



## JULY NEWSLETTER

### **COUNT DOWN TO THE END OF TERM ...**

Since our last newsletter, children have been out and about: our Reception children visited Seahouses and Bamburgh, Year 4s visited LifePath at Brinkburn Priory, and our Year 1s and 2s visited the Hauxley Wildlife Centre. Our Year 2s, 3s and 4s had a great tennis festival with the other schools. Our children were a credit to you and our school, and we'd like to thank all of the volunteers who helped with these events as we would not have been able to do them without you.

The SureStart event for babies and toddlers was well attended and we hope to host similar activities in the future for pre-school children in our village.

Thank you to all of the parents who came to our Early Years Parents Meeting. We hope that you found the session useful and that it answered any questions that you may have had.

Our transition morning went very well with children spending time in their new class groups:

Adventurers (Giraffes & Tigers) - Mrs Brotherton  
Elephants - Mrs Duffield  
Penguins - Mrs Robinson  
Gorillas - Mr Grimes

Our Year 4s had an amazing couple of transition days at Dr Thomlinson's Middle School. It was lovely to hear of the activities that they completed and the new friends that they made. We wish them the very best when they make their final transition in September. We will miss them!

Thank you to all the parents who came to our assemblies this week for Ford Castle (Year 4 parents) and Trident Soccer (Soccer parents). We hope that you enjoyed them as much as we did!

### **AND IN OUR FINAL WEEK ...**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July – end of term Leavers Celebration afternoon at the Jubilee Hall. Doors open at 1.30pm. Teas/coffees available from the Friends. Raffle provided by staff for school funds.

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Year 4s Leavers Lunch at the Turks Head in Rothbury.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July – school closes at 3.15pm.



## FUND RAISING

We are very pleased to have been able to purchase a set of Chromebooks with the money donated by Councillor Bridgett earlier in the year. This will make a tangible difference to the teaching of computing next year.

The Friends of Rothbury First School have worked tirelessly this year to support the school and raise money to support our Forest School activities, playtime equipment, art materials and general resources. We thank them for their continued support and we have agreed an exciting timetable of events for next year. However, on behalf of the Friends, please may we have more volunteers to help share the load of organisation. If we could have two volunteers from each year group, this would lead to a sustainable group of people enabling the Friends to continue to flourish in the future. If you are able to offer some time, please contact the Friends committee for further information.

In September, our staff and governors will meet the Director of Education, Dean Jackson, when he visits our school. We look forward to discussing the wider issues around school funding with him.

## OTHER NEWS

As you may have heard from your children, we have been trialling a system of yellow and red cards in the Dining Hall and at playtimes and lunchtimes. This has been a means to visually reinforce our behaviour management policy and the children have responded to it very well, appreciating the link to football. We are in the process of reviewing the trial with the children and will be updating our Positive Behaviour Management policy to reflect any changes in the Autumn Term.

We are also looking at trialling a number of changes to the organisation of the Dining Hall with our older children taking greater responsibility for the pouring of water, collection of desserts and assisting with the scraping of plates. In the Dining Hall, our dinner nannies are primarily there to supervise all children and to support the younger children who are taking a school dinner. However recent weeks has seen a large amount of their time taken up assisting children with the unpacking of their packed lunches. Please would you ensure that, if your child brings a packed lunch, they are able to access all aspects of it themselves and that, if your child needs a spoon or other cutlery, it is provided for them in their packed lunch. Please note, water is always available for all children.

Our procedure across school is that when children are standing in line, they are silent. We appreciate that this is still a work in progress, and that this can sometimes be difficult for our younger children, however we do ask that you support us with this as it helps to maintain a quiet and calm atmosphere in school. At lunchtimes, we ask children also to cease talking when food is being served from the hatch. Once food has finished being served, then children may talk, however as some of our children find raised noise levels tricky, there are times when we need to stop the children talking in order to remind them to use quieter voices indoors.

We are also trialling named tables for lunches where children sit next to a friend on mixed-age tables. Again this is a work in progress which we will be regularly reviewing with the children.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHILDRENS CANCER RUN :

*Thank you for supporting the 2018 Children's Cancer Run, we hope that your school team enjoyed the day. We are on target for beating our total of £249,000 raised in 2017 – well done to everyone who has helped to raise such a fantastic amount for childhood cancer research.*

*If any of your school team do still have sponsorship to hand in, please pass it to us as soon as possible so that we can work out your final school total ready to announce in September. Runners can pay sponsorship online at [www.neccr.org.uk](http://www.neccr.org.uk) using the 'Pay Sponsorship' button.*

**Our school has so far raised £2,952.61!!!**

## PLEASE SEND A POSTCARD

If you are travelling near or far this summer, and you would like to send us a postcard, we would love to receive it!

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 12 July	violin, guitar, keyboard	Last lessons for music tuition
Thurs 12 July	-	Visit by Damian Burke for "student/pupil voice"
Thurs 12 July	all	FRFS Summer Disco
Tues 17 July	all + parents	Leavers Celebration at the Jubilee Hall (afternoon)
Wed 18 July	Year 4	Leavers Lunch at The Turks Head
<del>Thurs 19 July</del>	<del>Year 4</del>	Level 1 Bikeability – unfortunately this has had to be cancelled
<b>Fri 20 July</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3.15pm FOR SUMMER HOLIDAY</b>
Tues 21 Aug	-	Trident Summer Soccer Camp 9.30am to 12.30pm
<b>Tues 4 Sept 2018</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>SCHOOL OPENS AT 8.50am</b>
Tues 4 Sept 2018	all	Visitor Assembly: Trident Soccer
Thurs 6 Sept 2018	Years 2, 3 & 4	Visit to the Safety Works & Angel of the North
Fri 7 Sept 2018	Governors	Visit to school by the Director of Education, Dean Jackson
Tues 11 Sept 2018	<b>EYFS Parents</b>	'Learning to read' meeting at 5pm in school
Tues 11 Sept 2018	<b>Y1, 2, 3 &amp; 4 Parents</b>	'Curriculum' meeting at 5pm in the Dining Hall
Tues 11 Sept 2018	<b>Y4 Parents</b>	'Robinwood Residential' meeting at 6pm in the Dining Hall
Mon 24 Sept 2018	all	Bag 2 School collection
Mon 24 Sept 2018	all	Parent Consultations
Mon 1 Oct 2018	all	Individual & Sibling Photographs
w/c 8 Oct 2018	Years 2 and 3	Learn to Ride cycling course (free to school: grant-funded)
w/c 19 Nov 2018	all	Scholastic Book Fair
w/c 17 Dec 2018	Years 1-4	Christmas Celebrations @ Beamish (tbc)
Wed 13 Feb 2019 to Fri 15 Feb 2019	Year 4	Residential trip to the Robinwood Activity Centre – details to come in the Autumn Term
w/c 22 Apr 2019	Years R & 1	Balance Bike Training (free to school: grant-funded)

**We say a sad farewell to Ms Gladston who is leaving us at the end of term. We also say farewell to Mrs Mackenzie who is moving on. We would like to thank them for all that they have done for our school, and we wish them the very best for the future.**

**On behalf of the staff and governors of Rothbury First School, we wish you all a happy, relaxing and safe Summer Holiday. See you in September!**