



NEWSLETTER 1 SEPTEMBER



I hope you have all had a great summer holiday!

It has been a delight to welcome the children back to school. They have all settled beautifully into their new classes and, as always, have been a credit to you! We have welcomed 26 children into Reception class and 7 new children into Nursery. They are already proving to be a joy.

We are excited to be introducing a new Phonics programme into school - Read, Write, Inc. We have invested in lots of new resources and will be switching over from the old scheme to the new one in the coming weeks. In the meantime, children will be bringing home library books to read/share with families and this may be a great time to visit the library yourself or read books with them that they already have at home.

Further information on the new Phonics programme will be shared with parents/carers at our Curriculum meetings. Further information on these meetings and dates for your diary for the Autumn term will be published next week.

We are also in the process of setting our plan for extra curricular activities for the full academic year. Again, further information on these activities and how to book your child a place will be sent out next week.

A few reminders:

No earrings are to be worn in school. Children will be asked to remove them; if they cannot parents/carers will be asked to come into school to remove them.

Can all children please bring a **water bottle** to school with them.

Tuck shop will run every Friday and children can bring 50p to school to purchase 1 item from the tuck shop. Can parents/carers of children in nursery and reception please put the money in a small envelope with their child's name on it?

When collecting your child at the end of the school day can you please ensure that they **do not climb on the flower beds and metal sculptures on the front street.**

Star of the Week

The following children have received a Star of the Week certificate this week:

- Nursery - Eadie for being super sensible in the dining hall and doing such a great job with her dinner
- Reception - Clementine for lots of lovely detail in her self-portrait
- Year 1 - Kamran for some excellent English and Maths work which he completed independently
- Year 2 - Ellen for some excellent descriptive writing
- Year 3 - Harry for his sensible attitude and effort in school
- Year 4 - India for fabulous Science work on the digestive system
- Year 5 - James G for making a fantastic start to Year 5 and having a very mature attitude
- Year 6 - Jack G for an excellent piece of descriptive writing



Attendance

As you know, attendance is hugely important and we will be reporting attendance on a weekly/monthly basis. The class with the best attendance each month will be rewarded with an extra 10 minutes of play time.

Pupils with 100% attendance each term will also receive a certificate.

This week's attendance is:

Nursery	Reception	Year1	Year2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
90.3%	100%	94.9%	95.7%	94.8%	95.5%	96.9%	99.7%

Attendance over all for the whole school is 96.2%



House Points

We have re-introduced the House Points system in school. Children can earn house points from all staff during the week. The house points for this week are:

St Aidan - 1016
St Cuthbert - 992

St Oswald - 968
St Bede - 1336

Well done to everyone



Swimming

Children who are going swimming this year will need to bring their swimming kit (including swimming hat), a towel and a warm coat each Wednesday morning as they will be walking to the Louisa Centre. To take into account the year groups that have missed swimming opportunities due to pool closures over the last couple of years the timetable for swimming for each half term this year is:

Autumn 1 From 8 th September	Year 4
Autumn 2 From 3 rd November	Year 3
Spring 1 From 5 th January	Year 4
Spring 2 From 2 nd March	Year 5
Summer 1 From 27 th April	Year 4
Summer 2 From 8 th June	Year 5/6 *

*Children in Y5 and Y6 who are still working towards swimming 25m unaided will receive a letter giving them details of when they will be going swimming.

School Meals & ParentPay



A polite reminder that **all** school meals must be booked via ParentPay. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, meals are free and can be booked for the full term. Nursery & KS2 children meals can be booked on a weekly, monthly or termly basis and must be paid for at the time of booking. As I am sure you can appreciate, it can be distressing for a child if they haven't been booked in to have a school meal and they don't have a packed lunch (please note that this doesn't usually come to light until lunchtime). Staff will obviously then contact parents/carers to arrange a meal but children may have to have whatever is available at short notice and it is not always their choice or parents may have to bring a packed lunch in for their child. Please help us ensure your child has the meal of their choice by booking meals by a Sunday at the latest for the following week. If you have any queries about booking on ParentPay, please contact Mrs Cowan who will be more than happy to help.

ADVICE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

From time to time children may suffer from an infection such as diarrhoea, vomiting or chickenpox. During these times your child will have to stay at home. Public Health England (PHE) issue advice on when children need to stay at home. The advice from PHE is to check their website when a child becomes ill to get the most up to date information as to whether they need to stay at home. If your child becomes unwell and you are unsure as to whether they should stay at home please visit the PHE website and read the Exclusions Table <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

Obviously, if you are worried your child may be showing symptoms of COVID-19 you must follow the latest government guidance which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



Public Health
England

Starting school in September 2022

Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023?



If so, you need to complete an application online to tell Durham

County Council which school you would like your child to attend from September 2022.

Visit www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. We encourage you to apply online wherever possible as although restrictions have been lifted, staff will in the main be working from home due to the Coronavirus pandemic. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school.

For more information please contact
School Places and Admissions Team
www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions
03000 265 896



We are pleased to confirm that we have set up a new **Wrap Around Care Service** which includes **both Breakfast Club and/or After School Club**. This provision will run Monday to Friday, term-time only. Breakfast club is run from 7.40 am and we ask that all children who are attending Breakfast Club are in school by 8.00am The After-School Club will provide out of school activities in a safe, happy environment and will finish at 5.30pm.

Places can be booked for regular use on one or more days per week, OR (subject to available places) occasional/one-off bookings may be made, giving a minimum of 24 hours' notice. Parents who use the club regularly may make late bookings subject to staffing arrangements and this must be done by 2:30pm on the same day for the After-School Club or 2:30pm the previous day for Breakfast Club. Cancellations must be made 48 hours in advance, or the full fee will be chargeable.

Bookings must be made by completing a booking form, which is available from the school office or the school website. **Payment must be made in advance using ParentPay. Office staff will confirm bookings.**

Regular Attendance Fees are payable monthly in advance. Ad hoc bookings must be paid at the time of booking. Parents who have two or more children attending and pay £60.00 or more a week are entitled to 10% discount if their bill is paid in full by the agreed date. **No place can be allocated without a booking form and payment.**

A regular booking is a booking made for a minimum of half a term and paid in advance by the date shown on the bill. The casual rate will apply in all other circumstances. Refunds will not be given for sickness or any other absences. Payments are to be made by ParentPay. Reminders will be sent out if payment is not made. **Persistent non-payment will result in place(s) being withdrawn.**

The cost of After School Club is £5.50 per day.

The cost of Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day.

Contact

To contact the Club Staff to advise of any change in arrangements (e.g. child's absence from the club, need to collect early) or for any other reason, please ring the following telephone number:

School Office between 8am and 4pm: 01207 232624

St Joseph's Club before 8am and after 4pm only: 07823 815101

Correspondence can be sent to the Club Manager c/o the school office or by email to stanleystjoseph@durhamlearning.net.

If you have any queries, please contact us at
stanleystjoseph@durhamlearning.net