



October update



This Half Term!

What a long and busy half term this has been! All of the children have been busy learning new things extending and deepening their knowledge and skills through a range of topics. The Early Years children have been learning about "People who help us" and have had visits from parents talking about their occupations and how they help people. Key Stage 1 have learned a wide range of skills through their work on The Great Fire of Newcastle and have invited parents to school on November 5th to watch their dance. Key Stage 2 started with a mini topic about The Northern Saints and then "Go Green" learning about conservation and green issues.



Middle School Transfer & Reception Admissions 2016

Just a reminder that the application process for children transferring to Middle School in September 2016 and for children starting Reception in September 2016 is underway.

***The closing date for Middle School Transfer Applications is
MIDDAY ON 31st October 2015***

You are encouraged by the Local Authority to apply on-line and all information is available at www.newcastle.gov.uk/admissions or you can contact the department directly by emailing admissions.information@newcastle.gov.uk or by telephoning 0191 2787878 and asking for 'school admissions'.

Maths Workshops

Thank you to all parents who attended the Maths Workshops run by Liz Bailey. Liz is an inspirational maths teacher who works throughout the country, leading professional development with teachers, working with children and running workshops for parents.

Harvest Worship

Thank you very much to all the parents, carers and grandparents who were able to join us for our Harvest Worship last Friday and for all the fantastic gifts that were collected for The Peoples' Kitchen. All were gratefully received.



PTFA

The PTFA held their AGM in the school hall on Friday 16th October and a big thank you to the parents and staff who were able to attend.

Topic Money

Just a gentle reminder if you have not yet paid topic money for this term we'd be grateful to receive £5 per family (or £15 for the year). This money really helps us to provide items to enliven the curriculum and enthuse the children.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We offer a number of extra-curricular activities before, during and after school. In order to ensure that the experiences for the children are of the highest quality we will be closely monitoring provision and will reserve the right to change to provision if necessary. In the past we reduced the number of activities on offer due to the poor behaviour of a significant number of children. We have carefully sourced providers with a good record of behaviour management however if any child's behaviour falls short of the required standard they will be asked to leave the club.

Day	Class/Key Stage	Club
Monday 3.15-4.30pm	Year 3	Art Club
Monday 3.30-4.30pm	Year 4	Awards Club
Monday lunchtime	Year 3 & Year 1	Le Club Francais
Tuesday 8.00-8.45am	Key Stage 2	Tennis
Tuesday 3.30-4.30pm	Key Stages 1&2	Tae Kwondo
Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm - forms being sent home today for online completion.	Reception and Key Stage 1	Jolly Olly Football
Thursday 8.00 - 8.45am - letters being sent home today for return to school.	Key Stage 1 & 2	Street Dance
Friday 3.30-4.30pm	Key Stage 2	Lee Sterry Football
Friday lunchtime	Year 4 & Year 2	Le Club Francais

Measles, chicken pox and shingles

Please may we continue to remind you of an important matter?

One of our pupils is receiving chemotherapy which puts them at risk if they are exposed to measles, chicken pox or shingles.

Please let us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles.

Our pupil is also at risk from chicken pox and would need to be given an injection within three days of contact. If your child is suspected of having chicken pox, you should let us know.

It is important that you let us know if there are any shingles in your household.

Your child is not at risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and wellbeing of this particular child who is at risk, does depend on the co-operation of all other parents and we know you will help us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Organisation of the School Day

Foundation Stage - Nursery sessions start at 8.30 am.

Reception starts at 8.45 am as the children should be in and ready to begin learning at 8.50 am.



Key Stages 1 & 2 should be in the playground ready to line up at 8.45 a.m. so that they are ready in the classrooms by 8.50 a.m.. ***Please note that there is no early morning supervision. Children should not come to school unaccompanied and should not be 'dropped off' in the yard. Your children are your responsibility until the classes are lined up with staff.***

If it is raining heavily the doors will be opened at 8.40 a.m. and the children can come into the hall where they will be supervised until it is time to go to their classrooms.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Regular & punctual attendance is essential for all children if they are to have the best chance of learning; late arrival or poor attendance are significant barriers to learning and so we will be taking a very strict line over timekeeping. As soon as the children are indoors the cloakroom doors will be locked. Anyone arriving after that must come to the main entrance to sign in at the office and they will receive a late mark in the register. Children arriving after 9.00 a.m. will have an unauthorised absence recorded on their attendance record.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

Last year the Department for Education (DfE) announced important amendments to legislation surrounding holidays in term time.

