



# BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED

## MAY 2019 – NEWSLETTER

Please remember to check book bags for letters and please ensure we have your correct contact details. It is very important that school are advised of any changes of circumstance ie name change, change in family structure. Please advise school immediately.

The new school term is well under way now and everyone is working hard. Please help your child with reminders about behaviour, trying their hardest, completing homework and reading every day. Reading with your child is the most important thing you can do to support their learning.

### **National tests (SATs, phonic checks and times tables checks)**

This term Year 6 and Year 2 pupils will take national end of key stage tests (SATs). Year 1 pupils will take the national phonic check and Year 4 pupils will take part in the trials of the times tables checks. Pupils will be well prepared for these tests by teachers but it is really important they are both confident and well rested before tests. Please encourage and support your child to practise by reading, completing class homework and using my maths or other IT programmes to practise maths facts. Make sure your child has a good night's sleep and limit screen use in the hours before bed time. Keep your child confident and try not to let them (or yourself) get stressed out by tests – we encourage children to think of it as an opportunity to show off what they have learned over the year. Above all please make sure your child attends school on time every day.

Year 6 pupils will come in to school early in SATs week at 8am for breakfast before the tests on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. All other year groups will start school at normal time. 8.50am

Other year groups will also take part in end of year tests later in the term but these will be school checks rather than national tests. Parents will be informed of pupil's progress via the end of year school report.

### **Easter Fair**

Thank you to everyone who helped, contributed and came to the Easter Fair. We raised £537.00 which goes towards school funds.

## **Attendance Champions**

Last term's winner of the 'Best Attenders' were Tigers class with 97.72%. Second were Penguins class with 97.52% and third were with Lemurs class with 97.47%. Good attendance is a key factor in supporting pupils to make good progress and we are always aiming for 100% attendance. Please support us by sending your child to school on time every day unless they are genuinely too ill to attend.

## **School Absences and Illness**

Reminder that we don't authorise leave/holidays in term time unless it is an exceptional circumstance to the child. We do request that the authority issue fixed penalty fines and non-payment could lead to prosecution. Illness - please phone school before 9.30am if your child is not attending school as it saves us time contacting you.

## **School Meals and Milk**

Can parents of Reception and KS1 children, in receipt of benefits, please make sure they apply for free school meals via the Kirklees website ([www.kirklees.gov.uk](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk)). If you are entitled to free meals your child will also receive free school milk and school receives extra funding to support their learning. The government's 'Universal Free School Meals' scheme provides a free meal for all children in Reception and KS1, but you still need to make an application for benefit-related free school meals to access this extra funding and support. If an application is not made, then from the beginning of the school term your child turns 5 you will be required to pay for milk. If your circumstances change, you must inform the Free School Meal office on 221928 and let them know what has changed. Please also let the school office know. If you would like further advice or support with applying for free school meals, please call into the Hub to see Mrs Mellor or Mrs Heywood.

## **Castle Community Hub**

We have several courses running at the moment with new ones starting throughout the year. If you are interested in attending any of them (see flyer attached) or require further information, please contact: Mrs Scally, Mrs Mellor or Mrs Heywood. The email address is: [castlecommunityhub@kirkleeseducation.uk](mailto:castlecommunityhub@kirkleeseducation.uk) or call in at the morning drop-in session. Courses run in Castle Community Hub. You are welcome to call in for support, advice or a friendly face in the morning. One of our behaviour support workers is available at the drop-in on Mondays, our bi-lingual support workers are available on Wednesdays (Punjabi Urdu and Arabic) and Fridays (Polish).

## **Recycle**

If you have any old greetings cards that you would like to recycle, please drop them in at the Hub. Community Cards will make new greetings cards with them, to help raise funds for the Welcome Centre. Also any outgrown school uniform you have can be handed in at the Hub or the main office for the Uniform Exchange Programme. You can also request uniform in the Hub.

## **Summer Uniform**

Children are allowed green checked dresses and black or dark grey SCHOOL shorts as a summer uniform. Please check the length of girl's skirts as many of our girls have really grown over the year and their skirts are getting too short to be appropriate for school. If you are struggling to keep pace with your growing child remember the Uniform Exchange service may be able to help. (Please enquire at the Hub). Leggings may be worn with a skirt or dress for modesty, but are not a substitute for the school trousers and therefore should not be worn on their own.

Black School shoes or trainers (no logos) are still the only shoes allowed during summer months. Sandals and ballet pumps are not appropriate or safe as children are encouraged to run and be active, fit and healthy as much as possible during play and lunch breaks. Please remember 1 pair of plain stud earrings only is allowed at school. Earrings must be removed on PE days for safety.

## **Sun Safety**

If it does look like a hot and sunny day is in store, please apply a long lasting 30+ sun cream to your child before school and provide them with a sun hat. Children will be encouraged to play in more shady areas, but as we do not have a great deal of natural shade at Hillside, please ensure your child is protected. Any parent wishing their child to reapply sun cream during the day will need to provide the cream in a labelled bottle. Children are obviously not allowed to share sun cream nor is school able to provide it.

## **Safety before school**

Classroom doors open at 8:50. Children should not be unaccompanied on school grounds prior to doors opening. Please do not allow your child to play on the climbing frames before or after school as a nasty accident could easily happen and staff are not on duty at this time to supervise.

## **Parking**

Please be aware that both the front and side car parks are for staff only and parents should not drive onto the school grounds, unless they have a disabled permit issued by the headteacher. Taxis or parent/carer cars should not be coming into the car parks, school grounds, or stopping on the roundabout to drop children off. There are limited spaces on Headfield Road, but we recommend that you park on the roads away from school and walk the last bit. Please do not block driveways on Headfield Road, or White Hart Drive. We have received several complaints from local residents. We have also had several near misses and need all parents and carers working with us to keep our children safe.

## **Head Lice**

Please check your child's hair regularly for any sign of head lice and treat accordingly. This is an on-going problem in all schools and the only way to stop them spreading is to check and treat according to the instructions on the individual product. We advise that long hair is tied up at school. If you need a head lice comb and conditioner the Hub has limited stock of both. Please call in and speak with Mrs Heywood or Mrs Mellor.

## Diary Dates

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Y5 visit to Huddersfield University

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> - May KS2 SATs

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Open evening for Year 5 pupils/parents at Newsome High School 6-7pm

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May - KS1 SATs

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> My Bikeability Year5+6

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May- Half Term Holiday

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Staff Training Day School Closed

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Back to School

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June – Class Photos**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June – Y1 Phonics screening

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 times table check

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5 (Whales and Manatees) Trip National Space Centre

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Barn and Snowy Owls Trip Sealife Manchester

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Parent/Carer Meeting for children starting Nursery in September 1.30pm

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Parent/Carer Meeting for children starting Reception in September 5- 6pm

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Tigers Trip to Yorkshire Water

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Parent/Carer Meeting for children moving from Reception to KS1 in September 5-6pm

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Nursery trip to Manor Heath – To Be Confirmed

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Years 3+4 (Wolves,Lemurs+Tigers) Trip The Deep

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Kirklees Primary Music Festival 7-8:15pm

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Trip Kingswood

Monday 8<sup>th</sup>+9<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Transition Days to Newsome High School

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – All move day – Children visit new classes and class teachers

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Year 1+2 (Sharks,Pandas+Penguins) Trip St Annes

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Pupil School Reports sent home

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 leaver's performance 9am – Golden Assembly 2pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Break for Summer Holidays – Back to school Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September