

# Dinnington First School



Newsletter April 2019

## Dear Parents

Welcome back. As you can see work has now started on the demolition of the old building. When this is completed work will start on the carpark, landscaping and Early Years play area.

The new field is growing well and we are all looking forward to using it this term. We have a number of outdoor activities planned and we hope that you can join us for some of them.

We will be running our full programme of clubs this term, you'll will receive a separate letter about this.

I have also attached a list of general reminders for your information.

## Attendance

I am currently reviewing attendance for last term. We have 69% of children with attendance over 95% and 21% of children with 100%.

Well done to those children!

Please remember that when reporting your child's absence a reason must be given. It is not sufficient so say that your child is ill, we need to know the nature of the illness.

## School Forms

Please remember that in the school entrance, before the first set of security doors, we now have a rack that contains most school forms. There is also a box for you to post forms in when completed, in the same area.

## Open Morning and Musical Presentation

Parents are invited to attend our open morning on Tuesday 25th June. The purpose of the morning is to give parents the opportunity to see the school in action. You are invited to view the activities taking place in all areas of the school, including nursery and in particular your child's class. During the course of the morning groups of children will be performing songs and playing tunes on their recorders.



The parents of children learning to play the violin and clarinet will also be given the opportunity to watch their children perform during the course of the morning.

We will send you a detailed timetable for the morning nearer the time.

## Daft as a Brush Fundraising Day

On Friday 24th May, we are having a 'Daft Day' to raise funds for our Trust charity, Daft as a Brush. We will consult with the children via the school council about the theme for the day.



More information about the event will be sent nearer the time.

## General Reminders

Below are some reminders about school policy relating to the welfare and safety of the children.

Many thanks for your co-operation with regard to these issues.

1) We can only administer prescribed medication. This should be brought in to school and given to Mrs Purvis in the school office and the relevant forms completed.

All children with a diagnosed medical condition should have a completed care plan in school. New guidance relating to managing medical conditions in school requires us to have confirmation of the condition from a medical practitioner.

Children with asthma should always have the appropriate inhaler in school.

3) Water bottles should contain only a small amount of water (not juice) and should not be kept in school bags. Each class has a filtered water machine where bottles can be refilled during the day.

In order to support the national campaign to reduce plastic usage, we will not be providing plastic cups to those children that have forgotten bottles. Please remember that bottles can be purchased from the school office.

4) If your child is ill or unable to attend school for any reason please inform the school on the first day of absence. This should be followed by a note handed to the class teacher explaining why he/she has been absent when they return to school. Please remember that when absence is due to a diarrhoea and/or sickness illness children should be symptom free for 48 hours before returning to school.

5) It is essential that all items of school clothing are labelled with a child's name.

6) Please remember to inform us if the pick up arrangements for your child changes, particularly if they are going home with another parent.

7) Please inform us if you have an older child that is either coming to school or going home on their own. A form for you to complete is available from the school office.

8) Please remember that children are not permitted to bring sweets to school, this includes in packed lunches. If your child is given chewing gum to eat on the way to school, please ensure that it is removed before your child comes into school.

Children are permitted to bring in birthday treats to share with their classmates (not lollipops). These will be given to all children at the end of the school day so that they can be taken home to eat.

9) We are not able to distribute party invitations in school and I would ask that all

invitations are given to children in the school yard at the beginning and end of the school day.

10) Children should have their PE kit in school on the days when they have PE. PE days for each class are listed at the front of our Primary Pathways Booklet. A copy of our uniform policy is included with this newsletter.

Please remember that earrings **must be** removed for PE. We do not allow or give out elastoplasts to cover earrings. If you are thinking of having your child's ears pierced, the best time to do this is during the six weeks holiday.



## School Uniform Policy

### Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours. Some items of uniform can be bought from school, whilst others are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is printed overleaf.

### Aims and Objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform

- promotes a sense of pride in our school
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- identifies the children with the school
- supports our commitment to inclusion
- prevents children from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class
- is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind
- is considered good value for money by most parents

### Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make –up and Nail Varnish

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears and a watch. **Children are required to remove any items during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note, teachers are not permitted to remove earrings and they cannot be covered with an elastoplast.**

Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco.

We do not allow children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children, or to wear hair gel. Hair should be of a 'natural' colour. Long hair should be tied up and ribbons, bobbles, hair bands and slides should be simple in style. Short hair should be no shorter than a Number 2 and should not have 'Fashion' markings shaved into it e.g. tram lines, zig zags.

