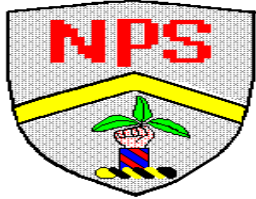


AutumnTerm Newsletter



Staffing update

I am writing to let you know that we will have a really sad farewell at the end of the AutumnTerm.

I would like to inform you Mrs Miller will be leaving her role as School Office Administration Manger to start early retirement from her role at Nettleworth Primary School.

It has been such a privilege to work with her as part of our team. She has had the pleasure to see many of our children over the years grow and develop during their time in primary school and the privilege to work with dedicated teachers, support staff, parents/carers and Governors. We would like to thank her from the bottom of our hearts for all she has have given to the school and wish Mrs Miller best wishes in her retirement.

We are currently in the process of recruiting a new School Office Administration Manager and will let you know in due course of the successful candidate.

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.

Congratulations

Mrs Morton and Callum are expecting their second baby in February. We are all very excited and wanted to share this special news with you.

Her due date is fast approaching and Mrs Morton will begin her maternity leave February when her baby boy is due. She will be returning the last week of the Summer Term before the Summer holidays.

I am also happy to inform you that Mrs Dyer will be taking her place for the duration of her leave. Mrs Dyer already works in our school so the children know her very well. Mrs Dyer will begin to work with Mrs Morton and solely in her class before her maternity leave.

Diary Dates

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
Shoebbox 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.

#HelloYellow supporting Children's Mental Health 2023

Here at Nettlesworth Primary School, we took part in #HelloYellow for World Mental Health Day 2023, showing our children that how they feel INSIDE matters. Mental health and wellbeing are our number one priorities at Nettlesworth. We know that happy and healthy minds help us to learn and do our best!

We dressed up in our yellow clothes for the day. We also took time out to tell jokes, and we had a challenge of giving at least one person a compliment. In the afternoon, we tried yoga and a range of mindfulness activities in our classrooms too! Together we raised a wonderful £70 for the charity: Young Minds – THANK

YOU





Careers Experience – Fire Service Engineer

UNCRC Article 29: Every child has the right to an education that develops their personality, talents and abilities to the full.

We had a visit from Callum from Chubb Fire. We have some children in Class 1 & 4 with a passion for fire safety and we have been talking about different careers other than a Firefighters; but that still link to fire safety and protection.



Fire safety engineers ensure that buildings are designed to keep people, property and the environment safe from the dangers of fire and Callum brought along some of his extinguishers to show the children; how they work, what the different types are used for, when they should be checked and how they are used.



We even had the opportunity to use the water and foam extinguisher on the field. It was super load and super powerful – an all around wonderful experience to showcase different

careers for our children





Leaf printing

Class 2 had lots of fun using different materials to print leaves, all in autumnal colours. They look amazing!



Celebration of Topic – Predator!

UNCRC Article 31 – Right to take part in a range of activities.

As part of Class 3's DT lesson this week, we made our very own moving predators! We used paper plates and lolly sticks to create a lever, that allowed our Predators to move around their habitats. We thought carefully about the kind of Habitats they would live in, linking it to what we had learnt this half term. We also added some prey. We all had so much fun making these and they all looked fantastic!





Robin Hood Ballads in Class 4

In Literacy this term, we have been looking at the legend of Robin Hood. Today, we began to work in our partners to create our very own ballads about Robin Hood and his adventures!

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





Computing in Class 5— 20.10.23

UNCRC Article 17 – access to media

A lovely lesson today saw our children enhancing their multimedia presentations based on a historical event. Ours is our Cornerstones Curriculum topic – Fallen Fields.

Next week we are preparing to welcome our families to help with hyperlinking and slide transition.

Rights Respecting Gold ethos demonstrated by all.

