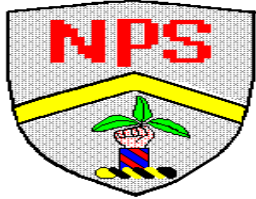


# Summer Term Newsletter



## Summer Fayre 2024

A big thank you to everyone that supported the summer fair! Altogether we took over £1100 on Saturday afternoon and we will be donating £100 to the North East Air Ambulance Service. Well done everyone ☺

Also a big thank you to Jessica Hirst in Year 4, who set up her own arts and crafts stall and donated everything she made £85 to our school. Very proud of you Jessica.

We also would like to thank Nettleworth School Community Group for all their support and time in arranging our community events.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.nettleworth.durham.sch.uk) for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

## Sports Day 2024

We had a lovely afternoon taking part in a range of sporting activities to gather points for our teams. We all took part in a race and earned much valued points. Mrs Peverely and June kindly kept the score. Our amazing Sports Leaders, along with Mr Beveridge, made sure the afternoon ran smoothly and all equipment was ready for each activity.

A massive well done to each and every child, you were all amazing! A special well done to the children who achieved Sainsburys Values awards, awarded by our Sports Leaders.

And finally congratulations to the winning team and 2024 champions .... BLUE TEAM!



## Diary Dates

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July**- TT Rockstars Day

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July**- Class 5 Summer Showcase

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July**- Talent Show for Heel and Toe Charity

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**- Year 6 Leavers Assembly

- Year 6 Prom

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**- Picnic with Parents/Carers

- End of Term

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September**- 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 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.

Visit from Local Artist

*UNCRC Article 31 – Right to develop our talents.*

Today the children had a fantastic day, taking part in an art workshop with Kate Mason. Kate is a local artist who inspired lots of the children with her incredible story. The children had the opportunity to each create a powertex tile which all looked fantastic. The children learnt lots of new skills as well as learning more about art as a career. This was a brilliant opportunity for all of the children and they all had lots of fun!



We are delighted to let you know that we have been re-accredited for the fourth time the NACE Challenge Award and are now a NACE Challenge Ambassador School-fifth in the country. Thank you to staff, parents, governors and children for your continued hard work.

Please see attached report

**NACE Award Re-accreditation**

*NACE Award Re-accreditation*

[Nettlesworth Reaccreditation Report 2024](#)

As part of our community of NACE Challenge Award schools, a new feature launched on our

website this week: an interactive map showing the locations of all Challenge Award-accredited schools.

The map is intended to illustrate the reach of the Challenge Award, and to promote the achievement of accredited schools in earning and maintaining the Award. It can be viewed here: [www.nace.co.uk/challenge](http://www.nace.co.uk/challenge)

## Nettlesworth's General Election

**UNCRC Article 12 – Every child has the right to have a say and have their views taken seriously.**

We have been learning all about the upcoming general election, in both assemblies and in class. We discussed what a general election was and why it is important. We decided to have our very own election, in our coloured teams. Each team has proposed an idea for a treat on Monday. The team captains worked hard to create posters and stood in front of everyone in assembly to propose their team's ideas. We had some amazing speeches that were very persuasive. On Thursday, each child will vote for the team they would like to win and the winning team will choose our treat! We are looking forward to seeing who the winning team are.

Our winners of the election are.... Red Team!!! Red teams choice of treat was a movie afternoon,

which we will all enjoy on Monday!



## Hamsterly Forest Trip

We had a fantastic time at Hamsterly Forest exploring the natural world, improving our map skill and working on our OAA skills.

