

Wylam First School

Bell Road, Wylam, Northumberland, NE41 8EH
Tel: 01661 852771
Email: admin@wylam.northumberland.sch.uk
Website: www.wylam.northumberland.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mrs Stephanie Gibbon

Rocketing to Success!

Newsletter 2
1st October 2018



Dear parents/carers,

The summer holidays are now a distant memory and we are well and truly back in the swing of things. The children have all settled back into the school routine well and are working hard. Next week we are holding our Autumn term parents' evenings. This parents' evening is a general discussion about how your child has settled into their new year group, an opportunity to discuss your child's progress to date and targets for the year ahead, and to discuss any issues or concerns that you have. There will be sign up sheets in the yard today and tomorrow at the beginning and end of the school day. Alternatively if you are unable to sign up in person then contact the school office after 9am and Mrs Lough will be able to allocate you an appointment. We look forward to seeing you then.

News

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thanks to all who donated cakes or attended our MacMillan Coffee morning on Friday. This year each year group made something to sell during the event using the apples from the school grounds and the orchard. They made some lovely treats ranging from chocolate dipped apples to applesauce! The school managed to raise £160.95 for MacMillan which is fantastic!

Homework challenges

As you know, each half term we will be sending home some homework challenges. These are extra activities that your child can do at home to support and extend their learning and range from project work to ideas about days out. We have had some fantastic homework challenges sent into school already which is great! Examples of these will be uploaded to our website for you to see. The homework challenges are not compulsory but any child completing a challenge will receive school 360 points.

Phonics workshop

Thank you to all parents who attended our Early Years and Y1 phonics workshop on Thursday. The purpose of the workshop was to demonstrate how we teach phonics in Early Years and KS1 and to offer parents hints and advice on how to support their children at home. For those who were unable to attend we have uploaded the presentation to our website. If you would like any further information then please contact Mr Daly, our Literacy Lead.

Reminders

Y3 Cross Country Event

On Friday Y3 will be taking part in a Cross Country event at Mowden Hall. Please ensure that your child has an outdoor PE kit in school for Friday.

White Rose Maths (Singapore Strategies) Parents' Workshop

On Friday we are holding a maths workshop for parents to demonstrate how we are using the Singapore Strategy to teach maths across the school. If you are able to attend then please send the reply slip back to school so that we can prepare the appropriate amount of resources. We look forward to seeing you then.

Unfortunately we are unable to hold this event after school but to support those who are unable to attend we will upload the presentation to our website. If you would like any further information on this then please contact Mrs Long, our Maths Lead.

PTA Meeting

Please remember our next public PTA meeting is on Wednesday 3rd October at The Ship Inn, Wylam, 8:30pm-10:00pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome - your PTA needs your help so please do come along.

Information

Daily procedures at drop off and pick up times

At the beginning of every year we spend some time looking at our safeguarding procedures to ensure that we are following all of the latest guidance and we have effective systems in place to ensure that your child feels safe and happy in school.

School officially begins at 8:55am. We do not take responsibility for the children until they have entered the building so please make sure that you stay with your child, in the yard until the teacher has taken the children inside. Staff will be on the yard at 8:50am so that you can pass on any information to them then. If you need to talk to the teacher in private then please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

At the end of the school day it is essential that we ensure that every child goes home with their parent or named adult. To support us with this please make sure you inform us, before the end of the day, if someone else will be picking your child up. If this person is not known to the school this is especially important. It is also important that you inform us if another parent is picking up your child. If we have not been informed in advance then we cannot let your child go.

If you have more than 1 child at the school then please can you drop off and collect the youngest child first.

There may be occasions where you would like to talk to the class teacher at the end of the day. In this instance can you please wait until the teacher has released the last child before you attempt to do this. This is to ensure that they know the child has gone home with the correct adult.

Some of our parents like to stay in the school grounds at the end of the day to allow their child to play on the equipment or to chat to other parents. When doing this please can we ask that you move away from the classroom doors.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

No Outsiders In Our School

Schools are expected, through their PSHE curriculum, to teach children about the Equalities Act and the protected characteristics. The nine groups protected under the Equality Act are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

At Wylam First School we are using the 'No Outsiders In Our School' publication along with the Stonewall resources to discuss the themes in an age appropriate way so that children understand that discrimination of any kind is unacceptable and that differences should be celebrated. We have made some alterations to our PSHE curriculum which you can find on our website along with suggested book lists that we will use to introduce and discuss key themes. Below is the web address for Stonewall should you wish to find out more information.

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/get-involved/get-involved-education/primary-schools-2>

Please be assured that all topics are handled in an age appropriate and sensitive way.

Have You Filled a Bucket Today?

This term our focus is on kindness (linked to anti-bully week). We are teaching this through a whole school strategy that was introduced in assembly today. The strategy encourages children to imagine that everyone carries an imaginary bucket around with them. When it is full they are happy and confident and when it is empty they can be sad and lonely. We discussed what we could do to fill our own and other people's buckets today and what people would have to do to be a 'bucket dipper'. This will be discussed in our Monday assemblies and children will be encouraged to talk about how they have been a 'bucket filler'.

School Calendar

5th October	Singapore maths workshop
5th October	Y3 cross country event
9th October	Parents' evening (4pm-6pm)
11th October	Parents' evening (3:30pm-4:30pm)
18th October	Y2 Skipping and School Games Event
19th October	Y2 Trip to HMS Trincomalee

22nd October	Harvest Festival
23rd October	PTA pumpkin carving competition
24th October	EYFS coffee morning & performance
25th October	Y3/4 tag rugby event
26th October	PTA - Halloween Fun Day
26th October	Break up for half term
16th November	Children in Need
16th November	School visit: Eden Francis
22nd November	Y4 drama project
26th November	Flu vaccinations (Reception - Y4)
29th November	Nursery pram service - St Oswin's
7th December	Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day
7th December	PTA Christmas fair
11th December	EYFS Christmas performance (9:30am - 10:30am) KS2 Christmas performance (1:30pm - 2:30pm)
12th December	KS1 Christmas performance (9:30am -10:30am) KS2 Christmas performance (6pm - 7pm)
13th December	EYFS Christmas performance (9:30am - 10:30am) KS1 Christmas performance (1:30pm - 2:30pm)
14th December	EYFS trip to Northern Stage
17th December	KS2 trip to Queen's Hall - Robin Hood
19th December	KS1 trip to Tyne Theatre - Cinderella
21st December	Y4 singing at Charlie's Corner
21st December	Christmas church service at St Oswin's
21st December	Break up for Christmas Holiday

Please continue to check our school website for the most up to date information.

Kind Regards

S Gibbon
Headteacher