

SOUTH GOSFORTH FIRST SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



13.6.17

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Contents:

- Reminders to parents
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Traffic

In putting this reminder on our newsletter I fully appreciate that it only applies to a small number of families – and therefore can I thank all the walkers, cyclists and those on scooters for making their way into school without adding to the congestion around our school site.

However we still have a number of parents who are driving to school. Can I remind those parents that there are parking spaces in streets other than Alnmouth Drive which would involve a short walk but would help to avoid dangerous turning in front of school and improve visibility at the top of Alnmouth Drive as hundreds of children try to cross roads to get home. Please do not park in front of the garages. As we have said before this is not conducive to school building positive relationships with our neighbours.

For those families with scooters and bikes I am repeating my request for support that I put in our last newsletter. Please remember to supervise your children **at all times** and remind them to walk their bikes out of the school rather than ride them. We have received several complaints from parents who have been 'run into' and hurt as a result of speeding bike and scooter riders.

The work of the school

Bike It Breakfast

We decided to bring back this popular morning event and offer breakfast to all those people who wanted to walk, scooter or bike into school from 8.15 onwards. It was lovely to see a large group begin their day with time to socialise, and thankfully with donations we covered our costs and made a small profit to put towards the next one. If anyone would like to come along to a Bike It Breakfast (see future dates) then please look out for an email nearer the time to explain how it will work. Due to the fact that double the expected numbers turned up on the day, we will have to organise things a little differently if we are to have enough food for everyone.

Football Tournament

Several of the First Schools within the Gosforth Schools Trust gathered together at Regent Farm First School to take part in a football tournament on 11th May. The boys returned victorious with cup in hand and Mr Woodley was delighted to report that their behaviour had been exemplary. They had played to an exceptionally high standard and treated the other teams with respect.

Well done all!

Class 1LW's Class Assembly

Many thanks to the children in Y1LW for sharing (with enthusiasm) their assembly – based on New Zealand. It was lovely to see so many families in school too. Thank you for taking time to come and share.

Children's Cancer Run (21st May)



South Gosforth First School was well represented by parents and children from across the school. Everyone gathered together under our banner and then warmed up before running the race of their choice. Although Mrs Elliott and Mrs Burnett did not run – we were all proud to be there to see everyone who did. Well done to Mrs McArdle, Mrs Cruddas and Miss Parker who did run and finished in style and thank you to everyone who turned out to support such a wonderful event.

Reception Coffee Morning

Thank you to all those parents who popped in to see their children, share in their Learning Journeys and have a chat. It was, as ever, lovely to see you all and wonderful to see your comments in the Journeys. Any donations you gave towards tea and coffee go directly into the hands of the Reception team and support the curriculum in EYFS

Daft as a Brush Fundraising day

We had great fun dressing in bright clothes and wearing various accessories for the day to



raise money for one of our local charities. All of the schools in Gosforth Schools Trust were raising funds on the same day and I am delighted to say that our contribution will be £539.85. Well done everyone and thank you!

Film Night

Film night is a relatively simple event to organise and the children who attend seem to thoroughly enjoy it. As ever the hall floor was a sight to behold as soon as everyone stood up to leave but with the help of some volunteers all was soon tidied away. Thank you to the PTA for organising snacks and supporting staff. It was a good opportunity for parents who are interested in supporting the PTA to get together for a meeting.

Book Fair

Mrs Burnett organised the Book Fair for a week that did not coincide with Parents Evening and we did wonder if that would make a difference to the amount we raised this term. However, thanks to your fantastic support we sold books worth a total of £959.34 and that means we get the great sum of £575 to spend on new books in school. THANK YOU everyone!

Theatre Performance – Charlotte’s Web

On Wednesday 7th June the whole school enjoyed a great production of Charlotte’s Web. This was followed by workshops for KS2 which touched on different aspects of theatre production (lighting, sound, special effects, costume and set design). The children had a stimulating and creative morning that we hope they came home and shared with you.

PTA Family Activity Day

On Saturday staff members and family groups gathered in school – and in the rain – to do some of those jobs we never have the time to do as part of the school day. Huge thanks to everyone who turned up for as long as they could make it. It was a lovely atmosphere and despite the weather we achieved a great deal.

Thank you to Paul Graham and Louise Rutter (forgive me if I have missed someone out) who were instrumental in making it happen.

If you want to catch up with news from that group you can search Facebook for: South Gosforth First School Parent and Friends Association.

KS1 SATS and Year 1 Phonics.

As explained in our last newsletter, the children in KS1 have been working hard to prepare for their Phonics Check and complete SATS assessments. Year 2 have all finished their tests now and they have been calm, methodical and really determined to do their best throughout. These results will support, but not dictate our Teacher Assessments of the children; their attainment and progress as they approach the end of a whole years work. Year 1 will complete their Phonics Check in the next few days and parents will receive a letter informing them of their results once school has been informed of the pass mark.

We hope you will be extremely proud of your children - no matter what the outcome – as they have worked exceptionally hard.

The Field

I am sure parents are almost as delighted as we are in school to know that we are now playing on the field and it is brilliant!

Future Dates:

Monday 19th June: Eco Owls Planting in Gosforth park (small group with Mrs Ingram)

Wednesday 21st June: Parents Evening for new Reception children (September 2017). Starting at 6.30 and lasting one hour.

Friday 23rd June: Reception Assembly (both classes) at 9.15 am. Monday 26th June: Non Uniform Day with donations towards the school fair.

Thursday 29th June: 4 – 4.30 Visit to the EYFS Unit for new Reception children and their parents.

Friday 30th June: Drop-In Session for parents, governors and PTA

Friday 30th June: Visit for new Reception children 1.30 – 2.30

Saturday 1st July: School Summer fair 11 – 1pm

Tuesday 4th July: Visit for new Reception children 1.30 – 2.30

Wednesday 5th July: Sports Day. We have pencilled in Wednesday 12th July as an alternative day if the weather is inclement. Further information will be emailed later.

Thursday 6th July: Transition day – Year 4 visiting their new school and classes meeting their new teacher in school.

Thursday 6th July: Visit for new Reception children 1.30 – 2.30

Thursday 13th July: Visit for new Reception children 1.30 – 2.30

Monday 17th July: Classes meeting their new teacher in school.

Thursday 18th July: 8.30 – 8.55 am Parents to meet the new teacher.

Wednesday 19th July: Year 4 leavers Party.

Thursday 20th July: Reception Picnic – late morning and lunchtime (information to follow).

Friday 21st July: Leavers Assembly 2.15pm.