

Walkergate Community School

Newsletter 06.11.2020



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

As we begin our month of lockdown we would again like to thank the families who continue to support our actions to try to keep everyone safe around school. A number of adults have expressed concern about how busy it is outside of the main door before and after school and how many people are not socially distancing. We have staggered times to try to avoid this and request that you do not come onto site too early. There is no need to be here 20 minutes before the gates are due to be opened. If it is busy, please wait outside and queue along the fence. We ask all adults to take responsibility for themselves in maintaining social distancing from others and supervise children who are waiting to come into school until the gates open at 8.50am. We also ask that only one adult or sibling comes into the yard to collect children. Please do not organise to meet older siblings in the yard. They must wait at the gate. There will be times when your child's class have come onto the yard, but we haven't let you in. This is because we are waiting for the path to be as clear as possible for your group of parents to come in. Please be patient with staff as we try to deal with large numbers of adults and children. Younger children must stay with adults in the yard at all times to avoid unnecessary mixing. We appreciate that it can be frustrating, but our key priority is keeping everyone safe.

This week's attendance winners are:
RD- 97.1%

1D- 96.7%

3H- 97.2%

Whole school attendance is

94.4%



Christmas at Walkergate

 This year Christmas celebrations and activities will be a little different, however we have arranged as many festivities as we possibly can to ensure that the children can celebrate the festive period in school. Children can still bring in Christmas cards for their friends at school and have the experience of posting them in our school Christmas card post box. Cards will be left for 72 hours before giving out to other children to ensure that we are all kept as safe as possible in school.

Our traditional 'Christmas Jumper Day' will now be 'Christmas Accessory Day'. Children can come into school on December wearing a Christmas accessory, for example a jumper, head band or something red/green/sparkly if they want to. We will confirm the dates when the school catering service confirm arrangements for this year.

Children will also still have their Christmas parties in school. We will provide these dates to you soon once we have made final arrangements.

School office

Please could all parents make sure that all children have all necessary items they need e.g. water bottles, packed lunches, etc before going into class to ease congestion at the office.

Parent Telephone Appointments

 As you are aware the current COVID restrictions do not allow us to invite parents into school in large numbers for meetings with class teachers. Therefore this year we are offering you a 10 minute telephone appointment with your child's class teacher. We will be sending out letters soon for you to select an appointment time, and we ask that you return the to form to us as soon as possible.

Early Years request for safe parking

We would like to remind parents to park safely when coming to the Early Years site. Please avoid parking on the yellow lines opposite the gates as this is where children need to cross the road as safely as possible. Thank you!

Reading for Pleasure—A message from Miss Durkin

Hi Everyone – Every week I will be recommending a book for every year group to read for pleasure! I would love to hear what you thought of the book! Please email me if you enjoyed your book. If you have any recommendations for books you have read and enjoyed please get in touch! Thank you!

emma.durkin@walkergate.newcastle.sch.uk



Nursery and Reception Places

We would like to remind you that you must apply for your child's Reception place before 15th January 2021. We also have some spaces available in our Nursery for entry in January 2021. If you would be interested in a space for either 15 hours FREE Education or a 30 hour place, please email us on admin@walkergate.newcastle.sch.uk or call us on 0191 2655 737 to apply as soon as possible.

What's On

11th November - School Photo day on both sites, due to the pandemic no family or sibling photos will be possible.

27th November - Training Day

18th December—School Closes for Christmas Holidays



Dinner Reminder—next week

Years 1, 3 and 5 will have their dinner in the main school hall - this can either be a hot dinner or their own packed lunch.

Years 2, 4 and 6 will be having their packed lunches in class.