

Northwood Primary School Newsletter 8 – June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term at Northwood. I can't quite believe we have only one half term left of this academic year. The children have all returned to school after the break with a fantastic attitude, and I know this half term is going to be full of amazing teaching and learning experiences.

Year 2 and Year 6 SATs

We have recently completed the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 SATs assessments. All the children in Year 2 and Year 6 performed brilliantly and were so desperate to show off how much they have learned during their time at school. A huge well done to Year 6 – this was the first year that every child turned up on time during SATs week. A first since I took over as Head Teacher in September 2014. We can't wait to share the results with you when we get them back in July.

Phonic Screening

Next week (week beginning Monday 10th June), our Year 1 children will complete the Phonic Screening test in school. Please ensure that your children are in school every day next week in order not to miss this fantastic opportunity to show off their reading skills. Our children always perform exceptionally well in this screening test due to the fabulous teaching and learning that they receive across Early Years and Year 1. Again the results will be shared with you in July.

Packed Lunches

Please can you have a think about what children are being sent to school with in their lunch-boxes. Children at Northwood Primary School should be encouraged to have a balanced lunch whether on school dinners, or bringing a lunch from home. Due to potential health risks, many schools have strict guidelines about the contents of packed lunches. To ensure consistency and to keep packed lunches in line with Food Standards for school meals I must make you aware that packed lunches at Northwood should not contain the following:

- Chocolate bars and chocolate biscuits (a small cake bar or mini packet of chocolate coated biscuits is acceptable).
- Fizzy/Sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans – including any form of energy/isotonic drinks (still or sparkling).
- Sweets/Toffees of any kind.



Preparing for the Summer Sun

As the weather warms up we ask you to consider applying sun cream before your child comes to school because if the weather is wonderful I am encouraging teachers to take learning outside of the classroom even more so your child may spend a lot of time outside. A cap/sunhat (named please) would also be beneficial and don't forget we are still selling Northwood sunglasses for £2 a pair from the main office. Thank you for your support with this.

Keeping your children safe online

With the ever increasing use of the internet for apps, games, downloading and social networking, it is becoming more difficult to monitor your child's online behaviour and activities. It is vital that we consider the potential risks of communicating online. I would like to remind parents and carers to be extra vigilant and make sure you are aware of what your children are doing and who they may be talking to on the internet. Talking to your child openly and regularly is the best way to help keep them safe online and recognise any potential safeguarding risks they may be exposed to. For practical information and help on how to keep your children safe online visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk.



Facebook reminder

Many parents have commented on how useful they find our Facebook page to keep up to date with what's happening at Northwood. It is also a great place for us to showcase the school and celebrate our children's achievements. Please take a minute to like our Facebook page via the following link:
www.facebook.com/northwoodprimary

Attendance

As we're coming to the end of the school year I want to reiterate how every day counts in a child's education. On the first day back after half term (Monday 3rd June) there were a total of 54 children absent. This is considerably below national standards and this poor attendance can significantly impact a child's academic, personal and social development. There has also been an increase in term time holidays. Please be aware that these will not be authorised and unauthorised absences may be referred to the Local Authority and incur a fixed penalty notice.

Unfortunately Mrs Ketley, our Parent Support Advisor has decided to leave Northwood and return to her old school in Durham. Mrs Peart, our Assistant Head Teacher, will be leading on attendance until a replacement Parent Support Advisor is appointed for the start of the new academic year in September.

Upcoming Dates for your Diary

- Wednesday 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th June and 3rd July – Year 5 level 1 Cycle Training
- Thursday 6th June – Year 6 Parents Meeting with Longfield Academy
- Friday 7th June – Year 6 leavers photo
- Friday 7th June – Year 1 trip to Dorman Museum
- Monday 10th June – Year 5/6 Mini Medic Life Skills Day
- Week beginning Monday 10th June – Year 1 + 2 Phonic Screening resits
- Tuesday 11th June – Year 4 to meet Astronaut Michael Foale at Xcel Centre Newton Aycliffe
- Thursday 13th June – Class 11 Wilderness Schooling Day
- Week beginning Monday 17th June – Northwood's Recycle Awareness Week
- Tuesday 18th June – Mini Helpers at the Cornmill Centre
- Wednesday 19th June – Year 6 Yoga
- Thursday 20th June – Class 11 Wilderness Schooling Day
- Friday 21st – Sunday 23rd June – Year 6 Kingswood Residential Trip
- Week beginning Monday 24th June – World of Work Week
- Wednesday 26th June – Year 6 Yoga
- Thursday 27th/Friday 28th June – Year 6 Town Transition Days to Secondary Schools
- Monday 1st July – Class 12 Wilderness Schooling Day
- Wednesday 3rd July – Year 6 Yoga
- Friday 5th July – End of Year Reports out
- Monday 8th July – Class 12 Wilderness Schooling Day
- Wednesday 10th July – Optional Open Evening for Parents
- Friday 12th July – Morning: Key Stage 1 (Y1/2) Sports Day, Afternoon: Key Stage 2 (Y3-6) Sports Day
- Monday 15th July – Class 12 Wilderness Schooling Day
- Thursday 18th July – Year 6 Leavers Assembly for Parents /Carers at 2pm
- **Friday 19th July – School finishes for the Summer Holiday at 3.30pm. School reopens on Wednesday 4th September.**

Please note that these dates are subject to changes/ additions. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for any additional information.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Beach,

Head Teacher