



Swarland Primary School
Newton on the Moor
Morpeth
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2nd June 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Summer Half Term.

Cultural Topic

This half term the whole school will be participating in their yearly cultural topic. This year we are focussing on the Arctic. The children will be studying the geographical and cultural aspects of this region. As part of this topic, children will be studying the impact of humans on the environment and climate change, particularly in relation to melting ice caps and marine plastics. Please look out for our curricular letter which explains in more detail the exciting trips and experiences we have planned this half term.

Attendance

During this term we see a significant increase in families taking children out of school during term time. This can be for a number of reasons including family holidays. May I remind parents that leave of absence is only granted in exceptional circumstances. A child with less than 95% attendance is considered a persistent absentee. The school is working closely with the Educational Welfare Officer to reduce absence across the school and ensure all children receive a quality education. We take pride in historically having above average attendance compared to national figures. Your support is appreciated in helping us to maintain this.

Technology

In this technological age children are becoming increasingly aware of devices available and accessible to them in their day to day lives. Whilst technology can be extremely useful, items such as fit bits and mobile phones are expensive and we politely request these items are not brought into school.

We have also been made aware of children using Roblox chat rooms and sending messages to one another through the game. Through the course of the game, disagreements are happening and inappropriate comments are then being posted and brought back into the classroom the following day. Please may we ask parents to be vigilant and reinforce the message of appropriate e-safety communication. This will also be done through school.

Headteacher - Mrs Louise Fletcher





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This is an exceptionally busy half term and we would like to share the provisional dates we have planned in our school calendar.

Dates for Diaries

Wednesday 12th June - Sports afternoon

Wednesday 5th-Friday 7th June - Y6 London trip

Friday 7th June - Artist working with KS2 - cultural topic

Friday 14th June - Y5/6 visitors from Northumberland River Trust workshop.

Friday 14th June - Y1/2 Workshop on relationships with Safeguarding lead.

Monday 17th June - Y4 Sports Festival at Willowburn

Tuesday 19th June - Reception & Year 1/ 2 Beach School Trip to Boulmer.

Thursday 20th June - Parent Cultural Lunch

Friday 21st June - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Beach School Trip to Boulmer

Monday 24th June - Y5/6 Robot Day at Duchess High School

Tuesday 25th June - KS2 Musical roots Concert at Alwick - violin performance

Tuesday 25th June - Ponteland High School transition Day

Wednesday 26th June - Y5 maths challenge morning at Duchess High School

Thursday 27th June - 6pm New Reception starters parent meeting

Friday 28th June - Year 5/6 Football Final Challenge at Whittingham 1-3pm

Monday 1st July - Y6 Sports transition festival at Duchess High School.

Tuesday 2nd July - Y5/6 River Trip

Thursday 4th July - Transition Day for Duchess High School, Dr Thomlinson and Chantry Middle School and our children staying in Swarland will have their Moving Up Day to meet their new teacher.

Wednesday 10th July - Y6 Transition Day Maths Challenge at Duchess High School.

Friday 12th July - Leavers' Disco 6-7:30pm

Wednesday 17th July - Y6 Transition Day Beach orienteering with local schools.

Thursday 18th July - Leavers' assembly

Friday 19th July - Children break up for summer holidays.

School re-opens Wednesday 4th September 2019.

Regards,
Louise Fletcher

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