



Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term

March 2019

Thank you for your completing your feedback forms. There are some useful suggestions which we are happy to take on board. A separate response to this has been sent home.

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

You will soon be receiving a copy of the **new school menu** for after Easter. Our school meals provider is Taylor Shaw, they are responsible for choosing the options available. All school meals are carefully calorie controlled and provide a balanced meal for the children. Our school cook, Sam, is happy to chat to parents about any questions you may have about the options.

Our school Facebook Page is a useful source of information and we try to upload regular pictures of what the children have been learning at school as well as visits and visitors.

Mrs Murray

School Events:

We have had a Maths information meeting, a Year 6 Sats meeting and full parent consultation meetings. We hope that you found these useful and feel fully informed about your child's next steps.

Year 1- have thoroughly enjoyed their visit from both the Fire Brigade and one of our Mum's who is a nurse, where they learned all about real life Superheroes!

Year 2 have visited the Botanical Gardens as part of their Scented Garden topic.

The reception children have been so excited this week as they have some eggs in their classroom which have started to hatch!



Pupil Voice- Some of our Year 5 and Year 6 children have spoken to the school Meals provider- Taylor Shaw. They have called themselves the "Food Council." As a result of this the Year 6 children will have the opportunity to have a "Grab bag" on a Thursday lunchtime during the summer term. (A ready-made packed lunch) They will then be able to help themselves and not queue!

School Council

The school council will be meeting our Governors on Friday 15th March to share with them the work they have been doing in school and what their plans are for the rest of the year.

Mother's Day Lunch

The letters have been sent home for Mother's Day lunch.

We are delighted that so many of you are able to attend. It will be a squeeze but we know how much you all appreciate the experience.

If you have a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 then you will be invited to the 11:30am sitting (any older siblings will join you in that sitting too) For the junior children, with no younger children, then you will be invited to the 12:30 sitting.

Confirmation letters will be sent home soon. Payment for this will be available on your Parent Pay.



Safeguarding

The absence of the **school crossing patrol** continues to cause me significant concern. I ring the team responsible on a weekly basis. They are attempting to resolve the situation and I understand they will be updating me on 12.3.19. I know many parents have rung the team themselves.

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

Please park responsibly in the carpark opposite school, we are very fortunate to have this space.

I have heard reports of bad language being used on the school premises. I am sure you will agree that this is not acceptable, please mind your language.



Dates for your diary:

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

28.6.19 Summer Fair (2pm- children can bring money if you are unable to attend)

1.7.19- 3.7.19 Winmarleigh Hall Residential for Y5 + Y6

17.7.10 Sports Day (1:15pm * please do not arrive before 1pm as the children will be on their lunch break)

19.7.19 Last day of term

*The date of the Y6 Leaver Service is yet to be confirmed. This is because we have to check with the Secondary schools that they will not be out on transition. This year our children will be moving on to 6 different schools!

Attendance

Please telephone the school if your child is going to be absent. We need to know where they are and why they are off. 01388 816230

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

Miss Tomlinson: 96%

Mrs Bell: 97.5%

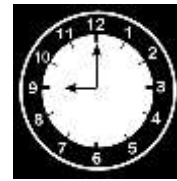
Miss Goldsborough: 97.5%

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.

PTA

We are always grateful to our PTA members for their support. They have used some of their funds to pay chicks for reception, a new speaker and microphone and we have ordered a new picnic play table for the playground.

Grants

Sadly we are in a situation where school budgets are extremely tight. We have successfully secured a £5000 grant from the Healthy Schools Capital Fund towards some portable floodlights for our MUGA.

We are also hopeful that we are going to receive funding for a Brass music performance in the summer.

We are also sourcing grants from Spennymoor AAP and from Taylor Shaw towards gardening resources.

Sporting News

We are always happy to hear of our children's sporting achievements outside of school. We have lots of talented children who like to share their medals during Monday assembly.

Our school **football team** are currently playing in the Spennymoor Schools Football League on a Thursday night. The standard is high but they are doing well and as always our children are a credit to us in terms of behaviour and Sportsmanship.