*The **Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006** were amended and the changes came into effect on 1st September 2013.*

The regulations are explicit. Headteachers can only authorise a leave of absence for exceptional circumstances. Holidays are not considered exceptional circumstances.

Leave taken without permission will result in an unauthorised absence being recorded on a child's record.

The Local Authority can take legal action against parents who take their children out of school without authorisation.

In addition, parents will only have a 28 day period in which to pay, should they be issued with a Penalty Notice.

The Cross

A gentle reminder to existing families and a note to our new families that, as a mark of respect, we do not walk over the Cross in the school grounds near the school office. The children are advised of this in school and we are very proud that they follow this rule and are often heard to give reminders of it!

Reminder and request

Please do not allow your child to climb on the outdoor equipment both before and after school as our insurance would not cover any accidents occurring outside of school hours.

Please do not allow your child to urinate in the school grounds after school as the children play in all areas of the grounds during the day. Should your child need to use our facilities then by all means come back into school via the office.

Operation Christmas Child

This week a lady came to talk to the children about The Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal and leaflets were circulated yesterday. If you'd like to fill a box please return it to school by 6th November and we will arrange for the boxes to be collected. Many parents find it a fun half term activity to do with the children.

Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be available to purchase after half term.

Scholastic Book Fair

We will be running a Scholastic Book Fair from Monday 16th to Thursday 19th November from 3.15 - 3.45pm. Look out for more details after half term.

Nostalgia Night

Message from John Rowland :

"Dance with swing big band and pie and pea supper in St Nicholas Church hall on Thursday 12th November, 8.00pm to 11.00pm. Tickets £5 from John Rowland 07983954924 (Freddie Rowland's Dad, Year 2 or directly from the church) "

Beetle Drive

All Saints' Church are planning a Beetle Drive for the "young and young-at-heart" on Saturday 14th November in the church hall 5pm to 6.30pm. Please see poster after half term holiday for further details.

October Dates for Your Diary

Friday 23rd - School breaks up for half term at 3.15

- PTFA Cake stall at 3.15 in school shelter - see PTFA newsletter sent out 6th October
Saturday 31st - Transfer to Middle School deadline midday.

November Dates for Your Diary

Monday 2nd - School re-opens after half term dinner money £70 half term (£10 per week)

Wednesday 4th - Prospective Parents 2016 look around school at 4pm

Thursday 5th - KS1 Great Fires Topic - dance for parents at 2.30pm

Friday 6th - Operation Christmas Child - boxes to be brought in by today

Tuesday 10th - Reception visit to CLC - details sent out separately

Monday 16th - Thursday 19th - Bookfair

December Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 1st - KS 2 visit to Beamish - details to follow
Tuesday 1st - Prospective Parents 2016 look around school at 4pm
Friday 4th - PTFA Christmas Carols and Fair - details to follow
Sunday 6th - Service at St Nicholas' Church - details to follow
Thursday 10th - PTFA film night - details to follow
Tuesday 15th Dec - 9.20am KS1 Nativity
- 10am approx. KS2 Nativity
- 6.00pm KS1 Nativity
- 6.40 approx KS2
Wednesday 16th Dec - 9.30am Early Years Nativity
- 1.20 pm Key Stage 1 Nativity
2pm approx. Key Stage 2 Nativity
Friday 18th Dec - 2pm Carol Service at St Nicholas Church

School closes at 3.15pm for Christmas Holiday

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ~ Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January 2016

MONDAY 4th January - Staff Training Day
School re-opens - Tuesday 5th January 2016

ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



2015- 2016

October update

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Disclaimer

From time to time we send out leaflets and letters signposting parents to activities and organisations in the local area. These are purely for information and not necessarily endorsed by the school. The school cannot accept any responsibility for such activities.