



# Ferryhill News



## **A Message from the Headteacher – Mrs J Sones**

We have had a really good start to the Spring Term and whilst some staff and children have returned from isolation, we have had others test positive. We do hope that those currently isolating at home are not feeling too poorly and that they are taking care and we look forward to seeing them back in school soon.

I would like to thank our great staff team for working together, showing resilience and being flexible and doing all they can to ensure that school life remains as normal as possible for all the children in school. I would also like to thank our parents/carers for their continued support and understanding.

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.

## **STAFF INFORMATION**

As most of you will be aware, we said farewell to Miss Rooke at the end of December and since her departure we have had a slight change in our staffing structure in school. Mrs Peacock has moved from Class 3 to teach in Class 1 and we have welcomed Miss Robinson to teach in Class 3 alongside Miss Jayne.

We have also welcomed Mrs Pinkowski, our new School Admin Officer in our school office. Both Miss Robinson and Mrs Pinkowski have settled in well and are enjoying getting to know our staff, children and parents.

## **PARENTPAY**



We use ParentPay in school to enable parents and carers to pay online for school lunches, events and other items in school where payment is required. I will be sending activation letters home to all parents and carers who don't have an active account in the next couple of weeks.

All ParentPay balances are checked every Friday and we ask that you keep your balances and account up to date and in credit.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **Reception School Places – September 2022**

The deadline has now passed for applying for a reception school place for September 2022. If you would like to apply or know someone that would like to apply, please contact Mrs Pinkowski and she will be happy to help.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **Nursery Places – from September 2022**

We have places within our nursery setting from September 2022.

Our nursery at Ferryhill Station Primary is for 3-year-olds and runs on a morning, 8.30am-11.30am.

If you would like your child to attend our nursery or know someone who has a child of this age and they would like them to attend our nursery please contact Mrs Pinkowski for further information.

## **COVID-19**

From 17<sup>th</sup> January, the covid-19 guideline changed again so that if you test negative 24 hours apart on Day 5 & 6, you can leave isolation on Day 6. Please remember, there has to be 24 hours between the tests taken on Day 5 and Day 6 which is why taking them first thing in the morning may be a good idea.

We will keep you updated on further covid-19 guidelines as and when they change.

## **SCHOOL MEAL PRICE INCREASE**



From 4<sup>th</sup> April, the cost of a school lunch will be increasing to £2.20 per day. The current cost of a school meal is £2.10 per day.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

To be more cost effective for our parents, we have changed our school uniform provider from School Trends to Tots to Teams. Tots to Teams are a local North East company based in Newcastle. All uniform items can be purchased online and they can be delivered to either your home address or to school.

The table below shows the costs per item with Tots to Teams:

| <b>Uniform Item</b>                                   | <b>Tots to Teams Cost</b> |
|---|---------------------------|
| School Jumper   | £8.00                     |
| School Jumper<br>Sizes: XS Adult and Small Adult      | £9.00                     |
| School Cardigan                                       | £9.00                     |
| School Cardigan<br>Sizes: XS Adult and Small Adult    | £10.25                    |
| Polo Shirt  | £6.85                     |
| Polo Shirt<br>Sizes: Adult Small and Adult XL         | £8.20                     |
| PE T-shirt  | £4.85                     |
| PE T-shirt<br>Size: Small Adult                       | £5.55                     |
| PE Shorts<br>Sizes (in inches)<br>18-20, 22-24, 26-28 | £4.00                     |
| PE Shorts<br>Sizes (in inches)<br>30-32, 34-36        | £5.16                     |
| PE Bag (drawstring)                                   | £4.20                     |
| School Backpack                                       | £10.62                    |
| School Book Bag                                       | £6.90                     |

## **PE KIT AND PE DAYS**

Our children are required to have their PE kits in school. If your child doesn't have their PE kit in school, please could we ask that this is brought in as soon as possible. Your child's PE kit is hung on their peg and is kept in school for the full half term. We will send their kits home at the end of each half term to be washed and ready to be returned after the holiday.

School PE days are as follows:

Class 1 – Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Class 3 – Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Class 4 – Tuesdays.

## **SWIMMING**

In addition to PE on a Tuesday, Class 4 go swimming on a Thursday afternoon. All children in Class 4 are required to bring their swimming kits to school on a Thursday morning. Kits should include, swimwear, towel, swim hat and goggles (if required).



## **FRUIT**

All children in school now have access to a FREE piece of fruit at break time. Please can you encourage your child to take this.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

**Dance After School Club** – The last dance session was Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. All of the children that attended the dance club really enjoyed it and had a great time with Jasmine, the dance coach.

**Robotics After School Club** – Robotics after school club runs on a Thursday after school, 3.15pm-4.15pm. This club will run until Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

**SATs Booster** – SATs Booster runs on a Monday after school, 3.15pm-4.15pm. This club will run until Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (the week before SATs).

If there are ever any changes made to the above clubs or the clubs are cancelled, you will be notified as soon as possible via telephone call or text message.



## **COOL MILK**

From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, all children in school now have access to milk. If your child doesn't drink milk or they choose not to drink their milk, they will be removed from the list.

## **ATTENDANCE AND APPOINTMENTS**

### **Attendance**

Children should attend school on time every day unless they are very poorly. Please ensure that you contact the school before 9:30am if your child is too unwell to attend.

