



Wallsend Jubilee Primary School Newsletter - Spring Term 2022

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES: www.wallsendjubileeps.org.uk



Head Teachers Blog

As we move towards our Easter break it has been great to have some nice weather and lighter nights & in school, to revert back to a much more normal school day, even though covid still challenges us. It was nice to see so many parents & carers at parents' evening and for teachers to reconnect with you all.

Highlights this term have included the dance festival and the Spring Sing. These are events which had to be cancelled in the last two years so the children involved were very excited to participate again.

Congratulations to all the children involved and to the staff for giving up their time to create their masterpieces.

I have been working closely with all staff to ensure that we have a curriculum which sparks interest and delivers high quality learning and I have visited every classroom this term and observed learning. It was good to see that the majority of children have been working hard in their lessons aiming to do their very best. I have participated in a series of "book looks" and the work is impressive and shows clear progress.



Pupil voice is an important way of finding out pupils' views on school. It has been fantastic to see how positive children are about their learning and proud they are of their work. Well done to all concerned,

Attendance

Having good attendance at school is vital to ensuring that children make good progress. Again this year has been challenging as many of our children have had time off as they were covid positive. I am at the point in the school year where I will collect attendance data & inform you of your child's attendance level. You will receive a red, amber or green letter. If your child receives a red letter it means they have attendance which falls below 90% which the government views as "persistent absence." Again I will ensure that I remove any covid absence from the data and if you do receive a red letter, it means that your child's attendance has dipped below 90% for reasons other than covid. Please continue to work with me if you receive a red letter.

This letter will begin a 4 week monitoring period and if your child's attendance does not improve over that period of time, I will invite you into a supportive meeting to see how we can work together to raise the attendance of your child. If you have any questions regarding attendance please contact the school office via email and we will support you in any way we can.

School Governors

Thank you for your participation in our vote for your new parent governors. Parents/carers play a very important part in our governing body and I am pleased to tell you that, as voted for by parents and carers within school, our new governors are Mrs Aimee Mason and Mr Shaun Rutherford. Our appreciation also goes to Mrs Anna Hankin who also put herself forward for the role.

Uniform

As you are aware we have a school uniform policy in school and, over the period of the pandemic, things have slipped in regards to this and we have been flexible to support our families throughout.

From September, we will expect that all parents/carers adhere to the uniform policy. It is likely that you will look to renew uniform items and it provides an opportunity to buy correct uniform which should include completely black shoes or trainers.

We would like to continue to allow children to come into school in their PE kits on the days they have PE as the advantages to this are felt by all. Again we do have a PE kit uniform policy, and this needs to be followed. Nearer the end of the summer term, I will reissue the full uniform list so there can be no doubt about what is, and is not acceptable for both normal school, and PE specific, days.

Finally, we discussed earrings. Currently we have a "no earrings" policy however, I have found that more and more children are coming into school wearing earrings. Children whose parents allow them to wear earrings cannot participate in PE which is a statutory national curriculum subject. In the next governors' meeting prior to the summer holidays, we will vote on whether or not we overturn the rule and allow earrings.

If we do overturn the rule, the following will apply:

One pair of small, simple studs; No sleepers or hooped earrings

Child must be able to remove them for PE unaided

Parents/carers must sign a disclaimer against injury

Ears will have to be pierced at the start of the holiday to ensure they can be taken out on the return to school.

Further information will be sent to you in due course.

Reading in School

Reading is one of the most important skills we teach children at school. Being a fluent reader opens the door to many exciting opportunities and is fundamental to progression throughout the curriculum

With this in mind, we have been reviewing the current provision for reading and over the last term have made the following exciting developments:

1. We have overhauled the classroom reading corners and have spent a significant amount of money ensuring that each class has a wide range of new and exciting texts. These texts will be age appropriate and will be used for home readers independently, if your child is a fluent reader. Alternatively, they can be shared at home with an adult. These books are a mixture of classic and modern texts. This is a huge investment but I hope that the books will motivate the children to build a love of books and reading from an early age.
2. We have also invested heavily in our "banded books". These books will again be sent home and will be carefully matched to your child's ability to ensure that they can progress towards being a fluent reader.

In school, this has been a total investment of approximately £10,000 this year and I anticipate a similar amount being invested next year. Again this has been shared with my governors who are very excited about this project and I would like to extend our thanks to Miss Tappenden, Mrs Fenton and Mr Allington who have spent a considerable amount of time on this project. We aim to introduce these new texts in the summer term and further guidance will be sent to you soon



Dates for your Diary—Spring Term

With Easter nearly upon us, we have arranged some fun activities. All children will be able to decorate a polystyrene egg in school. Materials will be provided, however children are welcome to bring things in from home to help their design. Due to allergies, please do not send in any real eggs this year please!



Our Family Egg competition will be judged on Thursday 7th April so if you would like to take part, please bring your entry to school for judging. 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes up for grabs! These can be hard boiled eggs as they will be kept in a controlled environment separately

Dates for Your Diary – Summer Term

W/C 9th May: Year 6 SATS week

26th May: Queen's Jubilee lunch - catering services

6th June: School closed for Queen's Jubilee

W/C 7th June: Y4 times tables check

8th June: Y5 Rising sun visit

W/C 13th June: Y4 times tables check

24th—27th June Derwent Hill weekend (Y6 & Y5)

29th June: Y5 Rising Sun

29th June: Y6 Discovery museum

30th June: Y4 Skipping Competition—Parks

6th July: Y5 Rising Sun

6th July: Y6 transition to Burnside

7th July: Y6 at Burnside (own transport)

7th July: Whole school transition day

11th July Y6 to receive leavers' hoodies (info to follow)

WC 11th July Sports Days (details to follow)

19.7.22 Year 6 Leavers Assembly



Key Stage 2 SATS

Year 6 will complete their Key Stage 2 SATs tests in the week beginning 9th May.

We have been preparing the children in school for the assessments which include Reading, Maths and Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation (SPaG)

Timetable

Monday 9th May: SPaG

Tuesday 10th May: Reading

Wednesday 11th May: Maths paper 1 and paper 2

Thursday 12th May: Maths Paper 3

Friday 13th May: No tests

School year 2022-23

IMPORTANT: School breaks up for the Summer on **Wednesday 20th July 2022.**

We will return to school after the Summer break on **Tuesday 6th September.** Staff will be in school on Monday 5th Sept for the first of their four training days.

Our second training day will take place on:

Friday 23rd December.

I will inform you of the final two training days in due course.

