



8th September 2017 Newsletter

NEWLAND
ST JOHN'S
C OF E ACADEMY

**WELCOME BACK
TO SCHOOL!**

Diary Dates

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| Friday 15 th September | Prayer meeting |
| Wednesday 20 th September | Year 5/6 trip to Beamish |
| Friday 29 th September | Prayer meeting |
| Friday 30 th September | Farmers Market (10:00 am – 1:00 pm) |
| Wednesday 4 th October | Harvest – Foxes class |
| Wednesday 11 th October | EYFS Parents phonics evening |
| Friday 13 th October | Prayer Meeting |
| Wednesday 18 th October 2017 | Parents' evening |
| Wednesday 25 th October | EYFS Stay and Play |
| Friday 27 th October | Children break up for Half term |
| Monday 6 th October | Children return to school |
| Friday 10 th November | Remembrance service |
| Friday 10 th November | Prayer meeting |



Welcome!

We welcome 3 new members of staff this year. Miss Briggs will be teaching part time mainly in Year 6. We also welcome 2 apprentice teaching assistants who will be working in Foundation.

Stars of the week

Robins.Dian
HedgehogsGiulietta
Squirrels.Evie
BadgersJustin
RabbitsBasie
Foxes.Bailey
Otters.Mason
OwlsKieran
DeerAlfie

Mrs Wilson's Great North Run

On Sunday Mrs Wilson will be doing the Great North Run in aid of RNIB. If you would like to sponsor her that would be very much appreciated. You can do that via the office or online at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SarahWilson45>

Attendance

This week our attendance has been 93.5% which is below our target. The best attendance was 99.4 % from Foxes class. Well done to them!



Tesco tokens

When shopping at Tesco's look out for the charity token boxes. You should receive 1 token per shop from the cashier which you can then put into one of the charity boxes on your way out. We are currently one of their chosen charities and if we get enough tokens we could win up to £4000 for the school allotment which will develop the pond and wildlife area to support the children's learning.

Holidays in term time

This week we have had an unprecedented number of requests for holidays during term time. This is very disappointing after the children have had 6 weeks off over the summer and any such holiday requests will generally be unauthorised. If children take time off during term time, they miss valuable learning and teachers then have to repeat these lessons when children return. This impacts not just on the child who has returned from holiday, but also on the other children in the class. When it happens on multiple occasions as is frequently the case, it can have a detrimental impact on the whole class. We would therefore ask that holidays are only taken during the 13 weeks children have off during the year and not during term time.

Cycle to Work day

Wednesday 13th September is national Cycle to Work day. It would be good to see children using their bikes **safely** to get to school, particularly the Year 6 children who completed their Bikeability course last year.

School Dinners

Just a reminder that school meals are free for all children in EYFS+KS1 and only 50p for children in KS2. Please could we ask that where possible, dinner money payments are paid in advance. Many thanks.



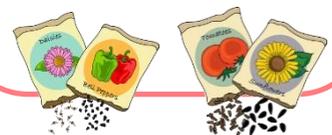
Shoe collection

One of our parents is collecting shoes to send over to Africa. If you have any shoes (old or new) that you no longer need or could spare, please could you bring them to the school office. All donations are greatly appreciated.



Allotment!

We would like to say a huge thank you to Martin Stephenson for all of his hard work on the allotment. Also, a big thank you to Isabella and Imogen's grandparents for donating seeds to the allotment.



5Rs and 4Bs

You may have heard your children talking about the 5Rs and 4Bs. These are characteristics of good learners that we are trying to develop in our children. Ask them what they are!



Please remember we are always keen to hear of your concerns as well as your positive feedback. If you would like to discuss any issues with Mrs Wilson or your child's teacher, please make an appointment at the school office.

Online gaming.

Top-tips

- » It may seem daunting, but one of the best things you can do is to engage with the gaming environment and begin to understand what makes it so attractive to young people as well as the types of activities that they enjoy! If you're not sure what they are, ask them to show you how they play and have a go yourself.
- » Read game reviews to understand more about potential risks or difficulties other players have experienced and content they have seen. App store and Google Play offer reviews but you can also find app reviews on www.net-aware.org.uk or game reviews on www.commonsemmedia.org.
- » Some games may offer children the chance to chat with other players by voice and text. Ask them who they are playing with and find out if they are talking to other players. If chat is available, look at the type of language that is used by other players.
- » Remember that much of the chat within games can be simply about the game itself and different strategies. Speak to your children about never revealing personal information or agreeing to meet up offline.
- » Remember that the same safety rules for going online apply to playing games on the internet. Familiarise yourself with the SMART rules, and encourage your children to do so as well.

SMART rules

Safe: Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when playing online. This includes your e-mail address, phone number and password, as well as images and videos of yourself, friends and family

Meeting: Meeting someone you have only known online can be dangerous. Remember that no matter how long you have spoken to someone for, or how nice they are, if you have never met this person before then they are still a stranger. If anyone asks to meet up then tell an adult immediately.

Accepting: Accepting gaming requests, direct messages or clicking on links from people you don't know can lead to problems – they may contain viruses, inappropriate content or nasty messages!

Reliable: People we speak to online might not always be who they say they are as it is very easy to give away false information online. Try to only speak to your friends and family.

Tell: Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

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