



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018

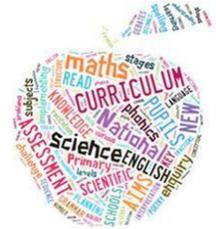


Our Curriculum

What does your child learn at school each day?

At Southridge, we aim to provide children with a rich, broad and exciting curriculum that promotes high standards and lays the foundations for life. Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and is adapted for our school context.

Please click on the link below to see more information about our curriculum on our school website. <https://www.southridgefirst.org.uk/website/curriculum/338926>



Attendance

We are very proud that our school pupil attendance for the 2017/18 school year was 97.1%. Our children love coming to school and our high attendance levels correspond with the excellent attainment and progress of our children.

This term we have maintained this but please can we ask for your help in the following ways:

- Bring children in to school before and after any urgent medical appointments - a whole days absence is usually not necessary.
- Please leave medicines at the school office - children can often attend school when on a course of medicine.
- Review the number of activities your child does so that they don't miss school because they are tired.
- Avoid holidays in term -time, as they are disruptive to learning.

Year Group	Attendance this term
Rec	97.5%
1	98%
2	97.6%
3	98%
4	98.1%

'Our Core Values' Award - this term we have concentrated on our core values of friendship, kindness, honesty, respect and responsibility. In Assembly next week the teachers will nominate four children from each class who consistently demonstrate these values.

Our Year 4 Buddies will also receive certificates in recognition of all their hard work in supporting the younger pupils and Mr Bell in their roles around school.



Choir Performance - this took place in the hall at the end of their last session and was wonderful! Thank you for supporting the children as it is lovely for them to be able to share their enthusiasm and enjoyment of singing with you.

Christmas Disco - KS1 and 2.
The P.T.A are running a disco on Tuesday 18th December in the school hall. Year 1 and 2 are invited to attend at 5pm -6pm and Year 3 and 4 at 6.15pm - 7.15pm. £3 entry on the door.

Christmas Fair - Thank you for all your support at the Christmas Fair. Our PTA did a fabulous job in organising this event and we enjoyed a special visit from Rook the reindeer. Congratulations to James Robertson, who won our star raffle prize of an iPad. All the winners have been notified by the school office. An awful lot of work goes on behind the scenes both before and after to make it a success. We raised a tremendous £4,496.74 which includes a total of £1,593 from the raffle. We are extremely grateful to the PTA for their fundraising efforts. The PTA have also organised a festive Christmas Disco for the children next week.

After School Clubs - Thank you for returning your after school club requests. The office staff are busy allocating places and the letter advising you which club your child can attend will be put in school bags during the first week back to school in January. Block 1 of clubs start the week beginning 14th January and will run for 5 weeks up until half-term.

School Bags and P.E. bags -

Please remind your children to use the **Southridge book bags for their reading books and diaries**. These fit easily in to their trays/ storage boxes in classrooms - our classrooms are not big enough for 30 rucksacks!



P.E. Kit can be kept in the cloakroom on the children's pegs in the Southridge rucksack (which are smaller) or a drawstring P.E. bag.



Both available from our school uniform supplier Anne Thomas, Whitley Bay.

Cycle and Scoot to school: The old bike shed which flooded in heavy rain has been dismantled. We have increased our storage capacity with smaller bike and scooter shelters at the front and back entrance gates, enabling easy access following clubs.

E-Safety Session for Parents and Carers - On **Wednesday 16th January at 5pm**. Claire Graham our I.T. Adviser will be in school to deliver an internet safety session for parents and carers in the school hall. This will be an informative session lasting approximately one hour and is part of our safeguarding agenda to ensure that we work together to protect our children when they are using the internet.

TOP TIP from Claire Graham - A reminder for parents to be 'Tech savvy'. If your children receive electronic items as gifts this Christmas, please ensure that parental controls are in place, especially regarding internet access.



Christmas Performances - we have enjoyed a busy week of fabulous performances with appreciative audiences. The children have thoroughly enjoyed performing to you and we are certainly all feeling excited for Christmas!



Reminders for next week-

Tuesday: Year 1 Christmas Performance (2pm)

Tuesday: Year 3 'Rockpool School' (pm)

Tuesday: Christmas Disco
Year 1 and 2 5pm -6pm
Year 3 and 4 6.15pm - 7.15pm
£3 entry on the door

Wednesday: Christmas Lunch

Thursday: Christmas Party Day
Year 1 - 4
Wear party clothes -
note in school bags

Friday: Break Up for Christmas
Children may wear:
A choice of Christmas jumpers
or pyjamas/hats & scarfs for a
special treat in Assembly.



Bad weather procedures -

In the event of snow please check our school website for updates. We will only post closure on the website and text you via teachers2parents in the event of a school closure, **otherwise please always assume school is open.**

We always endeavour to remain open during adverse weather conditions but may have to ask you to enter school via the main entrance at the front of school if the playground is covered in snow.

We aim to notify parents as early as possible but appreciate your understanding when decisions have to be made on the day.

(Please ensure contact details are updated at the school office if you change your mobile phone over the Christmas period.)

Goodbye and Good Luck to Mrs Donnison, Year 4 teaching assistant, who leaves us at the end of term to take up a new post at Battle Hill Primary.

Merry Christmas - On behalf of the children, staff and governors I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas. I hope you all enjoy the Christmas festivities with your family. We look forward to seeing the children when they return to school on **Tuesday January 8th**.