

Shincliffe C. of E. (Cont.) Primary School



NEWSLETTER

Issue..... 1-2014-2015

Date..... September 2014

Message from Mr David Tait - Head Teacher

I am delighted to be joining you as Head Teacher at Shincliffe CE School. I am looking forward to working with you all in the years ahead. During my first few weeks here I intend to get to know the children, their families, our staff and as many members of the wider school community as possible. I shall, no doubt, meet many of you at upcoming events this term.

As the school moves into this new phase in its leadership, I would like to take the opportunity to wish Mrs. Lowes a happy and fulfilled retirement. I am very grateful to her for helping to ensure that there has been a smooth transition in leadership.

Working together with all who make Shincliffe School such a special place- children, parents, staff and governors- I intend to build upon the many years of excellence in the academic and pastoral fields.

We welcome our new staff, Mrs Nicola Banks who will be teaching Year 1 this year and Mrs Emma Clasper who will be joining the Reception Class staff as Teaching Assistant. Welcome also to Mrs Julie Ferguson and Miss Natalie Rippon, who are joining the Lunchtime Assistant team. We also welcome Miss Sarah Curry, who will be working as Teaching Assistant in Year 2 and Mrs Janet Horton, who will be working as Teaching Assistant in Year 5.

Parents of all pupils, new starters and all classes are invited to the Friends of Shincliffe School FOSS coffee afternoon in the school hall from 3:00 pm on Tuesday 9th September.

A fantastic £1500 was raised at the Summer Fair. Thank you to everyone for their support!

We hope that everyone will enjoy their time and flourish at Shincliffe School!

Thank You from Mrs Lowes

May I thank you for all the lovely messages and gifts given to me and to staff at the end of the Summer term. Your thanks are greatly appreciated! We believe that Shincliffe School is a fantastic school with lovely pupils and parents! I especially want to thank the pupils, parents, families and staff for the gifts and good wishes during the very emotional time of my leaving Shincliffe School. I will take so many happy memories and I will miss everyone, and I do hope to visit and catch up soon after my trip to see my mum in Canada in September!

Park & Stride

We are always keen to promote safe and healthy ways for children to come to school and ease traffic near the school. The School Council promote a "Park and Stride" scheme to encourage those parents who drive to school to park a bit further away and walk up to the school. Please ease congestion nearby school by supporting this.

Please do not park in front of the school gates at any time. Access for deliveries and emergency vehicles is needed.

Access to Shincliffe School

Parents are politely reminded that the entrances for pedestrians into School are from Beal Walk and Heathways. Please respect this and use Beal Walk/Heathways for collection after clubs as well.



There is no pedestrian access via the metal gates at the rear of the premises. This access is for vehicles and should not be used to ensure safety at all times.

Please do not drive into the car park at any time to collect or drop off children for safety reasons.

The Staff and Governors wish to draw parents' attention to the fact that the school grounds are not for recreational use when the school is closed, as it is Durham County Council property.

Please note that dogs are not allowed on the school grounds at any time, including after school and collecting children from clubs. If you do bring a dog, please do not leave it unattended and tied to the school gates.

Information for Parents/Carers

A half-termly newsletter is sent to all families during the first week of term, following a holiday. Any subsequent information to be forwarded to parents will be sent out on a **Friday**.

Starters September 2015

Do you have a child who will be 5 on or between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016? If so, you need to complete an application for a school place so that your child can start school in September 2015.

From 12th September 2014 you can apply online at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions. You will also be able to access a copy of the guide for parents "Primary School Admissions in County Durham 2015/16" which will contain essential information that will help you in making your application. If you cannot access the Council's website please contact the School Admissions Team, using the details below, and you will be sent a copy of the guide for parents and an application form.

Please note that the deadline for applications is midnight on 15 January 2015.

The School Admissions and Transport Team.
Telephone 03000 265 897

Gardens and Grounds

Thank you to Mr Chadwick who works hard to keep our gardens and grounds looking nice. Also to Mrs Crozier and her gardening team for their work and efforts with planters and flowers, and tidying up to make the entrance area welcoming. Thank you!

