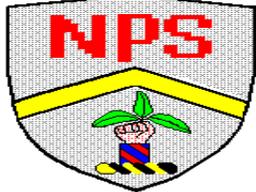


Autumn Term Newsletter



Virtual School Games

A massive well done to all of our classes for taking part in the first of 4 events taking place over the coming weeks.

Our children impressed us all and we were so proud of their determination to succeed in all the games they completed.

A special well done to the children who achieved individual medals in their events. We had many gold, silver and bronze places.

Well done guys!



Blue Peter Badge Winner

UNCRC Article 29 (goals of education)

Blue Peter Badge Winner

What an amazing achievement for one of our Year 5s during Lock Down; we are all very impressed Lacie-Mae.

She worked so hard and created a letter, life cycle diagram and photograph about the metamorphosis of a dragonfly; this all linked to Blue Peter. In recognition for her hard work, she has been awarded a Green Blue Peter badge.

Well done Lacie-Mae; we are all so proud of you.



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.

Important Diary Dates

Reception 2021 Admissions For children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017

You need to complete an application, stating which primary school you would like your child to attend. You still need to apply even if you have an older child attending the same school. Each year we have

a number of children who miss out on a place in our Reception because parents have forgotten to apply for a place. The deadline for applications is midnight on Friday, 15 January 2021.

Applications must be made via <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.

If you are unable to apply online, please download the form from: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2189/Apply-for-a-primary-place-deadline-15-January>.

Please note, we have been advised by Durham County Council that we cannot send in forms on behalf of parents.

Applying for a Secondary School place 2021. For children born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010

You need to complete an application, stating which secondary school you would like your child to attend. The application process opened on September 14th and you will have received a letter regarding this. The deadline for secondary school applications is midnight on Saturday 31 October 2020. Once again, it is very important to apply for a secondary school place by the deadline, as a late application

greatly reduces your chances of getting a place at your preferred school. Applications must be made via <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. If you are unable to apply online, please download the form from the website address above. Please note, we have been advised by Durham County Council that we cannot send in forms on behalf of parents.

Flu Vaccine – Thursday November 19th

If your child is in Reception to Year 6, you will have received an email/text via parent mail about the flu vaccine, which will be being carried out in our school on November 19th. If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine, please go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/services/childrens-services/immscdurham-darlington-teesside/> and click on the link for flu vaccination consent. You will need the school code which is 114005. Consent must be given at least two days before the vaccines take place. If you do not want your child to have the flu vaccine, you don't need to do anything – vaccines cannot be given to children without parental consent, via the link above. If you have any questions about the flu vaccine, please view the guidance quoted in the original NHS letter.

Parents' Evenings

Our termly parents' evenings are always held during the first week of the second half term but this year, we will be spreading these evenings out over the first two weeks of the second half term. Obviously we are unable to meet with parents face to face so instead, all appointments will be over the telephone. Times will be sent out and your child's class teacher will ring you to discuss your child's progress. At this point in time you will not be able to see your child's work but we will look to organising something to allow this to happen.

Diary Dates

We are keeping additional dates and events to a minimum this term so have not included any diary dates in the newsletter. We are not organising anything too far ahead due to the current circumstances.

Harvest Festival

Normally we would celebrate our Harvest Festival with parents in Church with Rev Caroline. This is not possible this year but we will share a video of the separate class bubbles sharing with you a Harvest Festival performance week beginning 12th October.

Important Dates for 2020 – 2021

Key Stage 1 (Yr 2) Statutory Assessment Tests – Week Beginning 10th May 2021

KS2 (Yr 6) Statutory Assessment Tests – Week Beginning Monday 10th May 2021

Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screening Test – Week Beginning Monday 7th June 2021

Multiplication Tables Check for Year 4 – Week Beginning 7th June 2021

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.

NHS Advice if you are unsure about sending your child to school

Can my child go to school today

HEALTH and education experts are offering help and advice to parents on when they can safely send their child to school.

County Durham Care Partnership, which brings together NHS organisations, Durham County Council and other providers to deliver improved, joined up health and social care services, has created an easy-read chart to help parents who are unsure if their child should stay at home or go to class.

The information follows Government guidelines on spotting the signs of Covid-19.

