



# Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term

February 2019

We are half way through the school year already! The children are working really hard and most are very engaged by their topic work. The children have been out on lots of visits and had memorable experiences in school. Standards across the school continue to rise. Our popularity also continues to rise, we constantly have requests for school places here!

Unfortunately the dog fouling is an issue again on the path near school. I have been in contact with the local councillor about this. It is really important you report people if you see this happening.

Your feedback is always important to us. After the half term we will be asking you to let us know the three things you think we do well and three things you think we could improve.

As always there are lots of important **dates for your diary** overleaf.

Enjoy the half term. *Mrs Murray*

## School Events:

**Chinese New Year-** The children celebrated the Year of the Pig through a special school lunch. They also enjoyed a visit from Mr Clarey and his lion. They spent time in their family groups making a craft paper chain lion. Our older children are lovely helping the younger children and working together.

**Safer Internet Day-** One of our keen Computing pupils, Leon, made a super Power Point presentation about keeping safe on Fortnite and You Tube which he showed children in different classes.

**Keeping Healthy-** We are always talking to the children about keeping healthy both physically and mentally. The children have been encouraged to eat their vegetables as part of a National Campaign called "Veg Power." This features a different vegetable every week. My assemblies have been linked to the Fit4Life programme where we have talked about Sugar Swaps and the traffic light system on food packaging. We continue to change our sports clubs each half term, including the lunchtime clubs in order to promote being active.



## School Council

We aim for our children to have a voice in school and want them to know their opinions will be heard. One of our pupils approached the school council about the wearing orange for Muscular Dystrophy. We are really proud that our children are so thoughtful and considerate of others. The council have just ordered some new play equipment using the funds raised on Individual Day.



We would like to wish **Happy Birthday** this half term to:

Steph, Ben G, Tilly, Maiya, Ava, Zak, Kendon, Lilly, Romilly, Poppy, Jacob, Ben R, Isaac, Oliver M, Blake, Jake, Ada, Neive and Jacob. Did you know Mrs Murray and Mrs Tuburu share the same birthday!!



## Safeguarding

Please do not allow children on the grass or in the maze after school. Unfortunately we have had to put some mole traps down and so this could pose a danger to your child

Please park in the village with consideration for others but particularly with consideration for the safety of the children. I have received complaints from residents about rudeness from parents.

**Please do not use the staff car park, even for collecting from clubs.**

We have had a near miss where a car was driven on the path, we have also had a car reverse into a teacher's car.

All clubs after half term finish at 4:30.



### Dates for your diary:

12.2.19 Y3/4 visit to Vindolander  
15.2.19 Last day of the half term  
27.2.19 Year 1 and 2 Maths meeting for parents  
28.2.19 Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Maths meeting for parents  
8.3.19 Book Fair + World Book Day celebration  
11.3.19 Parent Meetings (3:30pm- 6pm)  
12.3.19 Parent Meetings (3:30pm- 6pm)  
26.3.19 E-safety meeting at 2:30pm  
28.3.19 Mother's Day Lunch (11:30 or 12:30 sitting)  
4.4.19 School disco (3:15-4:15)  
5.4.19 Last day of the term -Easter Holidays- return 23.4.19  
**7.5.19 Year 2 Sats start for 2 weeks**  
**13.5.19 Year 6 Sats**  
24.5.19 Teacher Training Day- **School Closed**  
5.6.19 School Photographs- groups + classes  
**10.6.19 Year 1 Phonic Screening tests**  
19.7.19 Last day of term

### Attendance

35 children continue to have **100%** attendance which is a fantastic achievement!  
Unfortunately we also have 35 children who have attendance below 96%.  
If your child's attendance is below 90% then they considered to be a persistent absentee.

**School Attendance:** 97% - (*The National Average is 96%*)

Miss Tomlinson: 96%

Mrs Bell: 97.5%

Miss Goldsborough: 97.5%

Miss Rawlings: 97.1%

Mrs Thirkell: 97%

Mrs O'Sullivan: 97%

School starts at  
9am. Don't be  
late!



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.

### Free School Meals

If your family circumstances have changed you may be entitled to apply for Free School Meals.

You can apply for **free school meals** if you receive any of the following: Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or **Child Tax Credit**, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of £16,190 or less.

If you are eligible then your child will receive a **free school lunch- saving £10.25 per week**. School also receives additional funding which can be used towards **subsidising visits, clubs, music lessons** or providing additional support in class.

School also receives £300 in funding if a parent is serving in the armed forces.

This information is confidential and other children, parents etc. do not know. The children themselves do not usually know! In order for us to check we only need your date of birth and National Insurance number. Please speak to Mrs Murray or Mrs Smith who can answer any questions you may have.

### Sporting Achievements

The Year 6 children made it through to a Basketball competition final where they came an incredible 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 30 schools!! Great team effort ☺

The reception children also did very well in their Multi Skills Festival. They took part in a carousel of activities and learnt some new skills.

The staff have also been involved in a Netball competition with some of our cluster schools. They were very happy to receive the bronze medals!!