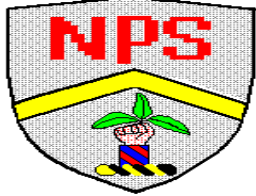


# Spring Term Newsletter



## Mayor of Durham Visits Nettleworth Primary School

We were incredibly lucky to have a visit from the Mayor of Durham this afternoon, with her bodyguards. In class 3 and 4, we decided on questions we would like to ask her and finished off our afternoon with performing Three Little Birds using sign language with Class 3. Class 1 sang a song using makaton and Class 2 sang a song in french. Year 5/6 shared their work they had been doing with Durham Business Enterprise.

*UNCRC Article 12 – every child has the right to be heard.*



## 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.**

### *Important Information of Changes to the issue of penalty notices.*

Changes to the issue of Penalty Notices to address School Attendance from 19th of August 2024: THE EDUCATION (PENALTY NOTICES) (ENGLAND) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2024 No. 210.

From 19.08.24 new legislation comes into force regarding the criteria for and the issue of penalty notices to address school attendance. A national framework for parental fines is being introduced for any pupil who misses 10 or more half-days within any 10-week period. Please note that if you have requested a Leave of Absence that commences from September 2024 onwards, any Penalty Notice/s issued will be at the new rates and trigger the start of the three year threshold period, as specified below. The following changes have been made:

- the number of unauthorised absences that may trigger a potential fine: 10 unauthorised absences (5 days) in a 10 school week period.
- the number of penalty notices that can be issued to a parent in respect of the same individual child: a maximum of 2 penalty notices will be issued (per parent, per child) within a 3 year period
- for the first penalty notice issued to each parent in respect of the same individual child in a 3-year period: the

amount of the penalty notice has increased from £120 to £160 if paid within 28 days and £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days

- any second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same individual child within 3 years of the date the first penalty notice issue is now set at £160 to be paid within 28 days - NB: No discount for earlier payment is offered.

- any further absences will proceed for prosecution in the Magistrate Court for the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of the first penalty was issued - The maximum fine the court can impose for a first offence is £1,000 per parent, per child. If, however, you have a history of offences of this nature you may be prosecuted under Section 444(1A) Education Act 1996 and the court can fine you up to £2,500 per child, order payment of the prosecution costs, impose a Parenting Order and/or sentence you to a period of imprisonment of up to 3 months. This reflects the seriousness of unauthorised absence from school. Please speak to us if you have concerns about your child's attendance - we want to support you to address any barriers which prevent your child attending on time every day.

### *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.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk](http://www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk) for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

## *Diary Dates*

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**- History Day

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April**- Easter Egg Competition

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April**- Easter Crafts Afternoon

-End of Term

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**- Teacher Inset Day

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April**- Children Return to School

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May**- Y4 Times Tables Check Parent/Carer Meeting

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May**- Bank Holiday

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**- Children return to school

**WB Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May**- Year 2 and Year 6 SATS Assessments Week

-Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Paper

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May**-Reading Paper

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**-Maths Arithmetic and Reasoning Paper 1

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May**- Maths Reasoning Paper 2

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May**- Y2/Y6 SATs Party

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May**- Class 3 Trip to Beamish Museum

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**- End of Half Term

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**- Children Return to School

-Y4 Tables Check two week window begins	<b>Friday 11th July-</b> End of Year School Reports to Parents/Carers	by the LA if your child's attendance is poor.
<b>Tuesday 3rd June-</b> Class Photographs	<b>Monday 14th July-</b> Parents Open Evening	<b>Reporting School Absence</b>
<b>Friday 6th June-</b> New Reception Starters Parent/Carer Meeting	<b>Tuesday 15th July-</b> Heel and Toe Talent Show	We appreciate there may be times your child is unwell or unable to attend school. As a parent you have a responsibility to:-
<b>W/B Monday 9th June-</b> Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	<b>Wednesday 16th July-</b> TT Rockstars Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Contact school on the first morning of absence, providing a reason for their absence.</li> <li>○ Keep school informed on a regular basis if your child is absent for a long period.</li> <li>○ Provide medical evidence if this has been requested by the school</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 9th June-</b> Y5/6 Robinwood Parents/Carers Meeting	<b>Thursday 17th July-</b> Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Year 6 Prom	
<b>Monday 16th June-</b> New Reception Starters Visit 1	<b>Friday 18th July-</b> Picnic with Parents/Carers - End of Term	
<b>Tuesday 17th June-</b> Sports Day	<b>Wednesday 3rd September-</b> Children return to 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.
<b>Wednesday 18th June-</b> New Reception Starters Visit 2	<b>Further letters/details will follow about each event</b>	
<b>Monday 23rd June-</b> New Reception Starters Visit 3	<b>Absences</b>	
<b>Wednesday 25th June-</b> New Reception Starters Visit 4 - Class Swap Day	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. <b>Once your child is registered at Nettlesworth Primary School, you are responsible for making sure your child has regular and punctual attendance at school.</b>	Only head teachers can authorise absence and it is at their discretion as to whether the reason provided is acceptable or not.
<b>Wednesday 2nd July-</b> Year 5/6 Residential to Robinwood - Reception Class Vision Checks	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	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.
<b>Friday 4th July-</b> Framwellgate Moor Transition Day		<b>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</b>
<b>Saturday 5th July-</b> School Summer Fayre		
<b>Tuesday 8th July-</b> KS2 SATS Results		
<b>Wednesday 9th July-</b> Class 1 Performance		
<b>Thursday 10th July-</b> Class 5 Summer Showcase		



**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

### History Day

#### Class 1

Class 1 discovered the Stone Age and Ivoed .



**Class 2**

Class 2's theme was Kings and Queens, learning about the current British Monarchy

#### Class 3

Class 3's theme were the Romans and learnt about the way of life, what happened when Pompeii erupted and the differences between the regions of the Roman Empire.



**Class 4**

Class 4 dressed up as Vikings! We read a Viking story about a young girl named Tilda, uncovered Viking equivalent fractions using longship sails, discussed the Pagan gods and goddess the Vikings worshipped, created Viking shields and loved showing off our costumes.



**Class 5**

Class 5 learnt about the significant figures of history who sought out new countries and ventures of the world.

UNCRC Article 31 – children have the right to take part in artistic activities.

### Durham Business Enterprise

Year 5/6 have been working with a business, who creates local textiles, for the past 10 weeks. Children have designed, manufactured and sold their product at Durham Market Place on Saturday. The children sold all of their finished products and demonstrated creativity and excellent teamwork skills. We would like to thank Melanie Kyle, a local textiles designer for this opportunity.

UNCRC Article 29-Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.



### Mini Police – Future Careers

#### UNCRC Article 28 – Right to Education

Well done to all of our children in Class 5 who have been working with a variety of professional within the Police Force to complete their Mini Police work concentrating on a series of issues which our police force deal with in their roles. We have definitely been inspired by the police and have potential future careers amongst us in the Force.

Rights Respecting Gold demonstrated by all our children.



Ukulele and Violin concert

#### UNCRC Article 29 – Develop our talents

Class 3 and 4 have been working so hard over the past few months to learn how to play the ukulele. They have learnt so many new chords and songs and have been building their confidence every week. Today we performed to the rest of the school, playing and singing all of the songs we have learnt so far. They played so well and should be very proud of themselves! The year 4's and 5's have also been continuing to learn more songs on the violin and performed solos to everyone! They played amazingly and it is

lovely to see the progress they have made.



We hope you have a lovely Easter Holiday and will return to school Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

