

Newsletter October 2023

Attendance

Over the first 7 weeks of this school year you have been amazing at working with us to help improve attendance – your efforts have not gone to waste.

Our attendance today is 95.88% which is much better than this day last year when it was 93.61%.

So far this year there have been 199 days of learning missed compared to 338 days last year.

Of the 199 days of missed learning, 64.5 were due to children being on holiday.

We will continue to celebrate good attendance in school but we fully understand that, if a child is genuinely too ill to come to school, they must stay safe and warm at home.

Health and Fitness

As you know, we place a great deal of importance on physical and emotional health which is why the whole school runs for 15 minutes at the start of every day.

We also offer free (or very cheap) after school clubs so that children can be active and/or sociable with their friends in a more relaxed environment. Many of the clubs have been requested by the children themselves and all are being well attended. Details of next half term's clubs will be shared on Parent Hub next week.

Some of your children have participated in sporting events outside of school and they have, almost without exception, been fantastic ambassadors for the school in terms of their attitudes and behaviour. Year 2 children have attended a multi-sports events; Key Stage 2 have had the chance to take part in the inter-schools Cross Country and we will be taking our year 3 girls and a year 5 boy to the final because they were so brilliant; some year 5 children have attended a rugby tournament at Dewsbury Rams; there has been a year 5/6 football match with another school and we have more sporting events to come.

It is our wish that every single child in school takes part in an extra-curricular activity over the coming year.

Parents' Evening

Our first Parents' Evening is being held in school on Wednesday 8th November from 3.45pm – 7.45pm.

Please book an appointment using School Cloud via Parent Hub.

If you are unable to attend on this date please contact your child's class teacher via the school office.

Parking

Please do not block any local roads – we are getting more complaints and it makes the relationship we have with our neighbours very difficult.

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School Trips

We have just about finalised all our school trips for this year – we have tried to keep costs as low as we can.

Last year we had to chase people for contributions to trips. This year we are giving you a lot of notice in the hope that you will be able to contribute over the months and it not feel as much of a financial burden at the time. **If we do not receive sufficient contributions by the dates below the trip will be cancelled.** Anyone facing financial hardship should speak to Miss Barlow via the school office.

CLASS	WHERE	WHEN	COST	PAYMENT DEADLINE	ADDITIONAL NOTES
Nursery	Little Town of Play	Thursday 21 st March 2024	This trip will be paid for by school		Parents to bring their child
Reception	Little Town of Play	Thursday 21 st March 2024	This trip will be paid for by school		Afternoon session
Class 1	Piglets Adventure Farm York	Wednesday 19 th June 2024	£25	Friday 7 th June 2024	School uniform
Class 2	The National Coal Mining Museum	Thursday 9 th May 2024	£22.20	Friday 26 th April 2024	School uniform
Class 3-4	Yorkshire Wildlife Park	Friday 14 th June 2024	£20.10	Monday 3 rd June 2024	School uniform
Class 4-5	Yorkshire Wildlife Park	Friday 14 th June 2024	£20.10	Monday 3 rd June 2024	School uniform
Class 5-6	Mission Out	Thursday 20 th June 2024	£24.50	Friday 7 th June 2024	Activewear, no jeans

All trips must be paid for on ParentPay – speak to the office if you do not know how to do this.

Safeguarding

In school we have a duty to keep each and every one of your children safe and we take this responsibility very seriously.

Any concern is reported to either the Designated Safeguarding Lead – DSL - (Miss Barlow) or a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead DDSL (Mrs Wilby, Miss Massarella, Mrs Ottewell, Mrs Jogee and Mrs Shaikh)

Once a concern has been reported it is documented and then acted upon – sometimes we monitor situations, sometimes we speak to the child and sometimes we ring the parents. We will never ring Social Care without a parent’s consent unless we believe that speaking to the parent first would increase the risk to the child (this is very rare).

If you feel you do not want to speak to school you can report concerns to other agencies – details can be found using this link <https://www.kirklessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/reporting-child-abuse/>

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Diary Dates

Here are some key dates for this term.

We will be sharing key dates for the year with you soon so that you can make plans where necessary.

Friday 27 th October	Last day of school for this half term
Monday 6 th November	School starts again
Wednesday 8 th November	Parents' evening 3.45pm – 7.45pm Book using School cloud via Parent Hub
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need Wear something spotty – fine £1 This is the charity we will be supporting financially this year so we will not ask you for any more money.
Friday 24 th November	Individual pupil photographs will be taken in school. More details will be shared nearer the time.
Friday 24 th November	Parents and carers are invited to visit their child's class between 2.45-3.30 to look at their books and chat about what they have been learning.
Monday 18 th December	Key Stage 1 and Reception Nativity 2pm Book tickets by ringing the school office
Tuesday 19 th December	Key Stage 1 and reception Nativity 9.30am Book tickets by ringing the school office
Tuesday 19 th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Party – afternoon Children in Key Stage 1 can come to school in party clothes but must wear shoes suitable for running the Daily Mile – they may do this after the nativity
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner in school for children
Thursday 21 st December	Nursery Christmas Party Reception Christmas Party Key Stage 2 Christmas Party Children in nursery, reception and Key Stage 2 can come to school in party clothes but must wear shoes suitable for running the Daily Mile
Friday 22 nd December	Last day of school this term
Monday 8 th January 2024	TRAINING DAY FOR STAFF NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
Tuesday 9 th January	First day back for all children