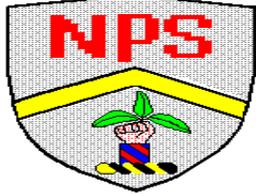


Autumn Term Newsletter



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.

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. We have missed them all so much and were overwhelmed how well they came and settled into school. The children are an asset to the school and a credit to you all.

The children look so smart 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.

Congratulations

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Mrs Aspinall, who is due her baby boy in January.

Also congratulations to Mrs Morton who had her beautiful baby boy in the summer holidays.



Punctuality

Thank you all so much for your great support this week in helping to keep everyone safe. The children came into school better than we could ever have imagined .

Just a few reminders of control measures we have in place to reduce number of daily contacts.

-Please ensure you are aware of your child's pick up and drop off times and stick rigidly to these times to help the day run smoothly and keep bubbles apart- Your child's class teacher will collect children from the gate and they will be escorted into school to wash hands immediately.

-Children and parents must wait alongside school fence and not come to the door and ring buzzer. **If you are late you must ring the office to arrange an alternative drop off/pick up.**

-Only one parent or carer is permitted to bring their child to school and collect them at the allocated time to minimise numbers of people.

-Please maintain social distance

End of Summer Term

We were overwhelmed by the best wishes and gifts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you again.

Holidays in Term Time

Our school attendance last year increased to 96.2%. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is National Average and therefore now slightly above. Thankyou so much for you support. Ofsted evaluate school attendance and a low attendance can affect school's Ofsted judgements. We continue to see a large increase in requests for holidays in term time. Just to remind parents and carers that as of 1st 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/Mail

We regularly send texts/mail to parents with details of events happening in school or just reminders. Please notify school if you haven't received any texts/mail 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 for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

What to do if your child presents with COVID symptoms

If your child develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus (COVID-19), they should STAY AT HOME. Call school at once and notify us.

If they develop symptoms at school, they will be sent home.

Anyone with symptoms should stay at home and book a test. This can be done by calling 119 or through the NHS website:

www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. The rest of the household needs to stay at home for 14 days to self-isolate.

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature

- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

Any pupil who develops any of the above symptoms should be tested.

There is no need for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic.

Children may feel unwell with a common cold, sore throat, headache or upset stomach. These are not symptoms and therefore a test is not required and self-isolation is not required.

Once the test has been taken, if the test is negative, all isolation ends and the child and the household can return to school and work.

If the test is positive, the child remains in isolation alongside their family and the latest government guidance will need to be followed. The social group for that child or staff member will be contacted and we will engage with Public Health England and Test and Trace.

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

Nettlesworth Community Group have bought all of the children a mosaic art project tile to complete as a welcome back to school gift. Children will be able to complete art projects at school. Many thanks to the group.

Y3/4 Swimming

We have been informed by the local authority that swimming lessons will

not resume this term. It is hoped that they will be again from January but will inform you as soon as any further information is shared around this.

Our New Outdoor Sensory Area

Over the summer holidays we have had wet pour safety surfacing laid in a fenced area of the playground. We have had some sensory equipment installed and wheelchair access to it built. The persimmon grant, which we were awarded, has helped pay for this. We hope in the future to add more sensory equipment to this area.





Supporting your Child's Mental Health

If you're concerned about your child's mental health, or wondering how you can support your child, some useful tips and advice is

available from [Place2Be](https://www.place2be.org.uk/.../supporting-your-child-s-ment.../)
<https://www.place2be.org.uk/.../supporting-your-child-s-ment.../>

Government Symptoms and Procedures Guidelines

Please see attached Government Symptoms and Procedures Guidelines we must follow if your child displays symptoms of COVID 19.

[Symptoms and Procedures](#)

Getting back in the classroom is vital

Getting back in the classroom is vital for your children's education and wellbeing.

Here's how we are helping get them [#BackToSchoolSafely](http://gov.uk/backtoschool) <http://gov.uk/backtoschool>

[Back to School Safely](#)

Schools are ready to welcome children and pupils back for a new term.

Here's information on how we are getting kids [#BackToSchoolSafely](#)

gov.uk/backtoschool

Muck, Mess and Mixtures

Class 2 had so much fun making a mess! They explored lots of different textures and talked about how they felt, smelt and looked. They even explored how they felt on our toes! They are looking forward to learning even more about this very messy topic!





Settling in to Class 2

Over the past two days Year 1 and Year 2 had had lots of fun in class 2. They are all getting to know each other and the new routines in place. Children have enjoyed discussing their class charter and also exploring the areas within the classroom.

