



January 2017 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

A belated happy new year to you all! We all wish you peace and happiness in 2017. We are back in the full swing of things and looking forward to a productive term in partnership with all of you.



Children arriving late to school

We have been noticing a significant number of children arriving after the start of the school day recently. School starts at **8.55am** & we expect all children to be at school on time to line up with their friends at the beginning of the school day. It should only be exceptional circumstances when they are not able to do this. We will be monitoring this and may need to take further action if it persists. **We are starting a new system from next week – if your child is late, we will need the parent to sign the child in.**

Winter Weather

Please make sure your children come to school with a change of shoes & warm outdoor gear like hats & gloves. They do like to play in the snow, but we can only take children out who are appropriately dressed.

A change of shoes is really important so that they are warm all day, & so that our school floors don't get too slippery.

Please listen to the local radio stations (Metro, Galaxy & 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. Our school website will also immediately be updated if we close the school.



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 8th 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.

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

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT FORMAT -
PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL OFFICE IF NEEDED.**

School Website

Please be aware that all of the important school dates so far are on our website, including ***next year's holidays.***

Play Rangers

You may be aware that the Community Play Rangers are using our school for their child care every Tuesday night from 3.30pm - 5.30pm. This is a really useful service so please consider it if you need this. Your child will be able to stay at school till this starts,



Year 6 Retreat

Mrs. Charlton & I would like to congratulate all of our Year 6 children on their wonderful behaviour & manners when we went overnight on retreat in January. They were a pleasure to take away.

Friends of the School

We are wanting to recruit lots of volunteers to help to run our 'Friends of the School' group. This is set up to raise funds for our lovely school – we have done this by organising school discos, summer & Christmas fairs & other activities. You will be aware from national news recently that school budgets are becoming really tight, & we would be delighted if we could recruit new volunteers to help us with ideas about how to raise funds, and to support us in organising this. If you are interested, please contact the office or Margaret Greener.

Parents' Evening

So that we can, once again, give every parent a chance to talk about their child's progress, we will be holding parents' evening on Thursday 16th March between 3.30pm & 5.30pm.

If there is something you need to talk to the 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.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!



Volunteers

Our school staff are all tightly timetabled to give pupils very focussed support in their lessons. We are, therefore, looking for volunteers to support our classes by hearing children read & other support. If you have any particular skills you would like to share with us, we would love to hear from you too. So, if you or grandparents etc. have any spare time, please contact school. ***You will need to complete a current DBS form – criminal record check so that we continue to safeguard our children.***

JANUARY NEWSLETTER



16th February	Class 2 Durham Cathedral trip.
17 th February	Break up for HALF TERM HOLIDAY!
28 th February	9am – Class 3 assembly for parents about St. David's Day Year 2 at a Hoopstarz Festival
1 st March	Whole school at church for Ash Wednesday service
2 nd March	World Book Day – details to follow
10 th March	CAFOD Family Fast Day – coffee afternoon & launch of our new school mission statement
14 th March	Year 1 & 2 at football festival
16 th March	Parents' Evening
17 th March	Class 1 assembly for parents about St. Patrick's Day
7 th April	Break up for EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 24th April	Back to school