

Excellence
for All!



Windy News

Email: windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

December 2018

Keeping OUR Children safe

There have been a number of incidents recently which bring to our attention the importance of our children's safety in and around school.

As you are aware we no longer have a school crossing patrol. This is of great concern to us, as the recent School Council survey of traffic outside of school saw 100 cars, lorries, buses etc pass the school in a 5 minute period. The School Council / RRSA ambassadors have taken on the role of campaigners to try and get us a school crossing patrol reinstated. They have completed a petition and have written to and designed posters to send to the LA to voice our concerns. There have been a number of incidents of near misses linked to crossing the road outside of school.

This situation is made worse by the inconsiderate parking by some parents and carers. Whilst we appreciate there is limited parking facilities around school, please be mindful of our neighbours who regularly complain to us about cars being parked on their gardens and over their drives and of being verbally abused when approaching parents about this. The Fiddlers do allow parents from Windy Nook to park their cars in their car park at the start and end of the school day.

Can I also remind parents and carers of the importance of not taking other people's children home without first letting the school know. Whilst you may feel this is helping another parent out, the school's agreed procedures are that children who fail to be collected return to their class teacher or the main school office so that their parents can be contacted. It leads to a great deal of parental / staff distress when children are not where they are expected to be.

Many Thanks for your cooperation with this.

Value of the month

Last month's value was **Responsibility**. The following pupils were successful in receiving Windy Winners Certificates for showing Responsibility.

Robins— Lola Wilkinson
Owls - Scarlett Mattinson
Mrs. Ferry - Olly O' Neil
Mrs. Preece - Summer Amour
Bluebells - Alexa Martin
Tulips - Amy Colligan
Snowdrops - Oliver Smith-Fiddler
Elms - Megan Longstaff
Mrs. Broomhall- Bradley Scott
Mr. Hawdon- Isabelle Tomkins

Well done to all of the winners last month. This month the value we are exploring is Trust.

What's happening?

- Dates for your diary
- Parental questionnaire
- Adverse weather procedures
- PTFA
- Governors

Charitable Giving

We have recently received a cheque from the local Council for £100 to help develop our school pond area. The COOP have also donated £500 towards the development of the outdoor classroom and teaching spaces.

The COOP have also chosen to support our bid to develop the Early Years Outdoor area via their Local Community Fund. If you have a co-op card, or know someone who does, please register your card to support our fund via this link

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/23620>
Alternatively visit the COOP at Beacon Lough, Low Fell or Fewster Square.



Dates for your Diary

Please note that some dates may change due to circumstances beyond the school's control.

Mon 10th	Reception Christmas Sing Along 9:15
Tues 11th	Reception Christmas Sing Along 9:15(adults only)
Wed 12th	Nursery Christmas Sing Along 11am—nursery closed pm School Pantomime 6pm start
Thur 13th	KS1 Christmas Production 9:15 School Pantomime 6pm start
Fri 14th	KS1 Christmas Production 9:15 (adults only) School Christmas Lunch Wear your Christmas jumper day
Mon 17th	UKS2 Christmas Party pm
Tues 18th	KS2 Carol Service at St. Albans 9:45 start Nursery Christmas party am—Nursery closed pm LKS2 Christmas party pm
Wed 19th	Rec Christmas Party am KS1 Christmas Party pm KS2 visit to Gateshead Stadium Pantomime- late return
Thu 20th	School finishes for Christmas—Toy Day

Parental Questionnaires

A huge thank you to all parents who responded to the parent questionnaire sent out in November. As a school we believe it is vital to get the opinions of parents on an annual basis in order that we can keep moving the school forward.

The Governors of the school collect and collate the responses and feedback to me as Head teacher. It was great for me to see such positive comments and results with a 99% positive response to a number of statements including children being treated fairly, the quality of the school curriculum, children being encouraged to do their best and parents being comfortable in approaching the school regarding any concerns. The 100% positive response to the statement about the school being a welcoming place is testament to the hard work of all of the staff, pupils and governors. When parents and carers made particular comments about the positive work of individual staff members these comments were passed on.

Similarly for those questions where the positive response was not quite as high, linked to the role of school governors and the state of the school grounds, Discussions have been held with how we can continue to raise money to improve the school grounds and how we can further inform parents about the role of school governors.

Article 12: The right to have your say and be listened to

Windy Nook Primary School

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PTFA

A huge thank you to all parents and pupils who supported the PTFA Film night, prize draw and bottle stall. The PTFA do a fantastic job of raising money through a range of different events. They have recently given the School

Council money to update the playground equipment and have again agreed to subsidise the cost of the KS2 Visit to the Pantomime at Gateshead Stadium. They are always looking for new members to help with ideas or to come along and lend a hand.

If you would like to be part of the PTFA please have a look at their page on the school website or speak to Miss Clough in Nursery, who is the teacher representative. Remember if you are doing any on line Christmas shopping Don't forget the PTFA are registered with www.easyfundraising.org All you need to do is register at the site and then when you do any on line shopping if you go through their site first they will make a donation to the school PTFA.

Christmas Performances

There are lots of performances scheduled in the 2 weeks before the holidays. It is most important that you arrive in time for the start of the performance as our safeguarding arrangements mean that latecomers cannot be admitted. **Please arrive on time to avoid disappointment.**



Remember!

We close for the Christmas break at the end of Thursday 20th December. We are back to school on Monday 7th January.

Article 31: The right to rest and play

School Funding Crisis

We recently sent out a letter identifying the funding crisis our schools are facing. If you haven't already then please sign our petition <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>
If you have then please check your Junk mail for a confirmation e-mail.

School uniform

Please remember that our school uniform guidelines states that children must wear black shoes, boots or trainers. Black leggings are not part of our school uniform.

As winter approaches please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing for the weather as we try to get the children out for playtime as much as possible. Hats, gloves, warm coats and waterproof shoes are needed.

Governor Update

We recently had a vacancy for a parent governor. Janeisha Sadler has been appointed as the successful candidate. The role of the Governing Body is incredibly important as they hold both the Head teacher and the school to account for the decisions that are made. Our Governing Body play a very proactive role in monitoring teaching and learning, monitoring parental and pupil opinions, making staffing and financial decisions as well as decisions linked to school policies and procedures.