This year, we have begun celebrating pupils with 97% attendance as well as 100% attendance. This is because we want to promote good attendance, but we understand that sometimes children have unavoidable absences.

### **Appointments**

Wherever possible, please arrange appointments for your child outside of school hours to minimise the impact on your child's learning. However, we do understand that this is not always possible and if you do have to take your child out of school, please let Mrs Pinkowski know in advance so we she can make sure that the class teachers are aware.

**Please note:** Mrs Pinkowski may ask you for medical evidence of your child's appointments (the appointment letter or card) in order for absences to be recorded correctly on the register, medical or illness.

## **NUMBER DAY 2022**

Number Day 2022 was on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February. The children celebrated in class by taking part in lots of number activities and it was lovely to see so many of our children dressed in clothing with numbers on. There were lots of football shirts, t-shirts with numbers on and lots of badges worn by the children.



## **SAFER INTERNET DAY**

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, we celebrated Safer Internet Day in school. The children on our school council prepared a quiz for each class to take part in and enjoy. They also came up with a set of rules for all of the children in school to follow on how to stay safe online. Please see these rules below:

How to stay safe online:

- Don't accept random things from strangers.
- Never give out your personal information.
- Only speak to people you know.
- If you're playing games online, don't be aggressive towards other players. Be a good winner and a good loser!
- Don't open emails from random people – they could contain viruses or scams.
- If you feel like you are being bullied online, tell an adult or someone you trust. Block the person straight away.
- If you feel uncomfortable with something online, stop what you're doing and tell an adult.

Also, as part of Safer Internet Day, we sent home some Acceptable Use Agreements for both parents and pupils to sign. We have had some of these returned but are still waiting on some. If you haven't handed this in yet, please can you do this by the end of this week, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February. If you require another copy, please see Mrs Pinkowski and she will print one out for you.

### **CONDOLENCES**

As some of you may have already heard, our former secretary, Donna Scott (Miss Smith) tragically lost her Husband very suddenly last weekend. We have sent Donna and her family flowers along with our condolences and we are keeping them in our thoughts.

### **WORLD BOOK DAY READING PARTY – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

You are invited to a reading party on 3<sup>rd</sup> March to celebrate 25 years of World Book Day and to promote reading for pleasure, as we know that reading is the most important factor in a child's future educational success. You will be joining your child in lots of fun, book-based activities.

We are delighted to welcome parents and carers back into school, however, in order to maintain some covid security, we will be putting the following measures in place:

We will be staggering the times of each party so that there are not too many extra people in the school at any one time.

**Class 1** - reading party will be 10.45 to 11.30.

**Class 3** - reading party will be 1pm to 2.15pm.

**Class 4** - reading party will be 2.30pm to 3.15pm.

We ask that only one adult per child attends the reading parties so that our classrooms will not be too crowded. We will ensure that our rooms are well ventilated.

Please let Mrs Pinkowski in the school office know if you are going to attend this event. We are looking forward to seeing you.

### **COFFEE VAN – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March we have organised for The Street Coffee Co van to be in our school car park for staff and for any parents wishing to purchase a hot drink on the school run.

The Street Coffee Co van has a top of the range Barista machine and grinder producing the freshest coffees. They have a range of coffees from lattes, cappuccinos, flat white, americano's and mochas. They also have a range of other hot drinks such as hot chocolates, a selection of teas and cold drinks.

### **FUNDRAISING DAY – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

As a school, we have decided to have a fundraising day with the children during the school day on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March to raise money for a defibrillator in memory of Darren Scott, the Husband of our former secretary, Donna Scott.

Please can all children come to school in non-uniform, sports clothing (Darren loved sport, especially football) and make a voluntary donation towards this cause.

More information to follow after half term.

### Dates for your Diary

| <u>Date</u>  | <u>Event</u>  |
|--|---|
| Thursdays – after School<br>(until Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April) | Robotics After School Club<br>3.15pm – 4.15pm<br><b>Please note:</b> this club is currently full  |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February                                   | School <b>closes</b> for February half term   |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February                                   | School <b>reopens</b> after the half term break<br>1.00pm - Jet and Ben Assembly in school  |
| Mondays – after school<br>(until Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May)       | SATs Booster – year 6 children only<br>3.15pm-4.15pm  |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March                                     | World Book Day 2022<br>The Street Coffee Co van in school until 9.15am  |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 11 <sup>th</sup><br>March    | <b>SPECIAL DELIVERY IN EARLY YEARS FROM TODAY</b><br>Little duckling eggs arrive in early years for the children to watch and learn<br>the process of them hatching and growing |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March                                      | Fundraising Day<br><b>More information to follow after half term</b>  |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March- Friday 18 <sup>th</sup><br>March    | Science Week  |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March                                      | Image Musical Theatre in School – Sword in a Stone Production<br>Science/Space Presentation in school by Dr Pete Edwards  |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March                                     | Vex IQ Robotics Tournament<br><b>Letter to follow</b>   |
| Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April                                    | Year 3 and 4 – Alternative Sports at Spennymoor Leisure Centre<br><b>Letter to follow</b>   |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April                                       | School closes for the Easter holidays   |
| Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April                                      | School reopens after the Easter holidays  |