



Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term

September 2018

The children have all been working hard this half term. I am sure you have heard all about some of their fantastic topic work and will be looking forward to seeing their work during the parent meetings. Lots of children have already been out on visits and had memorable experiences in school.

Thank you for your support for the **Macmillan** coffee afternoon we have sent over £200 to this fantastic charity. As always we are very grateful to our PTA for their time and support.

Mrs Murray

School Events:

Year 6 children have visited **Beamish** to experience what life was like as a Victorian child.



The children from Year 1 to Year 6 have all participated in a **Tri Golf** tournament.

We have some talented golfers in school!



Make something Fantastic out of Plastic

Children have worked in their family groups to learn about recycling and about reducing plastic waste. The children were very creative in their designs!



Staffing

We are very sad to be saying good bye to Mrs Harrison on Friday as she leaves us for a full time post in another school. We wish her well and thank her for her hard work. She will be sorely missed.

We would like to send Miss Peat all of our best wishes as she leaves on Friday to start her maternity leave. She will be back in school ready for the new school year next September.

We would like to welcome Mrs Woolford as our new lunchtime supervisor.

School Council

The children have been experiencing democracy through voting for our school council.

Our members are:

Year 6- Ben Ch and Amy

Year 5- Leon B and Grace

Year 4- Charlie, Imogen and Gracie

Year 3- Sophie and Joel

Year 2- Layla and Isla

Year 1- Stanley and Alexis

They have already planned some events and are full of enthusiasm and ideas!



Sports Crew

Miss Goldsborough has also interviewed children to be part of our sports crew.

Part of their role will be to lead games on the playground. They have already had some training for this from PGStarz!

They have also been helping staff with our daily Active 20 sessions.



Dates for your diary: * Some Durham school holidays next year are different to other local authorities.

2.10.18 NSPCC assembly

4.10.18 Year 2 visit to Centre for Life

5.10.18 Year 4/5 visit to the Mandir in Newcastle

5.10.18 Year 1 visit to the St John's Church

10.10.18 School Photographs

11.10.18 Year 6 visit to Nissan

11.10.18 Year 3/4 Stone Age visit to Hardwick Park

12.10.18 Harvest Assembly for the children led by Reverend Barbara (donations for Food Bank please)

15.10.18 Parent Meetings 3:30-6:00pm

16.10.18 Parent Meetings 3:30-6:00pm

19.10.18 Last day before the October Half Term holiday

16.11.18 Book Fair (2:30pm)

26.11.18 **PD Day**- School closed

Attendance

Please note that school does not authorise holidays in term time. Fines will be issued when 7 school days are missed. Please try to ensure appointments are made out of school hours. When this is not possible please ensure that children are in school at 9am or 1pm for their registration. Good attendance is rewarded each term.

Lateness

The school gates are open from **8:45- 8:55am** in order to provide a flexible drop off. The registers are taken at 9am so any children arriving after this time are considered late. In line with our policy if your child is late more than twice in one half term then you will receive a letter home. Children feel embarrassed by being late and often miss the start of lessons. Please try to be on time!



Please contact the school if your child is unwell by 9am on 01388 816230

Percentage	Days Absence	Comment	Achievement
Above 97%	Less than 6 days absence per year	Excellent Attendance	These children will almost certainly achieve their full potential in school
95-96%	10 days absence per year	Missing 2 weeks of school every year	These children are likely to achieve but could still improve their attendance!
90% - 94%	19 days absence per year	Missing one month of school every year	These children will find it hard to achieve their best in school
85% - 89%	29 days absence per year	Missing six weeks of school every year	These children will find it very difficult to keep up with work in school and are unlikely to achieve their potential
80% - 84%	38 days absence per year	Missing a year of school over the time spent in primary education	These children will find it almost impossible to keep up with their work.

Safeguarding

Please ring the school office if children are absent rather than using the Dojo system.

Children need to stay off school for 48 hours after the last bout of either sickness or diarrhoea.

Please ensure you let school know of any changes in contact details.