



Weekly Bulletin –13th September 2019

Headteacher's Message

By today, you will have received a home-school links sheet from your child's class teacher. This details the ways in which you can support your child with their studies as well as informing you of the curriculum content to be covered during this half term in each subject area. I encourage you to read it and to use it as a basis for discussing with your child what they are learning about in school.

Through working together in partnership, we will be able to achieve the very best for the children in the year ahead. Together with the staff, I look forward to working with you all.

Best wishes

Mr Tait

Diary Dates

Tuesday 17th September 7pm - FOSS AGM in the School Hall- everyone welcome

Thursday 26th September – Year 6 Trip to Eden Camp

Monday 30th September 10:00am – Harvest Festival – St. Mary's Church, Shincliffe Village

Friday 11th October – Progress Reports (Year 1 – 6)

Monday 14th October – Parents' Evening

Tuesday 15th October – Parents' Evening

Wednesday 16th October – School Photographer

Thursday 17th October – Y2 George Stephenson Workshop at Beamish Museum

Friday 25th October – Break up for October half term

Monday 4th November – Return to school for Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 19th November – Y5 Architecture Workshops

Friday 29th November – Y1 Toys Workshop at Beamish Museum

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Reading

Please can you ensure that your child has their reading book in school every day, along with their Reading Record (Reception to Year 4 children only). This is because during the course of a school week a range of adults may listen to your child read.

Harvest Festival

This harvest we are collecting food items for 'Durham Foodbank.' We hope that you and your child/children would like to help support our 2019 Harvest Appeal in liaison with Durham Christian Partnership.

The Foodbank provides short term emergency food to people in crisis locally. Food is given as an intervention strategy which allows professionals to put longer term measures in place. We want to support our local Foodbank in helping those less fortunate, in particular families and children.

If you wish to contribute, please send donations of **non-perishable food** (see list) on **Monday 30th September** for collection. Everyone is also very welcome to join us at **10:00am on Monday 30th September** for the Harvest Service at Shincliffe St.Mary's Church. If you are able to help us walk to church, please contact the school office 0191 3843739.

A TYPICAL FOOD PARCEL INCLUDES:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| - Breakfast cereals | - Soup | - Pasta |
| - Rice | - Pasta sauce | - Tinned bean |
| - Tinned meat | - Tinned vegetables | - Tinned fruit |
| - Tea or coffee | - Sugar | - Biscuits |
| - Snacks | | |

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| - Sugar | - Tinned fish | - Tinned fruit |
| - UHT milk (1 litre) | - Pasta Sauce | - Tinned Rice Pudding |

For further information regarding Durham Foodbank you may visit: www.durhamfoodbank.org.uk

We hope you can join us for our Harvest celebrations!



Parking

As you know, it is very important to us to continually try to reduce congestion near school and to promote a safe and healthy environment for our pupils, staff, parents and local residents. Maintaining good relationships with our neighbours is vitally important for our school. I would, therefore, remind you to be considerate when parking and not to block our neighbours' driveways/access at any time or to block pavements.

For safety reasons, please do not park directly in front of the school gates at any time. Please drive with extreme caution and care if you do need to access Beal Walk. Beal Walk and surrounding roads do not have pavements and are often used by our children, so it is dangerous to drive whilst people are walking to and from school.

We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Durham Constabulary and Year 6

In Year 6 this week we started our Junior Education Programme, which is organised by Durham Constabulary. Our first session focused on Envirocrime – looking at the crimes which take place in our environment such as littering, dog fouling and fly-tipping and the punishments for these crimes. We took part in a quiz and debated in our teams the issues and consequences of committing environmental crimes.

To report any environmental crimes please visit www.durham.gov.uk/doitonline or call **03000 261000**.

Governing Body

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Stephen Hopper as Parent governor.

The governing body is made up of the following members:

Mr Tait: Headteacher

Mr Rumbles: Deputy Headteacher

Fr. Peter Kashouris, Mrs Julie Latham: Foundation

Mr David Duell: Local Authority

Dr Kit Erlebach (Chair), Mrs Pat Matthews, Mrs Angela Lee: Co-opted

Mrs Lisa Clerk, Mrs Sharon Foreman, Mr David Ratnanayagam and Mr Stephen Hopper: Parent Governors

Noticeboard

- Please return photographic consent forms to school as soon as possible.
- Please inform the school office if there are any changes to personal contact details - for example addresses, phone numbers or emergency contacts.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

Our school receives funding from the Government to cover the costs of providing education. This includes all school running costs, such as employing teachers and support staff, books and equipment, school building expenses and free school meals.

The school also receives additional funding known as pupil premium for pupils whose families receive certain benefits. All KS1 children (Reception, year 1 and year 2) currently receive a free meal via the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme so you may think why bother completing the form but we can only claim the pupil premium if we are aware of parents receiving one of the eligible benefits. Even if your child is on a packed lunch the school will still be able to claim the premium if you are eligible.

It is in **all** our interests that we bring in as much money as we can to support our school and ensure all of our children get the best possible education. To help your child and your school, we can do a very quick eligibility check for this additional funding via Durham County Council.

In order to do this we require some simple information relating to the parent/guardian.

We ask parents to **contact the School Office** if they meet the eligibility criteria:

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Universal Credit **with an earnings threshold that does not exceed £7,400** as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods.

- Income Support
- Income - based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided you **are not** entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Safeguarding- information for parents

Definition of Safeguarding

This can be summarised as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care

Safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm. It relates to aspects of school life including:

- Pupils' health and safety
- Meeting the needs of pupils with medical conditions
- Providing first aid
- Educational visits
- Internet or e-safety
- Appropriate arrangements to ensure school security

Safeguarding can involve a range of potential issues such as:

- cyberbullying (by text message, on social networking sites, and so on)
- Racist, disability, and homophobic or transphobic abuse
- Radicalisation and extremist behaviour
- Child sexual exploitation
- Sexting
- Substance misuse
- Issues that may be specific to a local area or population, for example gang activity and youth violence
- Particular issues affecting children including domestic violence, sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation and forced marriage

Our Safeguarding Policy is available on the school website.

Training

3 members of staff are trained in Level 2 safeguarding and child protection:

- Mr D Tait (Headteacher)

- Mr P Rumbles (Deputy Headteacher)
- Mrs H Armstrong (Year 2 teacher)

All other staff and governors have been trained in Level 1 safeguarding and child protection. Mr Tait, Mr Rumbles and Mrs Armstrong regularly access additional training, for example in Female Genital Mutilation, Prevent, Online Safety, Child Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Violence.

Online Safety Information

There are many positives associated with the Internet and children are increasingly using the Internet for both education and play.

As a school, we believe that online safety education is a crucial element of the curriculum and an essential part of young people's development. To raise awareness of the issues that children and young people face online today, the school carries out many age appropriate activities, including participating in the 'Safer Internet Day' organised by the UK Safer Internet Centre as well as half termly e-safety lessons.

The UK Safer Internet Centre website contains information which is very useful for parents to support the work done in school and ensure that our children keep safe whilst using the ever-expanding growth of mobile technology.

The online safety section of our school website will provide you with links to really useful advice on how children can safely use the Internet together with some great tips on how to keep safe.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of endurance this half term and worship will be led by Mr Tait, Fr. Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

Further information on the value of endurance:

Endurance - is recognition that life is sometimes difficult and painful, and that it is important not to give up in the face of adversity.

Jesus endured rejection, abuse and the cross, and his followers are warned that they may well have to share that pain as persecution took hold. Discipleship is depicted as 'taking up the cross daily' and following in Jesus' footsteps (Luke 9:23).

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- How do we give pupils a better appreciation of the difficult situations that many people in the world have to endure and of the courage and resilience they show in the face of them?

- How do you help pupils understand that some things are worth working for even though they do not bring immediate results? How do we develop patience?
- What encourages and inspires you to persevere through difficult times in life?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school.
Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.