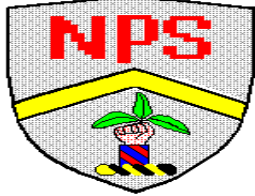


Spring Term Newsletter



Second Half of Term

Hope you all had a great half term holiday and welcome back to the second half of term, which is extremely busy.

Founders Birthday

It was lovely to see so many of our children are in Rainbows, Brownies, Cubs and Scouts and came into school with their uniforms to celebrate Founder's Birthday. Well done to you all!

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.

School Attendance

Our school attendance target is 96% and we have noticed that from September to present it has fallen to 95.71%. This being caused by holidays during term time and unexplained absences (not informed by parents/carers, reasons for absence) Please could we work together to help improve this attendance figure. For any child who manages to stay above 96% there will be a prize at the end of each term.

Nettlesworth School Community Group

The children had a fantastic time at the Springtime Disco. Thank you again to the group for arranging it and providing the tuck shop bags.

Papi is still making the book folding sculptures if you would like to order any for Mothers Day. Just see Papi or myself to order.

Thank you again for your continued support

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 for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

Diary Dates

For Second Half Term:

Wed 7th March-World Book Day 2

Thurs 8th March- Cricket Assembly then taster sessions for Class 1/2

Fri 9th March- Reports given out to parents

W/B 12th March- Parents Meetings (No After School Clubs that week apart from Dance)

Wed 21st March-Y1 Phonics Screening Meeting

Thur 22nd March- Class 3 Multi Sports-New College
 Fri 23rd March-Class 1 Stay and Play/Comic Relief Day
 Thur 27th March- Class 2 Dance Festival
 Wed 28th March-Easter Egg Competition
 Thurs 29th March- Wear a Hat Day 50p donation for Brain Tumour Association
 End of Term

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.

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.

Bad Weather

Closing a school is never an easy option. In taking a decision to close a school, the safety of pupils, staff and visitors is of paramount importance. Making a decision to close is not something that is taken lightly as disruption to school routine can adversely affect a pupil's education. Being able to make an early decision helps to avoid unnecessary journeys and provides parents/carers with enough time to arrange childcare. The Head Teacher in conjunction with the Chair of Governors using their knowledge of the school and the local community are best placed to make this decision following the procedures in their Business Continuity Plan. I would like to thank you for your understanding and continued support at the end of last week.

Rights Respecting Council

The children are arranging a Fair Trade shop for children in our school as part of Fairtrade Fortnight on Friday 9th March. More details from the council will follow.

School Sports Organising Crew

We would like to welcome our new trained SSOCs crew members: Jessica Clifford, Brooke Needham and Alfie Butler. The crew will be organising a sport relief event to take place on Comic Relief Day Friday 23rd March-more information will follow.

Sports Leaders/Buddies

We would like to welcome our new trained Sports Leaders: Ruby Black, Jack Brown, Liam Boyle, Grace Lee, Gracie Docherty and Alexander Ballentyne and our new trained Sports Buddy: Maisie Cox who worked very hard in training sessions. The Sports Leaders and Buddies are timetabled to deliver high quality PE sessions in break and lunch times and provide leadership in PE events.

Vision Easter Competition

Well done to Lexie Bates, who was runner up in an Easter writing competition. The competition involved 234 schools in County Durham. We are so proud of you!

Celebration Assembly

Keep watching our school website to find out who the winning team of our school is, sharing success inside and outside

school (please let us know if your child has received any recognition for dance, swimming etc), Gold Box Awards and Head Teacher Awards. At the end of each term, we will be celebrating attendance.

World Book Day

We have re-arranged World Book Day for Wednesday 7th March so children are not disappointed. Children can come into school dressed as their favourite book character and bring in their favourite book. Children do not have to get dressed up, if they don't want to and just come into school in their uniforms and bring in their favourite book. We have asked for a donation of 50p per child and will use this for new books for our class libraries.

Many Thanks

