



Coxhoe Communicator

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back for the new academic year and a special welcome to our new parents/carers of pupils in Reception class, as well as a number of other year groups.

I hope that you have had a good summer and opportunity to have a break with your children. No doubt I will hear next week about the adventures and escapades the children and you all got up to over the summer, as next week all pupils write a letter to me about their summer holidays. This follows and is in response to an assembly today where I was able to share with the children my own summer holiday adventures!

Several of our staff have also had very busy summer holidays with both Miss Temple and Miss Hopper getting married (now Mrs Elliott and Mrs Smith respectively).

We also welcome to school Miss Haddick (Class 4), as well as Mrs Topping and Mrs Troup (Teaching assistants in KS1 and KS2 respectively). We also welcome Miss Collins as a PE Apprentice, working across the whole school.

I already feel excited about the New Year and the many new learning opportunities which lie ahead. This began for Year 6 today with a visit to County Hall to meet our local MP (Roberta Wood) and have opportunity to take part in a debate, as part of their Democracy week, in the Council chamber. Mrs Caygill has told me how well they participated and what a credit, once again, they were for our school. Well done Year 6.

Once again thank you for your continued belief and support that helps all of our pupils achieve their potential – as our school motto reminds us – ‘Believe & Achieve.’

If either myself or Mrs Bartle (Deputy Head) can assist you in any way then please get in touch and we both look forward to working together over the next year.

Regards,
Mr S Jones (Head teacher)

Class structure 2017-18

Class 1: Reception – Miss Tibbot
Class 2: Reception – Miss Britton
Class 3: Year 1 – Mrs Elliott
Class 4: Year 1 / 2 – Miss Haddick
Class 5: Year 2 – Mrs Richardson
& Mrs Jefferson
Class 6: Year 3 – Mrs O’Sullivan &
Mrs Skaife
Class 7: Year 3 – Mr Ord
Class 8: Year 4 – Mr Hopson
Class 9: Year 4/5 – Mrs Smith
Class 10: Year 5/6 – Mr Patterson
Class 11: Year 6 – Mrs Caygill

School Attendance

Our final school attendance for 2016-17 academic year was: 97.1% (this is well above National attendance for Primary aged pupils in 2015-16).

Year 5 had the highest year group attendance at 97.7% and Class 10 the highest Registration group at 97.8%.

Thank you for such a high attendance over the year – and helping us ensure that all pupils understand every day is a ‘learning day.’

Let’s keep working together to keep it at this level during this last half term.

Please remember that our school day starts at 8:45 am. The gates are open from 8:35 am and children can go straight to their classes.

‘Meet the teacher’ open parent/carer meetings Year 1 - 6): Next week your child’s class teacher would love to meet you and share information about the curriculum that your child will cover this academic year. We hold 2 open sessions on **Wednesday 13th September at 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm** – each session will last approximately 30 minutes.

Keep updated with the App

A huge thank you to so many parents for downloading the App and for all of the enthusiastic feedback. This is now be our main channel of home-school communication and we look forward to keeping you updated with immediate alerts, news, newsletters and calendars.

Only a small number of letters will be sent on paper, as it is not cost effective or efficient.

The Coxhoe Primary school App is available free from the App Store. If you have any problems locating the App, please contact Miss Dunkley (School Office) who may be able to support you with this. We will continue to liaise with the provider about suitability for Windows phones.

New Head boy and Head girl

Year 6 are currently preparing nominations for the positions of Head girl and Head boy. This will lead to speeches and canvassing of the whole school by the nominated candidates and their 'parties' next week.

We will let you know the outcome as soon as all of the votes cast have been counted.

Good luck to all of the candidates.

Class Assemblies

Please note that Class Assemblies do not begin until the Spring term 2018

Harvest Festival 2017

Once again we hope to hold our Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, Coxhoe, on Friday 6th October.

KS1 – 9:45 am

KS2 – 11:00 am

We are requesting donations of dried foods or tins of food once again this year. All proceeds go to 'Durham/Chilton' Food Bank.

Please give generously to this worthy cause.

Changes to Foundation Stage playground

Following completion of the extension to our school building and in order to refresh our Outdoor Learning Space for Reception pupils we have asked several firms to produce designs for the new space. These designs were discussed by pupils (via the School Council), staff and Governors, with the chosen design offering a fantastic additional learning environment for pupils.

The cost of these improvements is in the region of £33,000. We are able to commit approximately £10,000 to the project from our school budget but are seeking funding for the balance from various sources (grants, local business etc). If you can suggest any possible benefactors who may be willing to support this project please let us know.

Many thanks to McKenzie Builders for their generous donation to this new playground. If any other firms or individuals would like to contribute please see Mr Jones or Mrs Bartle. We still have a long way to go before we can commence this vital project to update the Early Years Playground.

Early dates for Christmas Nativity plays!!!

Tuesday 12th December – 2 pm (3 tickets per pupil per show)

Thursday 14th December –
KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Nativity play at 2:15 pm and 5:30 pm

Other events this half term:

Sunday 17th September: Car Rally in school grounds

Monday 18th September: Visit by author Tony Wilson to work with pupils across the school.

Tuesday 26th September: Art Day 1 (pupils can wear old clothes to protect their uniforms)

Tuesday 26th September: Reception parents/carers – Phonic meetings at 9:15 am; 2:30 pm and 5:30 pm – please try and attend to hear about how we teach reading to our youngest pupils

Thursday 5th October: Meeting of School Governors

Monday 16th October: Parents/Carers meetings (all classes)

Wednesday 18th October: Parents/Carers meetings (all classes)

School breaks up for half term holiday (1 week) on Friday 20th October