

Year: Whole School



# School News

September 2018 – July 2019

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## School News

Welcome to all our new children. We wish you a very successful and enjoyable time at Coquet Park First School.

Welcome to a new school year at Coquet Park First School. Our school Newsletter contains general information, useful updates and important dates for you to keep for future events. We aim to inform you of events, in more detail, at least two weeks in advance, but occasionally there might be less notice where there is an event which we feel would be beneficial for the children.

The class teacher will also send out curriculum information letters. They are also posted on our website, together with the Newsletters. The class pages are also available on the website, updated to include recent events. Whole school events from previous years can still be viewed via the Children Page drop down.

## Staff News

It has been a lovely start to the year. We welcome Mr McGaughey who has joined our team in Key Stage 2 as Year 3 teacher, Miss Richardson who is working in Nursery and Reception and Mrs Mackay, who is working in the School Office.

## Eco Day

On Friday, 5 October, the school will be celebrating Eco Day. This will include the opening of the Eco greenhouse which is now constructed, with the help of the Rotary Club, Whitley Bay. Thank you all for recycling your bottles and to Mrs Cairns for organising the collection and preparing the bottles for assembly. The greenhouse looks amazing! We have invited representatives from the local Rotary Club to officially open the greenhouse on the day. The children will all be taking part in a 'Turn it Off' time throughout the day where, as a school, we try to reduce our electricity consumption. Outdoor lessons will also take place, eco based activities as well as a visitors 'Wash, Squash and Recycle' assembly.

At the end of Eco Day, after pick up, you are invited to make an 'Eco Pledge' in the dining hall and then take a look at the new greenhouse located beside the pond.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning and Cake Stall

The PTFA would like to invite you to the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday, 28 September at 9:00. This is always a well-supported event and an opportunity to meet other parents, grandparents and friends. It takes place in the small hall. Everyone is very welcome. Please bring some cakes, if you can, or simply come along to share the delights together.

## Hand Hygiene Lessons

Thank you to Nurse Knowles for delivering the lessons in school to encourage pupils to understand the importance of washing hands before meals. The children have enjoyed the workshops.

Sessions for Year 3 will take place soon.

## Class Open Mornings / Afternoons

Please see the dates below for Open Mornings/Afternoons. This is a time to visit the classroom and meet the new class teacher. Please contact the class teachers if you would like any additional information, or if you have any concerns. The children will be out of the classroom at the beginning so you are able to share a short presentation of the year ahead, and then complete a quick activity with your child following this.

### **Nursery Class 2019**

Applications for Nursery 2019 are now available via the school. Visits for new parents can be arranged by contacting the School Office. Visiting the school gives an insight into the positive ethos and working environment. It also allows you to see the school during the working day, meet staff and ask any questions. We are very welcoming and enjoy sharing the school and all it has to offer.

### **Reception Class 2019**

North Tyneside applications for Reception 2019 are now open. Applications are made directly to the Council. New parents are encouraged to visit our lovely school and this can be arranged via the School Office. We have children from our catchment and also the wider school area. If you would like any further information, or to discuss this further, then please contact me. I am very happy to help with this important decision.

### **Thank you to PTFA**

Thank you to the PTFA who have agreed to support each child in Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 to attend The Playhouse production of Peter Pan. This will take place on Wednesday, 19 December AM. The kind contribution keeps the cost down, together with the group booking reduction.

Nursery and Reception will confirm their literacy based visit later this term. This will also be subsidised by the PTFA.

### **Arranging a Meeting with Staff**

Meetings can be arranged with staff by either phoning the School Office, talking to the staff on duty in the playground each morning, or a quick word with staff when they are welcoming/returning the children at the start/end of the day.

### **Coats and Timber Trail Shoes**

Please can you ensure your child has a waterproof coat with them every day. Outdoor playtimes will take place whenever possible, this will include light rainy days and it is important that the children have a coat for this.

A pair of 'timber trail shoes' should be kept at school so that your child can use this facility. Please do not allow pupils to use the Timber Trail before or after school. We know it is very tempting for little ones, but we would really appreciate your help with this matter.

### **School Meals**

If you have not been able to select school meals or have any concerns linked to school meals then please contact Catering Services by telephone on 0191 6438355. Please arrange an appointment with them to discuss dietary needs.

### **Harvest Festival**

The Harvest Festival will take place on Friday, 19 October at 14:35. You are warmly welcomed to attend the school celebration. Further details will follow.

### **Safeguarding Our Pupils –**

Please remember bikes and scooters should NOT be ridden on the yard. Bikes and scooters should be taken home at the end of the school day. Occasionally, this may not be possible, but please do not leave them for an extended period as we cannot be responsible for their safe keeping.

Please tether dogs away from the school gate and main pathway outside school.

