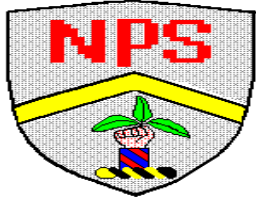


Summer Term Newsletter



Y6 SATs Picnic Celebration

Thanks to all of the adults who came along to celebrate the amazing work of our year 6 children. We enjoyed a friendly game of adults vs children in dodgeball and rounders and then a lovely picnic, made by the children.



We want every one of them to know just how proud we are of the remarkable young people they have become during their time at Nettleworth Primary School. They have been fantastic role models to our younger children, showing kindness, resilience, humour and maturity throughout the year.

Each member of this special class brings their own unique personality, talents and strengths to our school community. Whether in sport, music, art, friendship, leadership or simply the way they make others smile, they contribute something truly valuable.

SATs are just one small part of their journey. They do not define who our children are or all that they are capable of achieving.

Our message to Year 6 was simple: believe in yourselves, stay calm and do your very best. That is all anyone could ever ask.

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 for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

Diary Dates

Friday 22nd May- End of Half Term

Monday 1st June- Children Return to School

-Y4 Tables Check two week window begins

Tuesday 2nd June- Class Photographs

Wed 3th June-Fri 5th June-Year 5/6 Robinwood Residential

Friday 5th June- New Reception Starters Parent/Carer Meeting

W/B Monday 8th June- Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Monday 15th June- New Reception Starters Visit 1

Tuesday 16th June- Sports Day

Wednesday 17th June- New Reception Starters Visit 2

Monday 22nd June- New Reception Starters Visit 3

Wednesday 24th June- New Reception Starters Visit 4

- Class Swap Day

Saturday 4th July- School Summer Fayre

Tuesday 7th July- KS2 SATS Results

Wednesday 8th July- Class 1 Performance

Thursday 9th July- Class 5 Summer Showcase

Friday 10th July- End of Year School Reports to Parents/Carers

Monday 13th July- Parents Open Evening

Tuesday 14th July- Heel and Toe Talent Show

Wednesday 15th July- TT Rockstars Day

Thursday 16th July- Year 6 Leavers Assembly

- Year 6 Prom

Friday 17th July- Picnic with Parents/Carers

- End of Term

Thursday 3rd 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/carers, 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/carers, 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.

Neighbourhood Warden Visit in Class 5

Thanks to John who came to talk to us about dog fouling in our local community and what we can do to make a difference. Keep an eye out for the signs that we have put up in our village.



Pizza Party

Well done to all of our amazing year 6 children who worked so hard during SAT's. A well deserved pizza party to celebrate the end!



VE Day

We learned about VE Day and why it is important. We discussed how people celebrated the end of World War II in Europe, then held our own class tea party with cakes to mark the anniversary. It helped us reflect on the past and celebrate peace together.

UNCRC Article 30 – every child has the right to learn about their own culture and history.



Frisbee with Caitlin

We took part in a fun frisbee session with Caitlin from the Durham Sports Partnership. We practised our throwing and catching skills and worked together in team games. It was a great way to stay active, build our teamwork and try something new.

UNCRC Article 2 – every child deserves equal access to sports.



Topic Engagements

We welcomed Professor Brainstorm into school who wowed us with some amazing scientific experiments and investigations that linked to our topic of Alchemy Island!

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



Cricket with Durham Cricket Foundation.

Class 3 have really enjoyed developing their cricket skills with Chris from Durham Cricket Foundation. They have worked so hard on their batting and fielding skills. I think we have some future cricket stars in the making!

UNCRC – Article 28 – Right to a range of activities to further learning.



Ice lollies in the sun.

Article 31 – The right to play, rest, leisure

Class 3 enjoyed eating some delicious ice lollies and playing with our friends in the sun. We made sure to have our suncream and hats on as it was hot!



Forest School with Miss Grimes.

UNCRC – Article 29 – develop childrens goals of education.

Class 3 have really enjoyed forest school with Miss Grimes. We learnt all about fire and how to be safe. We made sure we used the safety stance when toasting our

marshmallows to make s'mores, yum!



Disney Sports Festival

UNCRC Article 31 – Take part in a range of activities.

Class 2 had a fantastic afternoon, taking part in a Disney sports festival. They looked fab in their Disney T-shirts and enjoyed throwing, catching, dodging and learning some new, sporty skills!



Class 1 Highlights

UNCRC Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

The children have been thrilled to welcome six new additions (in

egg form!) to Class 1. As part of our farm topic, we have begun learning about the life cycle of a hen and are incubating eggs in the classroom. The children are fascinated by this experience and have been helping to carefully turn the eggs

four times a day, showing great responsibility and curiosity.

In literacy, we have been practising writing sentences about ourselves. The children are working hard to remember capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops, and are becoming more confident writers.

In numeracy, we have been exploring capacity in the water tray. The children enjoyed measuring and comparing different amounts while making potions and magical concoctions.

We also had a wonderful visit from Professor Brainstorm, who showed us just how fun and magical science can be! The children were amazed by the exciting experiments and asked lots of thoughtful questions.



Party Day!

UNCRC Article 31 – Right to relax and play.

To celebrate the children's hard work during their assessments, we enjoyed a well-deserved Party Day. Pupils relaxed with a film, took part in fun games and enjoyed some tasty treats. It was a lovely way to recognise their efforts and achievements – well done to everyone!



