



## Mentions



Reception:	Tilly, Lana-Rose
Y1:	Gabrielle, Euan, Joshua
Y2:	Lawrence Amedeé, Archie
Y3:	Georgia, Khloe, Erin
Y4:	Nathan, Zak, Amelia
Y5:	Erin



## Reading Awards

Y1:	Joshua, Logan, India, Chloe, Ellen, Matthew, Olivia
Y2:	Thomas
Y4:	Noah, Oliver, Nancy
Y5:	Chelsea, Hollie

## Looking Ahead

- 17<sup>th</sup> January PTA Meeting at 1.30pm**
- 30<sup>th</sup> January Science Day**
- 30<sup>th</sup> January Year 2 Street Feet**
- 4<sup>th</sup> February Year 2 Class Trip**
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> February Parent Consultations**
- 14<sup>th</sup> February Year 3 Class Assembly**
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February Holiday Club**
- 7<sup>th</sup> March World Book Day**
- 14<sup>th</sup> March Year 4 Class Trip**
- 15<sup>th</sup> March Red Nose Day**
- 10<sup>th</sup> April Easter Bonnet Parade**
- 11<sup>th</sup> April Year 1 Class Assembly**

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all.

As part of our school development and curriculum focus for this term we are continuing our work on Growth Mindset. Last term, we focused on resilience, persistence and determination. These are characteristics we will continue to encourage through learning in and out of class and that we would ask you to support us with at home. It is important that children don't give up at the first hurdle and take responsibility for their own learning as much as possible. Supporting your child in completing their homework is a huge help. You can do this by; encouraging your child to have a go themselves first and explaining to you what they are doing and how. Then they should be checking their own work for errors and explaining how they can change their answer. Research suggests that children learn best when they can explain their learning to others and are confident in correcting their own mistakes.

Our new focus words for this half term are:

- Independence
- Positivity
- Sportsmanship
- Team Player
- Maturity
- Leadership

Our aim is to promote teamwork and a positive, supportive atmosphere. We recognise that we all have different strengths and that if we work together we can achieve so much more and celebrate each other's achievements no matter how large or small.

This focus goes right across school including staff and parents so we will be asking for your thoughts as to what we do well and what we could do better, building on the results of our previous questionnaire.

In everything we do we aim to work together to make school a thriving, positive environment for your children. A valuable part of this is our PTA - The Denbydale Dragons. Their hard work and commitment over the years has raised money for playground equipment, computers, books and lots more. They also organise and run social events such as film nights and family discos.

Over the last 12 months, Jess Wood has been the Chair and has taken the lead in organising meetings and events. Unfortunately, due to other commitments she is stepping down from the role. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work and commitment.

We are now desperately short of regular members to help think of and organise forthcoming events. Although we always get lots of volunteers at the events themselves, without the hardworking few who attend meetings in between and plan the events they will not be able to go ahead. We will then lose these valuable social events and fundraising opportunities.

We are holding a meeting for new members and to plan events for the rest of the year on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 1.30 pm in the school community room. There will be coffee and cakes and we hope to see you there. If you can make it please email the school office to state your interest and times when you would be available for meetings.

### General Reminders and Information

#### **Safeguarding**

As a school, safeguarding is our first priority. Our safeguarding policies and procedures are in place to ensure that children in our care are safe and that we have their best interests at heart. Below is a reminder of some of these procedures and how you can help us.

Our doors open for the school day at 8.40am. Before this time, staff are not available to supervise the children. If your child is in Y4 or Y5 and comes into the school grounds on their own please make sure that they do not arrive too early.

If you as a parent have any concerns about a child's welfare, behaviour or safety please contact school as soon as possible. Either call in at the office or contact us by phone or email. All information is confidential and will be dealt with sensitively.

If your child is not attending school for any reason or will be late please let the school office know as soon as possible. If we have not heard from you, we will phone or text you and if we still get no response we will do a welfare check to make sure everything is okay.

At the end of the day, if you meet your child outside the school gates or want them to walk home by themselves please make sure that you inform the school office. If you have arranged for someone else to collect your child, then again, please inform the school office as soon as possible. Staff will not let children go with an adult who has not been authorised to collect or if they feel that the person collecting is not in a position to be responsible for the child or may put the child at risk.

### **Parking**

Please remember that the school car park is not open to parents between the hours of 8.30 and 3.30 unless you have a blue badge or have permission from the school office. Pedestrians should not be using the school drive to enter the grounds but should use the pedestrian gate at the side.

### **Physical Education**

At the moment we have a lot of children missing P.E because they have forgotten their kit. Please make sure they have their P.E kit with them all week and that they have appropriate outdoor kit including a pair of trainers.

### **Jewellery**

Children with pierced ears should wear small studs and should be able to remove them themselves for P.E. If you are thinking of getting your child's ears pierced please wait till the summer holidays when they have 6 weeks to heal properly.

It is great to see that a lot of children received watches for Christmas. If your child has a Fitbit or similar interactive device please make sure that it is not linked to the internet and can't be used to take photos, receive messages or anything else that might breach our acceptable use and online safety policy.

### **School Admissions**

Kirklees applications are open from the **1 September 2018 and close on 15 January 2019** for **Reception class** places from September 2019 (children born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015).

### **Lip Balm**

Please note we do not allow children to have lip balm in class. This is because children are tempted to share with their friends which can then lead to sharing germs. Also, many lip balms contain nut oil and we have children in school with severe nut allergies. If your child does suffer badly from chapped lips you can send a named plain lip balm (Vaseline) to the school office.