SHINCLIFFE SHOW - Saturday 20th September, Shincliffe School

It's great news that the Shincliffe Show will return to the community this September. There are 5 children's categories and we hope that you will have fun over the summer holidays creating your entries. The categories are open to children in Y6 and under and each entry is 50p. You can enter as many categories as you like and a rosette will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Entry forms will be available in due course in St Mary's Newsletter, on the Community Association website (www.shincliffe.org.uk) and from Shincliffe School at the beginning of September.

The children's categories are
Scene in a Shoebox
Vegetable Monster
Junk Model
Painting / drawing
3 decorated fairy cakes

We have introduced a special category for this year to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of D Day and 100 years since the start of the First World War. For this special category we would like children to draw or paint a remembrance symbol (e.g. poppy, cross). We look forward to seeing your wonderful creations on the day!

Governing Body

The Governing Body is made up of local residents and parents who have been elected for a four year term to work closely with the Head Teacher and school to support the management and business of the school.

Our Governing Body members are:

Mrs Susan Hopps - Chair Local Authority
Cllr Jan Blakey - Local Authority
Fr Peter Kashouris - Diocese
Mrs Anne Stark - Diocese
Mrs Pat Hudson - Community
Mr Michael Stewart - Community
Dr Kit Erlebach - Parent
Mr Neville Hallam - Parent
Mrs Gail McArdle - Parent
Mrs Philippa Lythgoe - Parent
Mr Philip Rumbles - Staff
Mr David Tait - Staff

Building News

We are delighted that the new windows and doors have been installed over the Summer holidays! No doubt there will be some decorating required!

We have also had new interactive whiteboards installed in all classrooms over the Summer too.

Kite Mark – Silver Award

We are delighted to have received the Silver Kite Mark Award recognising the amount and variety of Sport and PE in school. Thank you to Mr Gowan as PE co-ordinator and well done to all staff and pupils!

Medication

Shincliffe School is able to administer prescribed medication only to pupils, provided that a consent form has been signed by the pupil's parent/carer. The medication is to be handed to and collected from an adult, via the school office. If possible, please request prescriptions to be three times daily dosage, as this would eliminate the need to administer medication in school.

Shincliffe School is not allowed to administer medication not prescribed by a physician, (for example; cough mixture, paracetamol e.g. Calpol, throat lozenges, travel sickness tablets, lip salves or glosses), nor are children allowed to administer to themselves and subsequently children are not allowed to bring these to school.

Sickness

Parents are requested to inform the school office by telephone on the first day of their child's absence from school due to ill health. For child safety reasons, the school office must phone a contact if we do not hear from a parent of an absent pupil. The pupil will require a letter confirming their absence on their return to school.

Information regarding return to school for illnesses such as sickness (24 hours), diarrhoea (48 hours) and chicken pox etc. can be advised via the school office.

Absences for illnesses which fall below 92% attendance targets will be investigated and may require a medical note.

Supervision before School

Parents are reminded that pupils are not supervised by a member of staff on the school

playground before 8:45 am. Shincliffe School cannot be held responsible for any accidents happening to pupils on site before that time and we ask that pupils do not come to school before that time.

The morning bell is rung at 8:55 am in order to ensure children are in class by 9:00 am. On arrival all children should go onto the school playground rather than waiting with their parents/carers.

Pupils arriving late are requested to enter school via the main entrance, so that their attendance can be recorded by the School Secretary as class registers are taken at 9:00 am.

Invitation to Reception Class Parents – "Teaching and Learning in Reception Class"

A meeting has been organised for the parents of Reception Class pupils in the School Hall on Wednesday 24th September at 6:00 pm to discuss the methods used in the teaching of reading and other practicalities in Reception.

We look forward to seeing you! Please complete and return the attached form to confirm your attendance.

Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival, presented by the Year 6 class will be held at 10:00 am in the school hall on Thursday 2nd October 2014.

