

# Autumn Term Newsletter



## Welcome Back

Welcome back to another school year. If you are new to Nettlesworth Primary School, then I would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your family and I hope that you soon settle into our community and that you will be very happy at our school.

The summer holidays now seem part of a dim and distant past. We would like to thank you so much for the kind gifts, wishes and cards at the end of Summer Term. It was lovely to see the children as they returned to school this week, refreshed from their break and ready to face the challenges ahead of a new school year. of Summer Term. We are excited about the year ahead and we have lots of activities planned for the forthcoming term. Please check our website and newsletters regularly for updates.

I was also overwhelmed by how smart the children look in their new school uniforms and I thank you as parents and carers for ensuring that your children wear their full school uniform with pride.

## Staffing Changes

We are pleased to have Mr Graham, who will be taking over the role as Deputy Head /Year 5/6 Teacher and would like to welcome him to our team.

We are also pleased to have Miss Milburn, who will be taken over the role as class teacher in Years 3/4. I am sure

you will help and support them in their roles.

## Punctuality

It is great to see so many children arriving to school on time and being involved in their learning right from the beginning of the day. Class 1 and Class 2 begin their phonics sessions at 8.45 am and Class 3 and Class 4 begin their challenge time activities at 8.45 am. We also have co-ordination programmes running at that time. Thank you so much to parents/carers for your continued support.

## Miss Gordon's Retirement

Miss Gordon was overwhelmed by the best wishes and gifts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Gordon for all she gave to the school. We wish her well for her retirement and thank her again.

## Holidays in Term Time

We have seen a large increase in requests for holidays in term time. Due to this, our school attendance has fallen from 95.71% to 95.4% from March to present. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is National Average. Ofsted evaluate school attendance and a low attendance can affect school's Ofsted judgements. Just to remind parents and carers that as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013, Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Absence during term time should be avoided because children can fall behind with their work and may find it difficult to integrate. An application using the leave of absence form (available from the school office) for leave must be made in writing to the

Head Teacher, detailing the exceptional circumstances. The Head Teacher must be satisfied the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. If you do not apply for leave in advance, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. You can be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

## Texts

We regularly send texts to parents with details of events happening in school or just reminders. Please notify school if you haven't received any texts in the last month. Your contact details may need updating.

## School Website

Please continue to look at our school website on [www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk](http://www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk) for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

## Diary Dates

For First Half Term:

Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Sep- Mini Olympics at Maiden Castle Year 6 Please make sure children have their PE kits.

WB Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Sep-After School Clubs Begin

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Sep- Class 3 Tri Golf at Cocken Lodge

-Jeans for Genes Day-letters

to follow

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep- School's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations-1pm

Thur 27<sup>th</sup> Sep Multi Skills-New College- Class 2- letters to follow

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Rights Respecting Schools Gold/Level 2 Award Re-accreditation Assessment Day

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Oct- End of half Term

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Oct- Children return back to school.

## Absences

If your child is unwell, please contact school office as soon as possible by 9am. It is important that children attend school as often as possible because if they are not in school they cannot learn

## Nettlesworth School Community Group

We are making plans to celebrate school's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, which will be held on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 1pm. Any donations for the raffle and tombola would be greatly appreciated. We are also creating a display of old memorabilia so if anyone has any photographs or news, we can add it on our display. Many Thanks

## PE Kit

Please could children remember to bring PE kit on a Monday and leave it at school until Friday. Each class has certain days on the timetable but we constantly have coaches and sporting experiences for the children so days can change. We are a Sainsbury's Games Platinum Mark School and now have the AFPE (Association for Physical Education) award which is given to schools who promote and maintain high standards and safe practice in all aspects of PE. Many Thanks.

## Rights Respecting School

We are immensely proud to be a UNICEF Rights Respecting School level 2.



UNCRC Article 12 – Children have the right to say what they think should happen when adults are making

decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken in to account.

As a Rights Respecting school we are an organisation which promotes equality and the UNCRC articles giving children in our care a high level of pupil voice and participation as well as striving to educate them to become all round Global citizens.

We are also a Rights Respecting Ambassador School, where we work with other schools to help promote and achieve Rights Respecting Schools Award

A large part of this work is the creation of **Charters** – agreements between the children and adults in school about what actions both groups will take to help promote the UNCRC articles.

Groups of children in a class will choose an article that they feel is important to them and think about what actions they as children can take to help themselves and others globally to make that article work.

Adults in school will think about what actions they can take to do the same. Together, class, whole school and playground charters are created which helps to make our school a thoughtful, reflective place to learn, work and play.

**We are due our re-accreditation assessment on Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> October**



The Platinum Award was launched 2017 as an extension of the School Games Mark to reward schools who have maintained consistently high standards with their school sport provision. As part of the extended application, which was submitted by Mrs Aspinall, the eligible candidates, who had achieved five successive gold awards, were asked to submit a detailed case study along with a supporting paragraph from their School Games Organiser (SGO).

We're delighted to today announce our that we have been given the Platinum Award and would like to thank our Sports Leaders, School Organising Sports Crew, Children, Staff, Parents and Governors for their hard work and commitment to PE in our school.

**Sainsbury's Games Platinum  
Award**