

WELCOME BACK!



Ferryhill Station Primary School News

Chilton Lane, Ferryhill, County Durham, DL17 0DB

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A Message from Mrs J Crosby – Executive School Headteacher

I am delighted to welcome all our children back to school following our summer holidays. I hope you have all had a lovely break with your friends and family and everyone is rested, relaxed and ready for this new academic year. This year promises to be filled with lots of new opportunities and experiences as the children have moved up into new year groups, they will learn lots of new things and have fun while they are learning.

It is lovely to see the children's smiling, happy faces as I walk around the school.

Also, this year we will continue to work closely with the other school in our **Limestone Learning Federation, Ludworth Primary School**.

As usual, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Pinkowski in the school office, she is here to help you all and will liaise with me to resolve any queries or concerns that you may have.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs J Crosby

Reception Class – September 2024

Firstly, welcome to Ferryhill Station Primary School. We would like to say how excited we are to welcome your child to our school and are delighted that you chose our school for your child. Starting school is a special time, a time for new experiences, new friends and a step towards more independence for your child.

We also understand that this may be a bit daunting for all of you. However, your child is about to begin a very exciting journey, and we are looking forward to working together and getting to know the children.

PE Days

School PE days are as follows:

Class 2 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) – Mondays and Tuesdays.

Class 3 (Year 3 and Year 4) – Mondays and Thursdays

Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) – Wednesdays

Please could you provide your child with a pair of trainers that can be kept on their peg in school, so they always have access to them for outdoor PE lessons and outdoor learning/activities.

They **do not** need a PE kit as we are continuing to provide these for all children and will take care of them in school. We will have a PE coach in school on a Tuesday after October half term, from Tuesday 5th November. The coach will work with all our children in school during the second half of this term. However, they will start with the KS2 children.

Swimming Lessons

Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) will go swimming on a **Thursday** until further notice. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit to school on a Thursday; swimwear, towel, swimming hat and goggles (if required).

If your child does not have a swimming hat, these can be purchased at the swimming venue at a cost of £2.50 each. If you would like to purchase one, please send the money to school with your child.

If there are any changes to the swimming schedule, Mrs Pinkowski will let you know via in-app message on Arbor or by text message as soon as possible.

School Meal Price Reminder

From April 2024, the school meal price increased to £2.81 per day. This continues to be the cost of a school meal. If there are any changes to this cost, Mrs Pinkowski will inform you as soon as possible.

Holiday Dates

All of the holiday dates for the coming year can be found on our school website, here:

<https://www.ferryhillstationschool.co.uk/page/?title=School+Holidays&pid=31>.

If you require a paper copy of the school holiday dates, please pop into the school office and Mrs Pinkowski will happily print them off for you.

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe from harm is our number one priority in school. We will always act upon any concern's individuals have, or any disclosures from children. However, if you have any concerns outside of school, or if you have a concern about a child or young person's welfare, it is essential that you call **First Contact** on: **03000 267979**.

School Uniform

School uniforms are very important because they help children to grow and develop a feeling of belonging. A full list of our required uniform can be found on our website, here:

<https://www.ferryhillstationschool.co.uk/page/?title=School+Uniform&pid=29>.

Please remember our school colour is **RED** and that the children should wear unbranded plain **BLACK** shoes. Their polo shirts should be **WHITE** and trousers, dresses or skirts **GREY/BLACK**.

We have never insisted that children wear jumpers or cardigans that include the school logo, although these can be purchased from <https://totstoteams.com/>.

We would like to continue with our PRELOVED uniform rail in school this year. If you have any uniform that you don't need any more, that your child has outgrown and that is clean and in good condition, please send it to school. Parents/carers are always welcome to come into school to find something suitable for their child, if they want to.

School will continue to provide and take care of the children's PE kits, except for PE shoes.

Reminders:

Please remember to send trainers or gym shoes into school, preferably ones that can stay in school on their pegs, so they always have access to them for both outdoor PE and outdoor learning.

