

West End First School Newsletter



18 September 2017

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



The photographer will be in school this **Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd of September**. She will take the children's individual photographs on both days working her way through from Nursery to Year 4 in order. If your child is having a photograph taken with siblings this will take place on the Thursday too. If your child is in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they will have their individual photograph taken on the Thursday. Children in Years 3 and 4 will have their individual photographs taken on the Friday.

Photographing 300 children is a tricky and time consuming business and it is possible that the photographer may not complete the Year 2 photographs on Thursday. If this is the case we will let you know. To be on the safe side please send your child in full school uniform on both days.

YOUR HELP PLEASE

We now have children leaving the school at a number of times during the school day. Morning Nursery and West End Pre-school children leave at 12:00, afternoon nursery children leave at 3:00 and the rest of the school leaves at 3:20. We also regularly have children doing PE outside during these times. Please could we ask for your help in making these times as safe as possible for all children. If you are collecting from morning nursery please could you cross the yard by walking over to the ramp and along beside the Early Years building and exiting the same way. Please could we ask all Nursery and Pre-school parents to leave the playground quickly once you have collected your child at 12:00 so that we can close the gates. Afternoon nursery parents should cross directly to the ramp and exit the same way. Please do not walk through the middle of the children's PE lessons. Please could parents entering the yard to wait for their children before the end of the school day stay at the bottom of the yard and not walk through any PE lessons. This is for the safety of everyone. We would also ask that parents waiting for Year 3 and 4 pupils leave enough space for the children to come out of the building to their pick up points. This is so that the staff can see the children clearly and be sure they are collected safely. Thank you for your support with these arrangements.

SMOKING

Just a reminder that the school is a no smoking site and smoking is not allowed on any part of the grounds, including the entry ramp. We also ask that parents and carers kindly refrain from smoking in front of the school gates and fence.



JEWELLERY

Just a reminder that the children are not allowed to wear jewellery in school other than stud earrings. If your child is wearing jewellery in school he/she will be asked to remove it and it will be kept safe until the end of the school day when it will be returned to your child. If your child has pierced ears he/she should only wear plain studs for school. Please do not send your child with hoop earrings or jewelled studs as these can catch in clothing and cause injuries. If your child is wearing these kinds of earrings for school he/she will be asked to remove them. Please teach your child to remove his/her earrings so that they can be taken out for PE lessons. Staff will not remove earrings. Thank you for your support with this important health and safety rule.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Well done to all of the children who have already completed our Summer Reading Challenge. We have handed out lots of certificates and all of the children who have completed the challenge have been able to choose a book of their own to keep.

If your child has been trying to complete the challenge but hasn't managed it yet don't worry. We are extending the closing date to the end of this half term - Friday 20th October. We are hoping to give out lots more certificates and books, so please encourage your child to complete the challenge and bring their record sheet to school. Reception children completing the 5 before 5 challenge have until their 5th birthday of course.

MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

By now all parents of children in Year 4 should have received information from Northumberland County Council on how to apply for your child's middle school place. Applications are made through the on-line portal on the Northumberland County Council site at www.northumberland.gov.uk. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2017 and it is important that you apply before the portal closes to ensure you have the best chance of being allocated your first choice of school.

MACMILLAN CANCER CARE COFFEE MORNING

On Friday 29th September Year 4 will be fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Care by holding their own version of a coffee morning. For a donation of 50p the children can buy a cake and a drink of juice in school. You may send in a larger donation if you wish, but we will have to limit the children to one drink and cake each to ensure everyone gets a chance. Please send your child's donation on the day.



THANK YOU

Mr. and Mrs. Pattie, Annabelle's parents, have asked me to pass on their thanks for your support and generosity. The funds you raised in the summer term by supporting the School Council's fair enabled them to take a much needed break at Alton Towers, where Annabelle even rode THI3TEEN, the scariest roller coaster there - she literally has the T-shirt to prove it. These special times are so important to Annabelle and her family, providing a much needed break from treatments and hospitals and a sense of normality for them all. Thank you once again for your kind support.

DIARY DATES



There are a lot of new dates for your diary below and we will be adding more all the time. We will send out more detailed information nearer each event. Information will also appear on the school website and we will put some reminders on our Twitter feed and via text messages, however we will still need permission slips completed so you will receive letters about some of these events. **Please check your child's bag every day. New dates are printed in bold.**

Wed 20 th Sept	Reception Meet the Teacher	9:00am
Wed 20 th Sept	Year 1 Park Walk	AM
Wed 20th Sept	Year 4 St. Cuthbert's Church visit	PM
Thurs 21 st and Fri 22 nd Sept	School Photographs	
Mon 25th Sept	Nursery Meet the Teacher	9:00am
Tues 26th Sept	PTFA Coffee Morning	8:45 - 10:00am
Wed 21 st Sept	Year 1 Local Walk	AM
Wed 27 th Sept	Year 3 Woodhorn Colliery Museum Trip	
Wed 27th Sept	Year 4 St. Bede's Church Visit	PM
Thurs 28 th Sept	Year 2 Multiskills	
Fri 29th Sept	Macmillan Coffee Morning	
Wed 4 th and Wed 11 th Oct	Parent Consultations	
Fri 13th Oct	Harvest Festival St. Cuthbert's Church	AM
Tues 17 th Oct	Year 4 Victorian Day	
Tues 17th Oct	PTFA Hallowe'en Disco	
Thurs 19 th Oct	Year 1 Jobs Day	
Fri 20 th Oct	Chestnut Class Assembly	9:00am
Fri 20 th Oct	Elm Class Assembly	2:45pm

TERM DATES

Apologies for sending you some incorrect dates in the last newsletter. Please note these dates are now correct.

Friday 20 th Oct	Break up for half term	3:20pm
Monday 30 th Oct	Return to school	8:55am (doors open at 8:45am)
Friday 22 nd Dec	Break up for Christmas holidays	2:00pm
Tuesday 9 th Jan	Start of Spring Term	8:55am (doors open at 8:45am)
Friday 9 th Feb	Break up for half term	3:20pm
Monday 19 th Feb	Return to school	8:55am (doors open at 8:45am)
Thursday 29 th Mar	Break up for Easter holidays	2:00pm
Tuesday 17 th April	Return to school	8:55am (doors open at 8:45am)
Monday 7 th May	May Day Bank holiday	
Friday 25 th May	Break up for half term	3:20
Monday 4 th June	Return to school	8:55am (doors open at 8:45am)
Friday 20 th July	Break up for the Summer holidays	2:00pm

Monday 8th January and Monday 16th April are staff training days.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Bushell
Headteacher