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Friday 18th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance & Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 was 96.46% this week. This means that we are in the **Green zone** and we are meeting our targets set by the Department for Education.

It's a very close contest between the classes to who will win the half term class prize – Year 5 have been in the lead but have just been overtaken by Year 2!

Attendance	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week commencing 14 th October	99.20%	98.00%	95.20%	95.30%	93.70%	98.30%
Autumn Half Term 1	95.66%	96.34%	94.44%	95.94%	96.21%	93.83%

New Adventurelands Party

Tickets are on sale at the school office for the New Adventurelands Party.

We are very excited to be teaming up with New Adventurelands Soft Play Centre (Benton Road) who will be hosting an exclusive party for St Stephen's school community on **Tuesday 29th October 5pm-7pm**. Tickets will cost just £5 per child (usually entry is £7.95) and accompanying adults go free. **Please note that children must be supervised by an appropriate adult throughout the event.** Tickets are available to buy from the school office by cash or card, with proceeds going to support our school funds for outdoor play provision. Feel free to buy tickets for family and friends too – all are welcome! There is no food or drink to be brought in from outside the centre, but the Cafe will be open for the duration of the visit, running a full menu as well as snacks and drinks.



*New Adventurelands - 0191 2599966
 Rear of 24 Benton Road, Newcastle, NE7 7DT*



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Poppies and other Royal British Legion merchandise including wristbands and snap bands will be on sale next week and throughout next week at breaktimes and lunchtimes. Items range from 50p to £1.50.

Christmas Cards

Christmas card samples and order forms have gone home with pupils this week. Please ensure order forms and payments (cash only) are handed in at the school office no later than Monday 4th November. Many Thanks.

Year 5 and Year 6 High Borrans Meeting

We will be hosting a meeting on Tuesday 5th November 3.30pm at school regarding the Year 5 and Year 6 High Borrans trip. In this meeting, James from High Borrans will join us virtually to go through the programmes and answer any questions pupils or parents may have. The meeting is open to all Year 5 and 6 pupils and their parents, even if they haven't signed up for the trip next year. There currently are spaces available for the trip next year if pupils want to add on, but the meeting also allows the opportunity for Year 5 pupils to see how the programme will run when they are in Year 6. We hope to see you there!

Connect Group Parent-Led CBT

Please see message below from the Connect Mental Health Support Team:

We are the **Connect Mental Health Support Team** and we are offering you an opportunity to be part of a program designed to help you if your young person **needs help with fears and worries**. If this is of interest to you, please read on and open the attached flyer for more information.

A provisional date for sessions to begin is **Monday the 18th of November** and they will run for five weeks. We hope to have space for between 8-10 families in the group.

If you want to be part of this with us, please let your school know and ask about the Connect Mental Health Support Team. Group numbers will be limited.

Group Parent-Led CBT

Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries

Aims of the programme

Teaching parents and carers strategies informed by cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT). Empowering them to apply these techniques with their child to help them to overcome difficulties with fears and worries.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

- Group work sessions either online or face to face.
- Working through the book 'Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries' by Cathy Cresswell and Lucy Willetts.

TOPICS COVERED

- What is anxiety?
- Exploring child's anxious expectations
- Creating a stepped plan to face anxious thoughts and expectations
- Goal setting
- Identifying rewards
- Promoting independence
- Reviewing predictions and progress
- Problem solving

WHY PARENT AND CARERS?

- They know the child best and can help them face their fears.
- They are the best people to support between sessions and after the programme ends.
- PLCBT helps them to become aware of any responses that might be maintaining and/or reinforcing their child's anxious beliefs.
- They develop new skills and techniques to support their child and family.
- Research tells us that PLCBT is an effective treatment to support children and young people with worries.

If you would like to know more about Parent-Led CBT, please speak to the Senior Mental Health Lead in school and ask about the Connect Mental Health Support Team.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November. You will receive instructions next week to book an appointment. **We strongly encourage parents to make an appointment with their child's class teacher – please contact the school office should you experience any difficulties in doing so.**

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who visited our book fair, we hope you enjoyed it. Thanks to you, we were able to raise over £500 in free books for our school!

Dates for the Diary (as always, dates are subject to change!):

- Tuesday 22nd October - Maths Parental Workshop (Year 3-5) 9.15am
- Wednesday 23rd October - Maths Parental Workshop (Year 1 and Year 2) 9.15am
- Thursday 24th October – Reception and Year 6 Buddies Celebration of the Word 9am
- Monday 27th October – Friday 1st November – HALF TERM
- Tuesday 29th October – New Adventurelands Party 5pm – 7pm
- Tuesday 5th November – Year 5 and Year 6 High Borrans Meeting 3.30pm
- Friday 8th November – Shoebox appeal deadline
- Monday 11th November – Remembrance Service 10.30am
- Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November – Parent Consultations
- Wednesday 20th November – Book Swap Event 3.30pm