Please **remove earrings** on PE day.

School Timings

Please could I remind all parents/carers of our school times:

Our school day runs from 8.55am – 3.25pm (except for our morning nursery session).

Our school gates/doors will open from 8.50am. The children can arrive at this time to ensure they are in school and ready to start the school day at 8.55am.

Nursery Morning (3-year-olds)

Drop off – 8.45am at the Early Years gate.

Collection – 11.45am at the Early Years gate.

Nursery 30 Hours

Drop off – 8.45am at the Early Years/Class 1 gate.

Collection – 3.25pm at the Early Years gate.

Nursery Afternoon (2-year-olds)

Drop off – 12.30pm at the main entrance to school.

Collection – 3.30pm at the Early Years gate.

School (Reception – Year 6)

The school doors open at 8.50am, children start school at 8.55am.

Collection – 3.25pm at the school main entrance/school gates.

Year 4, 5 and year 6 children ONLY

If you would like to give permission for your child to walk home alone after school, please contact the school office for the consent letter. The letter needs to be signed and returned to school for us to allow your child to walk home alone.

Attendance

Good school attendance is crucial to a child's academic success. We monitor and analyse our school attendance and the attendance of each child weekly and as soon as attendance dips below 95%, this could result in a phone call or a request for an attendance meeting in school.

If your child is absent from school, please **REMEMBER** to contact the school office on their first day of absence no later than 9.00am. If you have not notified the school by this time, Mrs Pinkowski will try to contact you via a telephone call, text message or in-app Arbor message.

A reason for your child's absence **must** be provided. If a reason for absence is not provided, your child will be marked as an unauthorised absence on the register.

Labelling Clothes

Please make sure that all uniform, shoes, coats and jackets are clearly labelled with your child's name (or initials) and class. This makes it much easier for us to find the children's belongings in the event of them going missing. We like to keep lost property in school to a minimum as we don't have the space to keep it in school. Please help us to help you and label your child's clothing.

Emergency Contact Details

Please can we ask all parents/carers to check their emergency contact information on the Arbor app. Please can we ask that we have at least two emergency contacts for each child and that the information saved is current and up to date.

Parking

Please can we remind all parents and carers to be considerate when parking around school at the beginning and end of the school day. Please be mindful of the children and pedestrians that will be around at these times.

Smoking and Vaping

Please can we remind all parents and carers that smoking or vaping on our school site is **not permitted**. If anyone is seen smoking or vaping, they will kindly be asked by staff to stop. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

APPLY NOW for a Secondary School Place

The application process is now open.

If your child's birthday falls between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 your child will start Year 7 at a secondary school in September 2025.

You must apply for a school place as there is no automatic transfer from primary school to secondary school.

To apply, please follow this link: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2192/Apply-now-for-a-secondary-school-place-deadline-31-October-2024>.

The closing date to apply for a secondary school place for September 2025 is midnight on Thursday 31 October 2024.

APPLY NOW for a Primary School Place

The application process is now open.

If your child's birthday falls between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 your child will start Reception at an infant or primary school in September 2025.

You must make an application for your child's school place as there is no automatic transfer from nursery school to an infant or primary school (Reception intake).

To apply, please follow this link: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2189/Apply-now-for-a-primary-school-place-deadline-15-January-2025>.

The deadline for applying for a primary school place is Wednesday 15 January 2025.

National Breakfast Programme

We will continue to work together with the National Breakfast Programme. The National School Breakfast Programme (NSBP) is funded by the Department for Education and delivered by Family Action to support schools in England to provide children with a healthy breakfast at the start of the school day.

Family Action is committed to supporting child development, and we believe a healthy school breakfast, without a barrier or stigma, can set children to succeed and give them the very best chance to learn.

Each morning in school, we will be offering all the children the chance to have a bagel at the start of the school day. The bagels will be heated up in school and be offered to the children in their classrooms during registration.

School Football Team

Congratulations to Lewie, Leah, Damien, Harry, Millie, Dakotah, Miyah and Gabriel who have been chosen to be on our school football team.

School Council

Congratulations to Indie, Carter, Sadie, Lewie, Dakotah and TJ. They have all been chosen to be part of our school council this year.

School Ambassadors

Congratulations to Adlyn, Olivia, Gabriel, Rori, Millie and Seph. They have all been chosen to represent our school as school ambassadors this year.

Year 6 – Class of 2025 Leaver Hoodies

We plan to arrange the purchase of red Leavers Hoodies for our current Year 6 children. An email has been sent home about this. Please check your emails and reply as soon as possible with all the information requested.

Recent Events

Jeans for Genes

Thank you to all our parents/carers for their kind donations for this charity. We raised a total of **£54.15**. The staff and children all looked great in their jeans.

Upcoming Events

Harvest Donations – From Monday 30th September to Friday 11th October

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be supporting Durham Foodbank again this year with our Harvest collections.

We warmly welcome donations from our parents/carers to help support local families.

The foodbank welcome tinned and packet food as well as the following items:

- Instant meals
- Jams/preserves
- Long life fruit juice
- Tinned potatoes
- Biscuits
- Chocolates
- Toiletries
- Toilet rolls

Donations will be accepted from Monday 30th September – Friday 11th October.

Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights – Wednesday 9th October

Our school nursing team are booked to come into school on **Wednesday 9th October** to do the heights and weights of the children in Reception and Year 6. Parents/carers of the children in these year groups have been sent an email about this. If you have not received the email, please contact Mrs Pinkowski and she can arrange for this to be resent.

Wear Yellow for Mental Health Awareness – Wednesday 9th October

All children and staff are invited to come into school on **Wednesday 9th October** wearing yellow to raise awareness and show young people that they are not alone with their mental health.

Show Racism the Red Card Day – Friday 18th October

Change Hearts. Change Minds. Change Lives.

2024 is the 10th Anniversary of Wear Red Day. To celebrate this, all children and staff are invited to come into school wearing red to raise awareness about the Show Racism the Red Card charity.

2-Year-Old Nursery and Nursery Halloween Party – Thursday 24th October

Our nursery children are invited to come into nursery on **Thursday 24th October** in fancy dress or party clothes. They will be having a Halloween Party during their sessions. They will dance, play games and be provided with some treats and juice.

Please advise us of any allergies or dietary requirements.

Halloween Disco

We have organised a Halloween Disco for the children on **Thursday 24th October** from **4.00pm-5.00pm**.

The disco after school is for all children in Reception - Year 6.

The cost is £1.00 per disco ticket/per child. This can be paid on Arbor online or by cash at the school office.

Cauliflower Cards Christmas Project

This year, we are taking part in the Cauliflower Cards Christmas Project. Your child will create a Christmas card design in school. The designs will come home with your child at the end of this half term for you to place an order online. You can select for their personalised design to be on cards, mugs, gift tags etc.

Please return your child's design to school by **Thursday 7th November** if you place an order. Any late orders after this date will incur an additional cost to cover postage.

**Dates for your Diary
September 2024 – December 2024**

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| <p>From Tuesday 17th September Weekly on a Tuesday for 4 weeks</p> <p>Last session – Tuesday 8th October</p> | <p>School Football Team Football Tournament Sedgefield Community College 3.45pm – 5.00pm</p> |
| <p>Monday 30th September – Friday 11th October</p> | <p>Harvest Festival Donations Supporting Durham Foodbank Donations to be handed in to the school office</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 9th October</p> | <p>Reception and Year 6 School nursing team are in school to do heights and weights Email has been sent to the parents/carers of the children in these year groups</p> <p>World Mental Health Day All children and staff are invited to come into school wearing yellow to raise awareness and show young people they are not alone with their mental health</p> |
| <p>Thursday 10th October</p> | <p>Class 4 School Trip Winter Gardens, Sunderland 9.00am – 2.30pm More information will follow via email</p> |
| <p>Friday 18th October</p> | <p>Wear Red Day 2024 All children and staff are invited to come into school wearing red to show racism the red card</p> |
| <p>Monday 21st October</p> | <p>Nursery (3-Year-Old's) and Reception School Trip Hardwick Park – Gruffalo and Autumn Workshop 9.30am – 1.00pm More information will follow via email</p> <p><u>Please note:</u> Our 2-year-old nursery session will be CLOSED today.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 23rd October</p> | <p>Year 1 and Year 2 Multi-skills Festival 10.00am – 2.00pm More information will follow via email</p> |
| <p>Thursday 24th October</p> | <p>Nursery Halloween Parties Nursery parties will take place during the nursery sessions. More information will follow via email</p> <p>Halloween Disco 4.00pm – 5.00pm More information will follow via email</p> |
| <p>Friday 25th October</p> | <p>Cauliflower Cards Christmas Project Christmas card designs will go home today for parents/carers to place orders online</p> <p>School CLOSES at the end of the school day today for the October half term break</p> |

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| Monday 4 th November | School REOPENS today |
| From Tuesday 5 th November (Tuesdays for 5 weeks) | Joanne Banks dance after school club 3.30pm – 4.30pm More information to follow via email Sign up will be available once the email has been sent out |
| Wednesday 6 th November | Reception – Year 6 Flu Vaccinations More information to follow via email |
| Thursday 7 th November | Cauliflower Cards Christmas Project Deadline All designs to be returned to school by today |
| Week commencing Monday 11 th November | Anti Bullying Week |
| Monday 11 th November | Cauliflower Cards Christmas Project All designs will be collected today for processing |
| Friday 15 th November | Children in Need 2024 More information to follow via email |
| Tuesday 19 th November | Year 1 and Year 2 School Trip Preston Park, Stockton 9.30am – 2.30pm More information will follow via email |
| Thursday 21 st November | Intra school competition day (Full day event in school for the children only) |
| Wednesday 27 th November | Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) Wellness Festival Aycliffe Leisure Centre 9.30am – 11.30am More information will follow via email |
| Tuesday 10 th December | Year 1 and Year 2 Invasion Sports Festival Aycliffe Leisure Centre 10.00am – 2.00pm More information will follow via email |
| Wednesday 11 th December | Christmas Dinner Day Children and Staff Our 2-year-old nursery session (pm) will start at 1.00pm today instead of 12.30pm Christmas Jumper Day For all children and staff in school |
| Thursday 12 th December | Reception – Year 6 Nativity Carol Service Two performances - 10.00am and 2.00pm |
| Friday 13 th December | Whole School Trip (Reception – Year 6) Beauty and the Beast Panto Gala Theatre 12.30pm – 4.15pm More information will follow via email |
| Thursday 19 th December | Christmas Parties in School |

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| | <p>Early Years (2-Year-Olds & Nursery) and KS1 (Reception, Y1 and Y2) – 9.30am-11.30am KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6) – 1.00pm-3.00pm</p> <p><u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> Our 2-Year-Old nursery session will run on the morning today so the children can attend the Christmas Party</p> |
| Friday 20 th December | School CLOSES at the end of the school day today for the Christmas holidays |
| Monday 6 th January | School REOPENS today |
| <p>Dates for your Diary 2025</p> | |
| Friday 7 th March | <p>KS2 Girls Football Festival Chilton Academy 9.30am – 11.30am More information will follow via email</p> |
| Friday 21 st March | Red Nose Day |
| Tuesday 29 th April | <p>Class 4 OAA (Outdoor and Adventure Activities) School Trip Hardwick Park 9.30am – 12.00pm More information will follow via email</p> |