



Newsletter January 2016

May I take this opportunity to welcome you back to school and wish a very happy New Year to all our pupils and parents.

CLASSROOM ORGANISATION IN JANUARY

Class 1	-	Ms Mawson	(21)
Class 2	-	Mr Hill	(24)
Class 3	-	Mrs McCluskey	(21)
Class 4	-	Miss Dobson	(22)
Class 5 (Reception)	-	Mrs Turner/Mrs Bradford	(8)
(Nursery)		" "	(15)
		Total on roll	96

CONTACT DETAILS



We are currently struggling to contact a number of parents in the case of a child being sick, not arriving at school in the morning or not being collected from school at the end of the day (3.15pm) as we have not been provided with up-to-date contact details. The school requires 3 emergency contact numbers. If your child is poorly they will need to go home or in the case of an accident may require specialist treatment in hospital. As a result we would need to seek advice from our Education Welfare Officer and/or First Response (Social Services) to determine our next course of action. If you are unsure that the numbers we hold are current please call in at the School Office to check.

Please remember, these procedures are entirely for the safety and wellbeing of your children.

Attendance and Punctuality

Your children's attendance and punctuality are monitored closely by us and our EWO. If your child's percentage attendance dips below 95%, it could trigger a letter. Under 85% could result in court action. Please ensure your child arrives before 9am as a late arrival disrupts the education of the rest of the class. ***We are no longer allowed to authorise holidays in term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.***

Durham County Policy states that all schools must account for the whereabouts of any child who has not arrived at the school. If your child is going to be absent due to sickness or other circumstances, you **must inform the school by telephone before 9.30am on the first day of absence** and follow this up with a note on their return. *Please remember, these procedures*



are entirely for the safety and wellbeing of your children, so it is your responsibility to ensure that the school holds an up-to-date telephone number and that you can be contacted.

Primary Admissions 2016/2017

Can I remind any parents with children due to start school in September 2016, that the closing date for applications is **15 January 2016**. Please apply through the website www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

CAR PARKING

Please note that the car park is for **STAFF PARKING ONLY**. This is to ensure the safety of all our pupils in both school and nursery. We have **no** parent parking facilities on site.

Please do not park on the yellow lines ("Keep Clears") outside of school; this is a traffic offence and all registration numbers will be passed on to the PCSO's to ensure the safety of your children.

Bad Weather/School Closure



It is at this time of year when we could suffer more severe weather conditions. We will of course try at all times to remain open for the purpose of teaching. We will keep you updated of any problems by texting you as soon as a decision has been made and through notification on the Durham County website. Due to this **we must** have a working mobile phone number.

DINNER MONEY

Could all parents please adhere to the following:

Please note that all dinner monies must be paid on a **Monday** for the week ahead. As we are unable to change large notes, please ensure the following procedure is followed – **ALL** dinner money should be placed in an envelope with the child's name on and **handed in to the class teacher**. If you wish to pay by cheque, please make it payable to "Durham County Council". All dinners are £2.00 per day.

Website

Please note that all newsletters and activities are on our website. Please visit www.towlaw.durham.sch.uk.

We break for half term on Friday 12 February.

Lisa Jackson
Headteacher

2016 Spring First half – Spring Term Activities

Date	Time	Event
Friday 8 January	2.40 pm	Sporting Achievements Assembly
Week beginning Monday 11 January	3.15 pm	Clubs begin – see attached letter
Wednesday 13 January	3.00 pm	Y6 SAT's Parents meeting in Class 1
Wednesday 20 January	12.00 pm	New Nursery starters' Parents' meeting in the Community Room
Friday 22 January	2.45 pm	Class 1 Family Assembly
Wednesday 27 January	3.30 pm	Football match at Willington Parkside – letters to be sent out separately
Friday 29 January	2.45 pm	Class 2 and Class 3 Family Assembly
Wednesday 3 February	3.15 pm	X Factor Club begins
Friday 5 February	2.45 pm	Class 4 and Class 5 Family Assembly
Wednesday 10 February	1.00 pm	Dance Festival WSCC
Thursday 11 – Friday 12 February	All day	Multicultural Celebrations – Lent
Friday 12 February	2.30 pm	Celebrations Assembly to include multicultural celebration of Lent School breaks up for half term 3.15 pm
Monday 22 February	8.55 am	School re-opens

KS2 SAT's week begins Monday 9th May. Please keep this week clear in your diaries as no leave of absences will be granted for Y6 pupils during that week.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2015/2016

Holiday	Closing Date	Date Re-open for Teaching Purposes
Summer 2015 (6 weeks 3 days)	Friday 17 July 2015	Thursday 3 September 2015
Autumn Half-Term 2015 (1 week)	Friday 23 October 2015	Monday 2 November 2015
Christmas 2015 (2 weeks 1 day)	Friday 18 December 2015	Tuesday 5 January 2016
Spring Half-Term 2016 (1 week)	Friday 12 February 2016	Monday 22 February 2016
Easter 2016 (2 weeks 2 days)	Wednesday 23 March 2016	Monday 11 April 2016
May Day 2016 (2 days)	Thursday 28 April 2016	Tuesday 3 May 2016
Summer Half-Term 2016 (1 week)	Friday 27 May 2016	Monday 6 June 2016
Summer 2016 (6 weeks 3 days)	Wednesday 20 July 2016	Tuesday 6 September 2016

Important Note: the following dates have been agreed as INSET days for school staff:

Tuesday 1 September 2015

Thursday 24 March 2016

Wednesday 2 September 2015

Friday 29 April 2016

Monday 4 January 2016