



February 2018 Newsletter

All children and young people have a right to a primary education...Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education they are capable of. (Article 28, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child)

Don't forget
parents
evening!

So that we can , once again, give every parent a chance to talk about their child's progress, we will be holding a parents' evening on **Wednesday 28th February** between 3:30 and 5:30.

If there is something you need to talk to your child's teacher about that would take longer than the 5 minutes allotted, then please try to arrange a meeting on an alternative day.

Please contact school to arrange an appointment.

First Holy Communion Children

Three of our children are currently preparing to make their First Holy Communion. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



Parents of Year 6 children

This is obviously a very important term for your children when they are working hard to prepare for their SAT tests in May – week beginning 14th May. Please ensure they attend school regularly, get plenty of rest/sleep and have a quiet place at home to do their homework and revision.

The BBC 'Revisewise' website is a fun, interactive site to go on to with your child if you have a computer at home, to help them to revise. They also have access to our new Mathletics account.

Please do not put too much pressure on your child, just encourage them to work hard and do their homework.

Year 5/6 Residential

This is coming around so quickly now that the new year is here. Some of the children may be becoming a little unsure, especially if they haven't slept away from home before. Please just reassure them that this is normal, but they will have an amazing experience with their friends and it is a special way for them to have some team building experiences and learn life skills.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT FORMAT-

PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL OFFICE IF NEEDED

Winter Weather

Please make sure your children come to school with a change of shoes & warm outdoor gear like hats and gloves. We encourage them to play in the snow when we have it, but we can only take children out if they are appropriately dressed.

A change of shoes is also important so they are warm all day and so that our floors do not get too slippery.

Please listen to local radio stations (Metro, Galaxy and Durham FM) on a snowy morning in case we have to close—this would only be in the most extreme circumstances, as we do like to stay open. We will also use our Teacher to Parent service to inform you. Please make sure you inform school if you change your number.

Winter gritting

In case of snow or ice, our caretaker will grit the entrances to school and the area where parents stand on the yard. In case of ice, the whole yard will be gritted. In case of snow, a path will be cleared.

Food Bank in Wingate

School recently had a meeting with Jane Grieve who is the vicar at Holy Trinity Church. The church has been approved as a distribution outlet for the distribution of food parcels and our school will become involved in distributing vouchers for families in need. We will send out more information when we get it.



World Book Day

Thursday 1st March is once again World Book Day. We will be organizing lots of activities in school on the day to encourage and foster a love of books with the children. As in previous years, we are encouraging the children to come dressed as a favourite book character and share their favourite books with their friends.

Friends of the School

Our Friends of the School group has been running very successfully for a number of years, organising events, fairs and other activities and raising much needed funds for the school. We are looking to recruit new volunteers to help us with new ideas about how to raise funds, and to support us in organising this. If you are interested, please contact the office.

Junior Education and Diversion Programme

This has been organised by Durham Constabulary and will be running this term for children in Class 3. Activities covered include: anti-social behaviour such as graffiti, dog fouling and littering, drugs and alcohol, road safety, water safety, safety on railways, crime prevention, hate crime, stranger danger, internet safety.

Head Boy / Girl

Last term, Class 3 decided it would be a good idea to have a Head Boy and Girl for the school. They would be able to help organise things for the school alongside the School Council, and be figures for the children to turn to for help and guidance.

In Autumn term, **Hollie and El-Khaliq** were chosen by their school mates to be the first Head Boy and Girl and we would like to thank them for their service.

This term, **Erin, Kian and Josh R.** will take the role. They have many ideas so watch this space.

Dinner money

Please note. Guidance from County.

All school lunches must be paid for in advance. **Schools are not allowed to give credit.** Please make sure dinner money is paid on a Monday in an envelop clearly marked with your child's name.

Attendance and Lateness

Good attendance at school is vital for pupils to achieve their full educational potential . For attendance to be classed as good it needs to be over 96%. We understand that occasionally it cannot be helped, sickness bugs etc. Remember, we can give medication, e.g. Calpol, to help your child. If they feel a little poorly on a morning, **please send them to school.** We do not mind contacting you if they feel unwell.

Also, our school day starts at **8:55.** please make sure your child is in school ready to learn at this time. Late arrivals cause disruption for the class and they miss early instructions.

**LATENESS
AT THE START
OF THE DAY**



When a child arrives late at the start of the school day, it is very disruptive to their learning and the learning of their classmates.

Cycle Durham

This is a **free** activity on Wednesdays from 9:30—11 at Wingate Woodland Park. Bikes and helmets are available.

Tel: 03000 266 555

for further information.

Book Bags

Please could you send your child to school with a book bag for their reading books and homework books. We are becoming concerned about the size of some of the back packs and bags the children are using as they do not fit onto their pegs , causing coats to fall on the floor which could be come a tripping hazard. Book bags are available to buy in school priced £4.50. Thank you.

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Please note, our holidays are different to many other schools around us – so please make sure you have the correct dates in your diary.

Dates for your Diary (these are also on our website, which is often updated)

20th February	Year 2 at Hoopstarz Festival
22nd February	Class 2 + 3 Junior Education and Diversion Programme starts in school.
23rd February	Lent Mass in school 9:15
28th February	Parent's Evening—Time slots still available — call Mrs Hudson
1st March	World Book Day - Children can come to school dressed as a book character.
2nd March	Whole School Assembly — Holi
	Class 2 + 3 trip to the Great North Museum (Hancock Museum) Newcastle
6th March	Y3/4 at football festival at Soccarena
8th March	Some Y/6 at Basketball Festival—please note change of date
9th March	Year 5 & 6 at a safety carousel
13th March	Balance Bike Sessions start for Class 1 children
	Yr 1/2 at football festival at Soccarena
14th March	Reception children only - Vision Test in school 9.30am
16th March	Cross Country finals day
21st March	Class 1 Dance festival
21st-23rd March	Y5/6 Residential to Northumberland
29th March	THURSDAY—Break up for Easter

Please note that our Easter holidays are different to some other schools

****RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 16th APRIL**