Day**

Fri 1st Dec-Christmas Card Post Box opens

Fri 1st Dec- Decoration of School Christmas Tree

Mon 4th Dec- School Reports will be sent home

Tue 5th Dec- Class 3/4/5 KS2 Nativity Performance- 2pm

Thur 7th Dec- Class 1/2 KS1 Nativity Performance-2pm

Tue 12th Dec- Christingle- Kimbleworth Church-2pm

Wed 13th Dec- Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Thur 14th Dec-Christmas Party- 1.30pm-3.30pm

Mon 18th Dec- Elf Run

Tue 19th Dec- Christmas Fayre and End of Term

Thur 4th Jan- Children return to school

Further letters/details will follow about each event

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 and issues affecting**

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.

Class 1 Highlights

UNCRC Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.





Rugby with Marc

Class 2 had lots of fun taking part in a Rugby taster session with Marc. We were amazing at catching the rugby ball and getting each others tag belts!



Vertebrate and Invertebrate Investigation IN Class 4

In our Science lesson, we were looking today at vertebrates and invertebrates in our local area! We found lots of different examples of each on our school grounds and had so much fun working in our groups.

UNCRC Article 28 – every child has the right to an education.





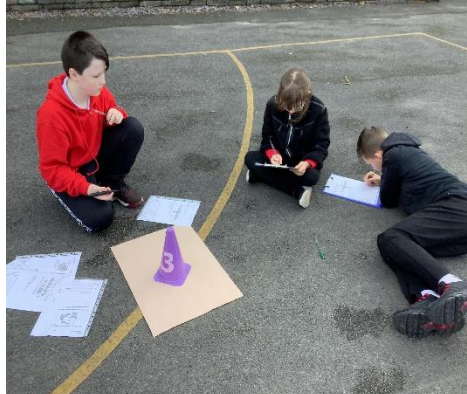
Maths— Reasoning and Problem Solving in Class 5

UNCRC Article 29—goals of education

A wonderful effort by all our children today when they participated in our Reasoning and Problem Solving carousel. We had some of the children performing the role of teacher and explaining how to solve problems in a variety of written methods – some definite Future Careers in teaching.

Our NACE guests were very impressed with our work.

Rights Respecting Gold ethos demonstrated by all.



Using computing skills in Class 3

UNCRC Article 17 – Right to reliable information on the media.

