



Friday 15th September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

The children have made an impeccable start to the school year and have settled well into life in their new classes. We have been particularly impressed with the children's attitudes for learning and how well they adapted to their new classroom routines. This term is set to be a busy one – which is always a great way to start the new school year.

Meet the Teacher and Curriculum Evening

On Tuesday 26th September, we are pleased to invite you to school for a '**Meet the Teacher and Curriculum Evening**'. This is a fantastic opportunity for both teacher and parents, to meet in an informal setting and to gain a full understanding of the things your child will be learning this year. Not only that, if you have questions about homework, reading, spellings etc., then this will be the ideal forum to discuss them.

There are two planned sessions after school on **Tuesday 26th September**:

- **Session 1 – 3:30 – 3:55pm**
- **Session 2 – 4:00 – 4:25pm**

We hope to see you there!

Home reading books

This week, class teachers will be sending home 'home reading' books along with your child's home-school diary. This book is a book to share with your child and must be read at least 3 times before staff change this book. Phonics home readers and online reading books will be allocated in the coming weeks. Staff are currently assessing pupils' reading levels to ensure that books are accurately matched to your child's reading ability. Miss Tawse, our Reading Coordinator, will share further information regarding home reading books and our wonderful new online platform, Boost –Learning, early next week. Please look out for this newsletter next week.

As always, we would encourage you to share these books with your child and record in their diaries, as and when they have read them. Books will only be changed if your child's reading diary has been signed.

In addition to this, we will also be sharing dates for Parental Reading workshops in the coming weeks, so please keep an eye out on Twitter and our school newsletters for further information.

Data and Consent Update

We require parents to confirm the data we hold for their child is accurate and update their consent preferences on at least an annual basis. This is done through the SIMS Parent App which parents need to register for. We have sent further invites to all parents who haven't accessed their account and encourage those who haven't registered to follow the instructions in the attached guidance to register your account. We will also be sending paper copies of data collection forms and consent forms this week, if you have not updated this via the app recently. If you receive a paper copy, we would still encourage you to access the app to update the necessary information there.

Dogs on site

We would like to clarify with users of our school site that dogs are not permitted to be brought onto the premises. We thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this.

Claiming for Free School Meals

As children receive free meals until they reach Year 3, often income assessed claims aren't made by parents until then. It is important that if parents are eligible, that they make a claim for free school meals as early as possible. This will ensure that school gets the necessary funding to spend on resources for pupils and opens up opportunities to get involved with income-assessed programmes that can benefit our school. In addition, any children in receipt of free school meals are also entitled to attend breakfast club free of charge and receive free school milk which normally ceases once pupils turn 5.

You may be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you believe you may be eligible, you can make a claim at <http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals> or by ringing 0191 643 2288.

School Admissions

Applications for Reception class and secondary school applications are now open for admissions in September 2024. Unfortunately, last year, some families have experienced disappointment that could have been avoided by applying on time or providing the necessary evidence. We strongly urge parents to check the admissions policy for their preferred school and ensure that they have any supporting evidence to hand e.g. baptism certificate.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Extra-curricular clubs will commence from next week until 15th December. If you expressed interest for an extra-curricular activity, you will have been notified as to whether your child has a place on the club or waiting list.

Day	Lunch Time	After School (3.15pm-4.15pm)
Monday	Boxercise (KS2) Discover Fitness (20 max attendees)	Monopoly Club (Year 3 & 4) Miss Celardi (12 max attendees)
	Homework Club (KS2) Miss Ballabanaj (15 max attendees – drop-in) *	Football (Year 5 & 6) Mr Baines (20 max attendees)
Tuesday	Gardening Club (KS1 & KS2) Mrs Long, Mrs Callaghan and Mrs Somers (10 max attendees)	Table Tennis (Year 5 & 6) Mr Smith (12 max attendees – places already allocated)
Wednesday	Sewing Club (Year 3 & 4) Miss Tawse and Mrs Blakey (12 max attendees)	Korean Club (KS2) Korean School (15 max attendees)
Thursday	Choir (KS2) Mrs Long (20 max attendees – drop-in) *	Art Club (KS1) Mrs Lilley (12 max attendees)
Friday	Boxercise (KS2) Discover Fitness (20 max attendees)	Football (Year 3 & 4) Newcastle United Foundation (20 max attendees)

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

- Tuesday 19th September – Mr Taylor Bible Stories
- Tuesday 19th September – Tuesday 3rd October - Year 3 Pedestrian Training
- Tuesday 19th September - Year 4 Pedestrian Training Session
- Tuesday 26th September – Reception Pedestrian Training Session
- Tuesday 26th September 3.30-3.55pm/4.00-4.25pm - 'Meet the Teacher Curriculum' Evening
- Monday 2nd October – Harvest Festival
- Thursday 5th October – Year 6 at Safetyworks!
- Tuesday 10th October – Year 1/2 Pedestrian Training Assembly
- Thursday 12th September – Flu Immunisations
- Friday 20th October – Last day of Half Term
- Monday 21st – Friday 27th October - Half Term