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Friday 16th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance & Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 has been 95.1% this week. This means that we are in the **Amber zone** and we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education. It is vital that children are in school every day, as missed school = missed learning. If your child is unwell, understandably, they cannot attend school, however, it is imperative that you notify school at the earliest time.



Remember we encourage you to check, if you are ever unsure that your child is able to attend school, check the Healthier Together, where it can give you clear advice and up to date information.

<https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk/>

Parent Consultations – Spring Term 2024

Emails have now been sent inviting you to attend a Parent Consultation for your child. Please see table below for details of the location of appointments, depending on the time you have booked.

Year Group	Dates	2pm-3pm	3.30pm -5.20pm
Nursery	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Meeting Room 2 (School Office)	
Reception	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Meeting Room (School Office)	
Year 1	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Dining Hall	Year 1 Classroom
Year 2	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Group Room 1	Year 2 Classroom
Year 3	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Group Room 2	Year 3 Classroom
Year 4	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Group Room 3	Year 4 Classroom
Year 5	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Intervention Room 1	Year 5 Classroom
Year 6	Tuesday 12 th March/ Wednesday 13 th March	Intervention Room 2	Year 6 Classroom

All Reception and Nursery class appointments will be held in the meeting room by the school office. Appointments in classrooms can be accessed via the school yard. For all other appointments, please report to the school office.

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.

Spring Disco

We will be having a Spring Disco in school on **Friday 22nd March 1pm-3pm**. Pupils can wear non-uniform on this day and for £2.00, enjoy the disco with a snack and drink. Easter themed prizes will be up for grabs too!

Save the Date – Fundraising Evening

A very exciting fundraising evening is being planned for the evening of **Friday 26th April** at the Innisfree Sports and Social Club, in Longbenton. There will be entertainment provided by special guests, a buffet, raffle and much more! We have held similar events at Blue Flames in the past, which have been a great success, as well as a lot of fun! At St Stephen's, we have some ambitious plans to develop our outdoor areas, providing more opportunities for children to play in a creative way. In order to carry out these plans, we are relying on fundraising to support our school budget. It would be great to see our school community come together to support our school and we can promise an enjoyable evening in return!

Further information and tickets will become available in due course.

Pram and Pushchair Donations

As part of our project in developing play, we would be grateful for any donations of unwanted prams or pushchairs that could be used by children in play. If you have anything at home that you are able to donate, they will definitely be going to a good home!

Prayer, Song and Soup

On Fridays throughout Lent, we welcome parents and carers into school for a morning of prayer, song and soup. As the title suggests, the children will lead you in a prayer service, there will be time to reflect and pray and the session will end with a cup of homemade delicious soup. This is an opportunity to prepare for Easter and an opportunity to 'give back' as in return for the cup of soup we ask for a small donation. All proceeds will support our Lenten appeal for CAFOD. We would love to see as many of there as possible to help support us in our Lenten appeal and prepare for the coming of Easter. Formal invitation to follow.



Prayer, Song and Soup Sessions:

- **Friday 1st March 9.15am – Year 6**
- **Friday 8th March 2pm – Year 3**
- **Friday 15th March 9.15am – Year 4**
- **Friday 22nd March 9.15am – Year 5**

CONNECT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - PARENT/CARER VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP

The Connect MHST invites Parents and carers supporting children and young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs to a virtual support group.

Wednesday 21st February, 6pm on Zoom.

The virtual group is a place for parents and carers to share their experiences, help and support each other and get information and advice to support them.

February's support group will share information about Anxiety and strategies to support you to support your child/young person.

To register your interest and book your place, please email connectmhst@northtyneside.gov.uk

Connect
Mental Health Support Team

Virtual Support Group

Parents and carers supporting children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs

SUPPORT

VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP OFFERS YOU

- Space to listen and talk
- A chance to Connect with others
- The opportunity to share experiences and ask questions
- Peer support

Connect with us...
WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
6:00PM – 7:00PM

Join us on Zoom, to book please email the address below stating your child's school and the Zoom meeting link will be sent to you.

connectmhst@northtyneside.gov.uk

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

Each Tuesday, 9th January – 13th February - Year 6 Ski Lessons (Group 1)
Each Tuesday, 6th February – 26th March - Year 6 Ski Lessons (Group 2)
Friday 16th February – Last day of half term
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February – School Closed for Half Term
Thursday 29th February 9.15am – Year 1 Phonics Workshop
Friday 1st March 9.15am – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 6)
Friday 1st March – Monday 4th March – Year 4 Residential to High Borrans
Monday 4th March – Friday 15th March – Year 5 Swimming Lessons Hadrian Leisure Centre
Wednesday 6th March – Classes visit Book Fair in school day
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
Thursday 7th March 3.15pm-4pm – Book Fair open for parents
Friday 8th March 9am – Awards Assembly
Friday 8th March 2pm – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 3) pm
Tuesday 12th March/Wednesday 13th March 2pm-5.30pm – Parent Consultations
Wednesday 13th March – Vision Screening for Reception Class
Friday 15th March 9.15am – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 4)
Monday 18th March – Thursday 28th March – Year 4 Swimming Lessons Hadrian Leisure Centre
Tuesday 19th March – KS2 Dance Festival at Whitley Bay Playhouse
Friday 22nd March 9.15am – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 5)
Friday 22nd March 1pm-3pm – Spring Disco
Week commencing 25th March – Holy Week Services
Thursday 28th March 9am – Awards Assembly
Thursday 28th March – Last day of Spring Term
Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April – Easter Holidays
Monday 15th April – School closed to pupils for INSET Day
Tuesday 16th April – Pupils return to school