Pupils are asked to support the charity Durham Food Bank, which is the shared charity with St. Mary's Church. Pupils are requested to bring their 'harvest gift' of non perishable food (i.e. tins, dried food) to Shincliffe School on the morning of the service.

Families are also invited to the Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church on Sunday 28th September at 9:30 am.

School Lunches

Our kitchen staff, Mrs Snook, Mrs Robertson and Mrs Stephenson (Ms Dunbar who was married this Summer!) continue their wonderful work, providing healthy, varied cooked lunches which are really enjoyed.

The daily lunch price of £1.95 is exceptional value for the quality, quantity and varied choice of healthy foods. In addition, pupils on school lunches learn and take part in important table and social skills. The uptake for school meals been excellent and we would like it to be 100%! **Children in**



Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 will be eligible for free school meals in accordance with the Government's Universal Free School Meals policy from September 2014.

Please note: Payments for Junior children can be paid weekly or half termly in advance upon receipt of an invoice. If you wish to pay weekly, please forward the correct amount in a sealed envelope to school on Mondays. Parents/carers who are eligible for free school meals are kindly requested to contact the school office to update their details for this academic year.

If you choose for your child to bring a packed lunch, please ensure that this is also a nutritious, balanced meal. We encourage good table manners for all children, therefore we ask that children with packed lunches eat their food as a "meal" on a plate (i.e. savoury course, followed by dessert), rather than picnic style out of lunchboxes. Please send a plastic plate and cup with your child's packed lunch each day, or alternatively the school will provide these. We do not allow sweets, nuts or flavoured, or fizzy drinks for packed lunches and ask you to consider alternatives to crisps and chocolate type bars on a daily basis. Drinks should be water please, and we ask that children drink from cups, which are provided at school.

Key Stage 2 SATs Results 2014

Year 6 Sats results were excellent!

Maths 100% Level 4+ 57% Level 5+ 23% Level 6

English: Reading 94% Level 4+ 67% Level 5
Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar
87% Level 4+ 73% Level 5+ 13% Level 6

Well Done!

Dates for SATs/Assessments for 2015 are 11th - 15th May 2015.

CLUBS

Before and after school clubs will be starting in the next few weeks.

Please indicate any activities your child is interested in joining at this point on the enclosed form and return to school by Friday 6th September. Written confirmation of places, start dates and payment request, where applicable, will be sent to parents by letter. **Please do not send payment until this time.**



Regulations for Holidays in Term Time

Amendments to the regulations from 1st September 2013 remove reference to allow family holidays and the 10 day threshold. Head Teachers may not now grant holiday or authorised absence during term time except in exceptional circumstances. All requests for absence must be made in writing to Mr Tait, Head Teacher, and each request will be considered individually.

School Uniform

The children look very smart at Shincliffe School in their uniforms! Parents are supportive of our school uniform policy and visitors often comment on how smart our children look. May I remind Parents/Carers that the school uniform includes navy blue sweater, cardigan or sweatshirt, black or dark coloured school shoes, or plain, dark boots and that the wearing of trainers and "fashion" or coloured boots are not part of our uniform. **All long hair must be suitably and neatly tied back at all times for school.**

School uniform orders are placed the second Friday of each half term. Please contact the school office for an order form. Please remember to name all uniform in order to keep lost property to a minimum.

We request that KS2 children have a change of shoes for outdoor PE - plain sturdy trainers are best. For KS2 indoor PE lessons, children should have indoor plimsolls/trainers and are asked not to wear their outside PE shoes.



Years 1 and 2 classes should have one pair of plimsolls or trainers, slip-on or with velcro fasteners for their PE lessons, for both inside and out. **We ask that all long hair is suitably and neatly tied back at all times for PE.**

No jewellery is allowed at school except for watches. Earrings or nail varnish are not allowed at any time. Please do not get children's ears pierced during the school year.

We request that your child always has a waterproof jacket or a school coat in school every day. The British weather is very changeable at any time of year and a coat may be necessary for breaktime and lunchtime outdoor play, even if it is warm and sunny in the morning!

