



Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

If you or any friends or family shop at Sainsbury's, please could you ask them to collect the Active Kids Vouchers. This will enable school to exchange them for PE equipment. Until our collection box arrives, please send hand them in to the school office. Thank you.

Junior Education and Diversion Programme

On Monday Class 4 will be visited by the Junior Education and Diversion Programme. This is the first of a six week programme delivered in conjunction with the police and covers a range of topics around citizenship covering topics like neighbourhood watch, anti-social behaviour and road safety. Each session will deliver important messages to our older children.

Swimming Gala

On Wednesday 18th January, a selected group of Key Stage 2 children will compete against other schools in a swimming gala at Teesdale Leisure Centre. This is a Sainsbury's School Games competition and the winning team has a chance to progress on to further galas. Miss Richardson will inform the children who need swimming kits that day. I know that we have some talented swimmers and I wish them luck.

Teesdale Leisure Centre Gymnastics

We have been informed that there are some spaces available for gymnastics lessons at Teesdale Leisure Centre for children from pre-school age up over. Please contact the centre on 03000 260862 for further details.

Safer Internet Day 2017

Safer Internet Day will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 7th February with the slogan 'Be the change: Unite for a better internet.' One of Miss Richardson's responsibilities is as E-Safety Co-ordinator. She is working with our local authority adviser in the run up to Safer Internet Day and we will be sending out the most up to date forms and contracts for you and your child to sign shortly, to help safeguard them online whilst at school.

On Friday 10th February we would like to invite parents to school at 2.45pm and your child can take you around each class, where the children can explain a different element of e-safety to you.

The Big Classroom

Class 2 are currently trialling an initiative called The Big Classroom. This is a safe and secure social media page that is ran by Miss Blackburn and allows the children to see and comment on other children's work, displays and ideas in other parts of the country. It cannot be used outside schools. The idea is that children can understand more about the diversity of our country and make links with very different schools.

FOMS Meeting

The next FOMS meeting is at 5pm on January 24th. The Friends would love to see any existing or new members where they are planning to discuss the year's forthcoming events. They have done a sterling job raising funds to help the children and we have really big plans to develop the school garden. I will keep you updated when we have approved plans but there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes to create something very exciting...

The Four o'Clock Service at St Mary's Barnard Castle

Reverend Harding runs an informal service involving movement and activities for children. His first 4 o'clock service of the year is on this Sunday, January 15th.



OurSchoolApp

In the near future, we will be subscribing to OurSchoolApp. This is an innovative tool to improve parent communication allowing us to cascade information to parents and families quickly and easily. It is available free for parents to download and does not cost anything to install or use. You will be able to access this through a smartphone, tablet or computer. We will still send information on letters and via the website but this is just another way that we can get key messages out. You will receive further information in due course when the App goes live.

After School Clubs

I am delighted by the popularity of our new after school clubs. The children are really engaged and are enjoying the new choices. Remember that some clubs may be outside and as it is cold your child may benefit from some extra warm layers or tracksuit bottoms.

Contact Details

Please keep the School Office informed of any change of contact details. Thank you.

Guitar or Ukulele Tuition

Mr Rudkin, who has worked with many local schools in the past and is a registered guitar tutor, called into school this week. He passed on his contact details and wondered if any children would be interested in some private tuition. His details are: - tel: 01833316128 or email fredrudkin1835@sky.com

Attendance for w.b. 9.1.17

	Present
Reception	96.5%
Class 1	97.1%
Class 2	91.3%
Class 3	96.8%
Class 4	99%

Overall attendance this week was 96%

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m.

53 minutes learning time lost this week

Application for a School Place (Primary School) for September 2017

Cards have been handed out to Nursery parents detailing the procedure for applying for a Reception place for their child. All information is available online from www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the deadline for applications is midnight on **15th January 2017.**

Dates for your Diary

- January 12th Swimming for Year 4 children
- January 18th Swimming Gala for selected Key Stage 2 children
- January 24th FOMs meeting at school 5pm
- February 8th Reception at Teesdale Leisure Centre for Multi-Skills Festival
- February 10th February Parents invited into school 2.45pm for e-safety tour with their child.
- February 16th Class 3's Assembly 9.00am
- February 20th-24th Half Term
- March 20th-22nd – Parents' Evenings

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher