



Ferryhill Station Primary School News

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A Message from Mrs J Sones - School Headteacher

I am delighted to welcome all of 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 myself to resolve any queries or concerns that you may have.

Thank you for your continued support.

Our Latest School News and Information

Staffing Information

After 11 years of commitment and working with our children and families at Ferryhill Station Primary School, it is with great sadness that we have to announce, Mrs Adams has left us during the Summer to take up a new role. It was a hard and difficult decision for Mrs Adams but she feels this is the right one for her and her family at this time. We are really happy for her, she will be really missed by all, especially the children. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the support she has offered to our children, our parents/carers and staff members and I am sure you will all join me in wishing her all the very best in her new role and for the future ahead.

This means that there will be some staffing changes in Class 1 this half term. We would like to welcome Miss Griffiths, she will be working alongside Miss French with our Nursery children and our Nursery 2-year-olds.

Reception Class – September 2023

Firstly, welcome to Ferryhill Station Primary School. We would like to say how excited we are to welcome your child into 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) – Tuesdays and Thursdays

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

Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) – Mondays

Please could you provide your child with a pair of trainers or gym shoes that they can keep on their peg in school so they have access to them at all times for outdoor PE lessons and outdoor learning/activities. They do not need PE kit as we are continuing to provide these for all children and take care of them in school.

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

As previously communicated before the summer holidays, from this month, September 2023, the price of a school meal is increasing to £2.50 per day.

Holiday Dates

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

<https://www.ferryhillstationschool.co.uk/parents/school-holidays/>.

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

National Breakfast Programme

We are now working 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.

Within the next couple of weeks, we will be offering all children in school 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 on the way in to school or taken to the classrooms during registration.

Reminders

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 uniform is very important because it helps children to grow a feeling of belonging. A full list of the required uniform can be found on our website, here: <https://www.ferryhillstationschool.co.uk/parents/school-uniform/>.

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 understand that times are very hard at the moment. We have never insisted that children wear jumpers or cardigans that include the school logo, although these can be purchased from www.totstoteams.com.

We would like to continue with our PRELOVED uniform rail in school. If you have any uniform that you don't need any more and that is in clean and in good condition, please send it into school. We will then advertise to all parents what we have in stock so that people will be able 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, with the exception of PE shoes. **Reminder:** Please remember to send trainers or gym shoes into school, preferably ones that can stay in school on their pegs so they have access to them at all times for both outdoor PE and outdoor learning.

School Timings

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

Nursery Morning (3-year-olds)

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

Collection – 11.45am at the Early Years/Class 1 gate.

Nursery 30 Hours

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

Collection – 3.15pm at the Early Years/Class 1 gate.

Nursery Afternoon (2-year-olds)

Drop off – 12.30pm at the Early Years/Class 1 gate.

Collection – 3.30pm at the Early Years/Class 1 gate.

School (Reception – Year 6)

The school gates open at 8.45am, children start school at 8.55am.

Collection – 3.15pm at the school gates.

Year 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 in order 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 before 9.00am.

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.

APPLY NOW for a Secondary School Place

The application process is now open.

If your child's birthday falls between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 your child will start Year 7 at a secondary school in September 2024.

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-2023>

The closing date to apply for a secondary school place for September 2024 is midnight on Tuesday 31 October 2023.

APPLY NOW for a Primary School Place

The application process is now open.

If your child's birthday falls between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 your child will start Reception at an infant or primary school in September 2024.

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-2024>

The deadline for applying for a primary school place is Monday 15 January 2024.

Upcoming Events

Class 4 (Y5/Y6) School Trip to Locomotion – Wednesday 20th September

On **Wednesday 20th September**, children in Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) are going on a school trip to Locomotion. They will be taking part in a STEM Skills Day. **Information about this trip has been sent via email.**

BEE THANKFUL FOR BEES Themed Lunch Day – Thursday 28th September

On **Thursday 28th September**, there will be a themed lunch day in school for the children. The theme of the lunch is **'BEE Thankful for Bees'** and it is run by Chartwells, our catering provider. If your child would like to have this themed lunch, they just need to let their teacher know on the morning of the lunch during registration as normal.

Class Photographs – Friday 29th September

We have our school photographer in school on **Friday 29th September** to take our class photographs. Please ensure your child comes to school in full school uniform.

Class 4 (Y5/Y6) School Trip to Life Centre – Tuesday 10th October

On **Tuesday 10th October**, children in Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) are going on a school trip to The Life Centre, Newcastle. **More information about this trip will follow via email.**

Class 3 (Y3/Y4) Fun Run – Wednesday 11th October

Class 3 will be taking part in a class fun run on Wednesday 11th October. The fun run will take place at Ferryhill School during the school day. **This fun run is for the children only.** Please remember to send your child into school with their trainers/PE shoes, so they can take part in the fun run.

Out of This World Themed Lunch Day – Wednesday 11th October

On **Wednesday 11th October**, there will be a themed lunch day in school for the children. The theme of the lunch is **'Out of This World'** and it is run by Chartwells, our catering provider. If your child would like to have this themed lunch, they just need to let their teacher know on the morning of the lunch during registration as normal.

Class 2 (Y1 and Y2 children only) School Trip to Discovery Museum – Thursday 12th October

On **Thursday 12th October**, children in Class 2 (Year 1 and Year children only) are going on a school trip to The Discovery Museum. **More information about this trip will follow via email.**

Flu Vaccinations – Wednesday 25th October

The nurses will be in school on **Wednesday 25th October** to give annual flu vaccinations to the children.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 20 th September	Class 4 School Trip to Locomotion Information about this trip has been sent via email
Thursday 28 th September	BEE THANKFUL FOR BEES Themed Lunch Day in School
Friday 29 th September	Class Photographs
Tuesday 10 th October	Class 4 School Trip to the Life Centre More information will follow via email about this trip
Wednesday 11 th October	Class 3 Fun Run at Ferryhill School (Children only) Out of This World Themed Lunch Day
Thursday 12 th October	Class 2 (Year 1 and Year 2) School Trip to the Discovery Museum More information will follow via email about this trip
Wednesday 25 th October	Flu Vaccinations