Professional Development Days

PD Days for staff for academic year 2014-2015 are: Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2014,

Friday 24th October 2014 and Friday 17th July 2015.

Class Assemblies

Parents/Carers are welcome to join us in school at 9:15 am for the following Class Assemblies:

Thursday 23rd October Y5

Thursday 13th November Y4

Reading Record Books & Homework Diaries

Parents/carers in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) please note that we use a yellow homework diary in KS2. We ask that you please check and sign these weekly to work in partnership with us.

We believe strongly that reading success and enjoyment is a vital part of academic success and we value the very important role that parents and carers play in supporting and promoting this.

Our Reading Record booklets are divided into three colour coded reading development stages for Reading Partnerships - "Reading Together" for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 - "Towards Independence" for Year 3 and Year 4 and "Independent Reading" for Year 5 and Year 6. Guidance for parental support for each of these stages is given in these booklets, and we ask for your continued strong support of reading and enjoyment.

Please also find enclosed, for your information, our Homework Policy and our School Improvement Plan outline for 2014-2015.

FOSS Events

We are very lucky to have such a supportive "Friends of Shincliffe School" who organise a wide variety of events and raise money for many school activities and projects. The summer Fair was a fabulous success and from the profits we have been able to purchase a new play hut and a bench from FOSS.

They always need support and help in any/many ways, so please do come to the AGM on Tuesday 16th September at 7:00 pm in school. FOSS can only carry on with lots of people helping and it is a great way to be involved with school and your child's school life! FOSS events this term:

Tuesday 9th September - Welcome Coffee Afternoon

Tuesday 16th September - AGM in School Hall

School Library

We have excellent support from parents to help run our school library along with pupil librarians. Thank you to Mrs Morl, Mrs King, Mrs Collings, Mrs Stewart, Mrs Dee and Ms Lyons for last year. Welcome to Mrs McEwan, who will be joining to help.

Thank you also to Mrs Stewart and Mrs Dee who run the Scholastic Book Club and The Book People book sales which give us lots of extra books for school and class libraries.

Call Parents

We have a texting service in school which we can use to contact parents regarding school trips and emergency calls.



The information will be sent to the mobile phone of the parent/carer who is dedicated first contact. Please ensure we have your up to date contact information at all times. We also use their e-mail service to send newsletters etc, please include a preferred e-mail address when you check your Data Collection Sheet in the note below.

Data Collection Sheets

Data Collection Sheet for your child/children will be sent out on Friday 5th September 2014. Please pay particular attention to telephone numbers, contact details and address information. Once you have checked your details, please sign and return to school by no later than Friday 12th September 2014.

It is very important that we have your up to date information, so please sign and return the sheet even if there are no changes to be made.

Return of Forms and Requests for Payments

We appreciate the prompt return of forms and payments into the school office, via a sealed labelled envelope. We have a busy school office and it really helps when forms etc. are returned on time, via pupils school bags and class baskets. In particular at certain times of the school year, like the beginning of term there seems to be a lot of paperwork coming and going. Thank you!