Sarah Burns, head of integrated strategic commissioning for Durham County Council and NHS County Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "Since pupils returned to schools earlier this month we have become very aware of the increased demand on NHS111 and GP practices from worried parents.

"We know that when it can be difficult for parents to decide if they should send their child to school during the ongoing pandemic. This infographic has been designed by our local GPs to help inform parents what to do if they worry that their child may be unwell.

"If children are showing signs of Covid-19, a high temperature, a continuous

cough or loss of smell or taste then we would recommend that the whole household self-isolate and book a test. All members of the household must stay at home until the test results are known.

"Similarly if children have diarrhoea and vomiting then we would recommend that they remain off school for at least 48 hours or until they feel well enough to return, as tummy bugs can also be very contagious.

"But as long as your child is feeling well, has not otherwise been told to self-isolate and there are no other household members with COVID symptoms, then it is ok to send them to school."

Parents should continue to seek help from their GP if needed or contact NHS111 if their surgery is closed."

For further guidance visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Symptoms of Coronavirus

These are the symptoms you should be looking out for if you think your child may have coronavirus.

Check the NHS website for advice: www.nhs.uk/live.../healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school

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.

Traders and Raiders in Class 3

Traders and Raiders memorable experience! We had lots of fun launching our new topic by designing and making our very own viking sailing boats, complete with masts, shields and

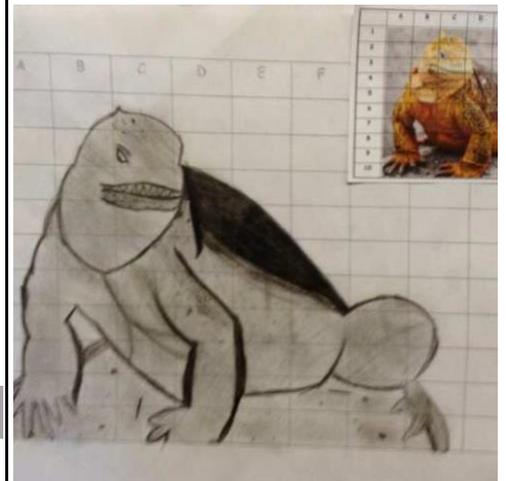
oars!



UNCRC Article 28 (right to education)

A massive well done to all the children who have tried their very best to complete their artwork over the past few weeks. They have been inspired by Charles Darwin through our Cornerstones Curriculum Topic – Darwin's Delights. Using sketches, charcoal and pastels, the children have created beautiful work on the Galapagos Islands' landscapes and animals.

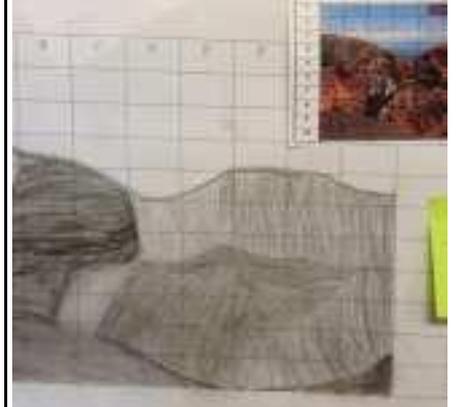
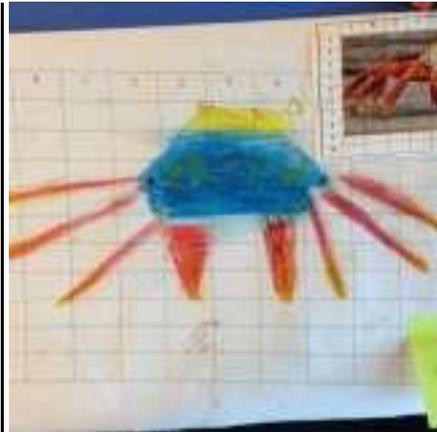
Superb effort everyone.



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

Art in Class 4



Class 1's First Day Back

Our first day

Today was our first day back to school and for some of us our first ever visit to our new classroom after leaving pre-school. Mrs Morton & Mrs Plant were sooo proud of how well we settled in and were even prouder of the way we followed instructions, listened

carefully and used our manners in school! As always our year 1 children who are in the class were impeccable role models to the younger children and they were so happy to be back in their familiar learning environment after a lot of unpredicted changes seen within the previous summer term.

Here are some of our highlights from the day