### **Reporting a Pupil Absence**

Please remember to call the School Office by 09:15 if your child is absent from school for any reason. The School Office will telephone parent/carers if school has not received notification of an absence.

### **Dates for the School Year**

Please see the dates below for the beginning of term events. Where possible, the events will be added to the online calendar. This is updated once a week.

There are many visits, visitors and sporting events in school. Information will be added to the website to share events and keep you updated through the class and school pages.

The Sports Newsletter outlines the activities in school and is also shared on the website.

### **DBS**

Please contact the School Office via email regarding applying for a DBS with school (we now use the electronic system). A Coquet Park First School DBS needs to be completed in order to accompany pupils on school visits and to help in school, this includes Christmas Craft Days. The application process can take time to complete, so an early submission is recommended. When you receive your DBS certificate, please bring it into the School Office. School is

not informed that a certificate has been issued. The original DBS certificate needs to be viewed by a member of the School Office to complete the process.

DBS from other clubs or work placements cannot be accepted unless they have been made portable by the applicant. This involves a fee and further processing. This is Governing Body protocol and forms part of the Safeguarding procedures for all children in school.

Please check the date on your DBS as it will expire three years after the date of issue. Only DBS within date are accepted.

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|--|--------------|--|
| <b>AUTUMN TERM DATES</b>   |              |  |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b>   |              |  |
| 24 September   | 14:40        | Year 1 Open Afternoon – Gates open at 14:35  |
| 26 September   | 09:00        | Year 4 Open Morning  |
| 26 September   | 14:40        | Year 2 Open Afternoon – Gates open at 14:35  |
| 27 September   | 14:40        | Year 1 Open Afternoon – Gates Open 14:35   |
| 28 September   | 09:00        | Macmillan Coffee Morning in the small hall<br>Please enter via the main school entrance. All cakes very welcome.   |
| <b>OCTOBER</b>   |              |  |
| 1 October  | Evening      | Governing Body meeting   |
| 3 October  | All day      | Year 2 Centre for Life visit   |
|  | All day      | Year 4 Cragside visit  |
| 5 October  | All day      | Eco Day  |
|  | AM           | Wash, Squash and Recycle Assembly  |
|  | 15:00        | Eco Greenhouse – Grand Opening for children by Rotary Club, Whitley Bay  |
|  | 15:20        | Eco Pledge   |
| 5 October  |              | PTFA Cauliflower Cards sent home with pupils   |
| 10 October   | 09:05        | Reception Open Morning   |
| 10 October   | AM           | Visitors Assembly  |
| 12 October   |              | Y4 Tag Rugby Festival ( group)   |
| 19 October   | 14:35        | Harvest Festival   |
|  |              | Bay Foodbank collection in the entrance  |
| 23/24/25 October   | After school | Parents' Evening   |
| 25 October   |              | School Photographs – individual and siblings in school   |
| <b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY MONDAY, 29 – FRIDAY, 2 NOVEMBER</b>                         |              |  |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b>  |              |  |
| 16 November  |              | Children in Need   |
| 20 November  |              | Flu Immunisation (Pupils with returned forms only)   |
| 27 November  | AM           | Christmas Crafts Reception only (DBS – see note below)   |
| 28 November  | AM and PM    | Christmas Crafts Y1 – Y4: Parents with DBS invited (Please apply via email to the School Office as soon as possible for processing by this date). Coffee and mince pies for all volunteers |
| 29 November  | AM           | Christmas Crafts Reception – Year 4  |
| <b>FRIDAY, 30 NOVEMBER SCHOOL CLOSED (TRAINING DAY)</b>                          |              |  |
| <b>DECEMBER</b>  |              |  |
| 5 December   | AM           | Visitors' Assembly   |

|  |                 |  |
|--|-----------------|--|
| 6 December   | 15:20           | School Christmas Disco – PTFA Reception-Year 4   |
| 12 December  | AM Nu<br>PM Rec | Nursery Nativity for parents 10:45 start<br>Reception Nativity for parents 14:20 start<br>One performance for each year only |
| 13 December  | Lunch           | Christmas Dinner   |
| 17 December  | PM              | Christmas Performances (Adults only performance)<br>Year 1 and 2<br>Year 3 and 4   |
| 18 December  | PM              | Christmas Performances (General)<br>Year 1 and 2<br>Year 3 and 4   |
| 19 December  | AM              | Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 Pantomime at Whitley Bay Playhouse   |
| 20 December  | AM/PM           | Christmas parties  |
| 21 December  | All day         | Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children   |
| <b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Monday, 24 December – Friday, 4 January</b> |                 |  |
| <b>JANUARY 2019</b>  |                 |  |
| <b>Monday, 7 January</b>   |                 | <b>Spring Term begins ( No training day)</b>   |

Please note the children return on **Monday, 7 January**. There is no training day at the start of term.