### Footwear

Children should wear plain black shoes and if boots are worn these should also be plain black. Summer sandals should be dark in colour.

### The Role of Parents

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is written on all items. If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a member of staff to discuss the issues. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request a modification to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the headteacher.

### **The Role of Governors**

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special.

### **School Uniform List**

Our school uniform colour is a combination of royal blue and grey/black. Most items can be bought from High Street shops. Items marked with a \* below, some of which have the school logo on, can be bought on line via our website, [www.dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk) and delivered to school.

Mrs Purvis in the school office can give advice on this.

- Grey skirt/pinafore dress/shorts/trousers or blue and white checked or striped dresses
- White blouse or polo shirt
- Royal blue sweatshirt\* or cardigan\*, without a hood, either plain or with the Dinnington logo
- Plain white/grey short or knee length socks (not over the knee) or
- black, navy or grey tights

Please note skirts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows a child to sit comfortably on the floor. When shorts are worn, even when these are worn over tights, they should also be of an appropriate length. Three-quarter, calf length, leggings should not be worn.

### **PE Kit:**

From Reception class onwards children should have the following PE kit

- A plain t-shirt, preferably white with no logos, apart from the school logo\*. For health and safety reasons this shirt should be different to the one they are wearing.
- A pair of plain shorts, dark blue or black in colour\*. Jogging/track suit bottoms and a warm top, both dark in colour can be worn for outdoor PE.
- A pair of black plimsolls for indoor PE and footwear that has a good grip (either trainers or plimsolls) for outdoor PE. Outdoor footwear is not required for reception class.

All of these things should be in a bag that can be kept on a peg in the cloakroom. \*

April

2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
	9.15am Nursery Open Morning	Yr 1 Dance Festival	Last day for Nursery pupils	Last day for all pupils
	pm KS2 Cross Country event	1.30pm Easter Service St Matthews Church	pm KS2 Football event	Fish and Chip Lunch
		3.00pm Parents & Friends Easter Activity		
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
BANK HOLIDAY		Yr 2 Northumberlandia visit	Year 3 Scoot smart training am	
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
pm Year 3 Swimming				
	pm Yr 2 cross Country event			

May

2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
BANK HOLIDAY	am Yr 1 Safetyworks visit			
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
pm Year 3 Swimming	am Rec Writing Workshop		pm Year 4 Games event	am Y3/4 Girls Football event
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
pm Year 3 Swimming		9.00am Yr 3 Class Assembly	am Yr 1 Queens Hall, Hexham Yr 4 Bikeability	Daft Day
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
BANK HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY





## Reception

Our theme this half term will be **traditional tales**. We will read and look closely at a variety of known tales and even familiarise the children with alternative versions too. We will look at the story language that is used in these tales and the children will begin to use this in their own writing. The children should gain a wealth of writing experience based on this theme. By the end of the half term the children should be able to make up their own tale to include a good and bad character, a problem in the middle and, of course, a happy ending. As I said at parents evening please encourage your child to write at home, thinking about sentence structure eg. spaces between words; using sounds they have learnt; include tricky words and read back what they have written. Then please bring in good pieces of writing to include in learning journeys. The children will be able to compare different story settings and carry out a variety of investigations eg. use various materials for the three little pigs houses (which will be stronger when blown?); make different bridges for The Three Billy Goats Gruff (which will hold the weight?). A variety of creative activities will also be linked to the tales we read.

In Mathematics, we will look at size and 3D shapes (Billy Goats Gruff), patterns (Princess and the Pea) and weight (Enormous Turnip). We will also concentrate on less than and subtraction skills.

Little Kickers will be every Tuesday morning so children need to come into school in sports wear plus school jumper and appropriate footwear.

The children will continue to bring home a Maths game every Tuesday which is to be returned the following Monday and writing homework on Friday to be returned the following Tuesday. We are focussing on sentence structure now, particularly finger spaces between words so the children can read their work back to you. Please allow time for this as they need to check what they have written makes sense.

Please continue supporting your child at home with their reading and always write in his/her Pathway book on a regular basis, thank you. As well as writing bring in any **WOW** moments linked to anything at all as it is important to value all aspects of your child and these will be added to his/her learning journey too.

As promised we will send out a date shortly for a writing workshop that you will hopefully be able to attend with your child.

Mrs C A Parker

Mrs J Aydeniz

Mrs J Fryer

Mrs C Foster

Mrs A McNab

Mrs C McGeary