



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL



Newsletter Autumn 3: October 2018



Dear Parents

Helping others—Diabetes UK Fun Run - Well done to children in Year 2 who took part in a Fun Run for Diabetes UK. 41 of our children took part at Gateshead Stadium and raised over £500 to support the Page family.

Bikeability - the children in Year 3 and 4 have taken part in Bikeability sessions. (Mr Harrington's class will have their training on Wednesday 14th November.) The PTA have funded new bike shelters and we are promoting cycling to school as the Council have identified our school as a priority due to the congestion at drop off /pick up times. They also made improvements to the crossing in the summer term. We are looking forward to Mr Bell returning to his School Crossing Patrol role after half-term.



Year 4 - during the course of the year our oldest children will take on roles of responsibility around school. We have lunchtime buddies, sports leaders, womble warriors and eco - warriors. We can report that they have risen to the challenge and are doing very well this term.

School Council - Mrs Mason has met with the School Council and they help to seek the views of children in their year group. They have just completed a pupil survey to see if the children would like the PTA to help us purchase some portable goal posts.

Disco - the disco on Tuesday evening was very well supported by the children. Thanks also to our PTA and parent helpers who organised the tuck shop and refreshments. The PTA have also organised Christmas cards which the children have designed themselves. The orders have been sent off to the company and will be with us after half-term. The Uniform Sale last week raised £86. The PTA have also helped us to equip a designated cooking area in the staff room for the children to use. Year 3 have been offered a cookery club after half-term and the children will have the chance to do some Christmas baking in December. Planning is also under way for the Christmas Fair and further information will follow in school bags next half-term.

Bags 2 School - will take place on 12th November. Please bring bags on the day and leave them outside the front of the school office by 9am

Postcards Home—A Message from School and Headteacher Awards - during the course of the school year we may send you a message home from school or teachers may nominate your child for a Headteacher Award in recognition of their hard work or perhaps for displaying our core values. Look out for them—they are very special!



Royal British Legion—Poppy sale.

We have a **small number of items** for sale at the school office next week 22nd—26th October e.g. rubbers, pencils, refelectors etc.

Poppies will be on sale the week after half-term 5th—9th November.

Collecting Children From School policy—a reminder.

Parents provide the names of people who are authorised to collect their child via the emergency contact sheet. The school should be informed in advance of any changes to collection procedures e.g. medical appointments, going to a friends for tea. Parents must make sure that the office staff and class teacher are aware if a child is to be collected during the school day and by whom. Parents must make sure that people authorised to collect children make themselves known to school staff.

Requesting permission for an older sibling to collect a younger child means that the parent is responsible for (via the sibling) the child's welfare upon collection. A child can be collected by an agreed adult OR an older sibling in Year 9 or above with parental permission. A request for an older sibling (Year 9 and over) to collect one of our children should be made to a member of staff (class teacher or office staff). However if staff have concerns about the suitability of the older sibling or need to check arrangements with parents about who is collecting, they reserve the right to keep the child at school under staff supervision until the parent can be contacted—copy of policy on notice board in Main Reception.

Attendance - The Local Authority and the Department for Education set all schools the **minimum expected target of 95%** attendance over the school year. **Our school is currently above this target and overall our attendance is good - our children love coming to school.** Thank you for your support in maintaining our whole school attendance levels.

Mrs Reilly in the office is our Attendance Administrator and she will ring parents to find out about any unexplained absence. ***It is important that you call the office and let them know if your child is poorly.***

The parents of any child falling below 95% attendance will be sent a letter of concern to make them aware that their child's attendance is slipping and ask for their support in ensuring that it improves.

Any child whose attendance is below 90% will be asked to meet with the Head Teacher to discuss the ways in which we can work together to ensure it improves.

Pupils who have consistently low attendance may be referred to the Local Authority Attendance Adviser for further investigation.

In line with Local Authority and National policy our school ***does not authorise any holiday during term time.*** If you wish to request leave during term time you must complete a form which you can collect from the office. Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Lateness: Being on Time Matters Too!

School begins at 8.55am when the whistle is blown on the yard and children line up in their classes. If your child arrives after 9am they must go to the school office to register as we monitor late arrivals.



Parents Evening Appointments—22nd Oct / 6th November - these have been sent home in school bags. Staff look forward to discussing how your child has settled in to their new class.

Finally, a reminder that we break up for half-term on Friday 26th October . I hope that you have an enjoyable half-term break. The children have certainly worked hard in their new classes for the last eight weeks and are ready for a break. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 5th November when we return to school. After - School Clubs start immediately (week beginning 5th November) and run for a 5 weeks.

Diary dates for next half- term:



November	HALF-TERM
5 th	Return to School Poppies for sale this week Clubs start this week for 5 weeks Yr 4 - Mrs McIntosh's Class ONLY - Parent Consultations (2)
6 th	Parent's Consultations(2)
8 th	Year 1 Pirate Day
12 th	Anti-Bullying Week - 'Choose Respect'
14 th	First Aid Session for Year 1 Bikeability for Mr Harrington's Class
16 th	Children in Need Day Year 3 Football Tournament
29 th	Flu Immunisation Programme
December	
6 th	Year 4 Christmas Performance 2pm After School Clubs finish
7 th	Christmas Fair 3.30pm
10 th	Reception - Party Day and Theatre Visit
11 th	Year 3 Christmas Performance 2pm
12 th	Year 2 Christmas Performance 2pm
13 th	Year 3 last swim
14 th	Early Years Performance - Reception and Morning Nursery 9.30am Reception and Afternoon Nursery 2pm
18 th	Year 1 Christmas Performance Christmas Disco Disco Year 1 & 2 - 5pm - 6pm Disco Year 3 & 4 - 6.15pm - 7.15pm
19 th	Christmas Lunch
20 th	Christmas Party Day - Year 1 - 4 Nursery break up
21 st	School closes for Christmas 3.15pm (Reception) 3.20pm (Year 1 - 4)
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS return to school on Tuesday 8th January	