Dates for your Diary



Wednesday 3 rd September	First Day of Autumn Term 2014-15
Friday 5 th September	Year 3 Swimming commences
Tuesday 9 th September	FOSS Welcome Coffee afternoon 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Wednesday 10 th September	Netball Club Year 5 & 6 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm commences, Football Club Years 2&3 commences
Thursday 11 th September	Nick Pickering Football Club Year 3-6 commences
Friday 12 th September	Simply Sport am Club Years 3-6, Fencing Club 3:30 - 4:45 pm Years 5 & 6 commences,
Monday 15 th September	Fit & Fun Club Year 1 & 2 3:30 - 4:30 French Club Year 1 & 2 commences 3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chess Club Year 5 & 6 commences 3:30 - 4:30 pm
Tuesday 16 th September	Football Club Year 4 - 6 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm commences. FOSS AGM 7:00 pm School Hall
Wednesday 17 th September	Little Kickers Year 1 commences
Thursday 18 th September	Year 1 & 2 Nature Rangers,
Saturday 20 th September	Shincliffe Show
Wednesday 24 th September	Teaching and Learning in Reception Class meeting 6:00 - 7:30 pm school hall
Thursday 25 th September	Year 6 visit to Eden Camp
Friday 26 th September	European Day of Languages
Thursday 2 nd October	School Harvest Festival 10:00 am school hall, presented by Year 6. Parents, carers & friends welcome! Year 5&6 Drama Group commences
Friday 10 th October	Safe School Day
Monday 13 th October	Consultation Evening 3:40 - 6:30 pm
Thursday 16 th October	Impressions Photography, pupils and family
Tuesday 14 th October	Consultation Evening 3:40 - 6:30 pm
Thursday 23 rd October	Year 5 Class Assembly 9:15 am. Final day of term for children
Friday 24 th October	PD Day for staff
Future Dates for Your Diary	
Monday 27 th October - Friday 31 st October 2014	Half Term Holiday
Tuesday 11 th November	Community Service for Remembrance Day
Tuesday 11 th November	Year 6 Robinwood Visit - parents meeting 6:00 pm
Thursday 13 th November	Year 4 Class Assembly 9:15 am
Monday 22 nd December - Friday 2 nd January 2015	Christmas Holiday
Monday 5 th January 2015	First Day of Spring Term for pupils

✂.....

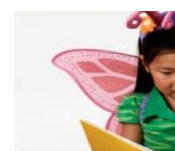
Shincliffe C. of E. (Controlled) Primary School

Teaching and Learning in Reception Class - Invitation to Reception Class Parents
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the School Hall, Wednesday 24th September 2014

I / We* will attend / be unable to attend * the organised meeting.

Signature of parent / carer :

Please print name :*please delete as appropriate



	Activity	Club Leader	Age Group Eligible	Charge per Session	Timing of Activity	Starting Date	Parental Interest Please write your child's/children's names against the activity they are interested in joining.
Monday	Fit and Fun	Simply Sport	Year 1- 2	£2.00 per session (£22.00 for term)	3.30 - 4.30 pm	15 th September x 11 wks	
	Chess	Mr Smith	Year 5 & Year 6	N/A	3.30 - 4.30 pm	15 th September x 10 wks	
	French	Mrs Bove	Year 1 & Year 2	£4.00 per session (£40.00 for term)	3.30 - 4.30 pm	15 th September x 10 wks	
Tuesday	Football	Mr M Gowan	Year 4 - 6	N/A	3.30 - 4.30 pm	16th September x 5 wks	
Wednesday	Netball	Mrs J Morgan	Year 5 & Year 6	N/A	3.30 - 4.30 pm	10 th September x 6 wks	
	Little Kickers	Little Kickers	Year 1	£3.00 per session	3.30 - 4.30 pm	17 th September x 6 wks	
	Debutots	Debutots Coach	Year 1	£3.50 per session (£31.50 for term)	3:30 - 4:30 pm	5 th November X 5 wks	
Thursday	Football	Mr N Pickering	Year 3 - Year 6	£3.00 (£21.00 for half term)	3.30 - 4.30 pm	11 th September (to half term) X 7 wks	
	Drama	Miss C Maiden	Year 5 & Year 6	(See Separate letter)	3.30 - 4.30 pm	2 nd October	
	Nature Rangers	Mrs J Foster	Year 1 & 2	£3.00 per session	3:30 -4:30 pm	19 th September X 5wks	
Friday	Simply Sport	Simply Sport	Years 3-6	£2.00 per session	8:00 am - 8:50 am	12 th September X 11 wks	
	Fencing	Mr C Morton	Year 5 & Year 6	(£21.00 for half term)	3.30 - 4.45 pm	12 th September X 6 wks	

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY CASH OR CHEQUES UNTIL WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF PLACE ON ACTIVITY IS SENT TO YOU