

Excellence
for All!



Windy News

Email: windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

Reading for pleasure

As a school we regularly stress the importance of reading for pleasure and the associated improved academic achievement. However, a recent report by the Reading Agency has shown that reading for pleasure can result in increased empathy, improved relationships with others, reductions in the symptoms of depression and dementia, and improved wellbeing.

We continue to instil into the children the importance of reading for pleasure and have recently started a new initiative with staff reading a story or novel with the children on a daily basis. The lunchtime book club, reading plus intervention, reading buddies and the in school bookshop all give the children the opportunity to read for pleasure outside of the classroom.

Our recent World Book Day celebrations have helped to raise the profile of reading within school further. We are hugely grateful to Paul Atkinson, manager of WHSmith in the Metro Centre, who came into school and gave every child a book to help celebrate World Book Day. We also thank you the parents for supporting your children in getting involved. Each class held a competition linked to some aspect of World Book Day and congratulations to the winners, who all received a book as a prize. Their photos are displayed in the main admin corridor.

The Book Fair was once again well supported and we managed to raise £791 in commission which we will be using to update topic books and class libraries across school. This is a fantastic effort and we would like to thank you for attending the Book Fair with your child. The Key stage 1 Readathon also helped to raise £813 which will be used to buy phonics books that will aid the transition in reading between KS1 and KS2.

Our Road to Reading competition continues with each class competing on a weekly basis to have read the most books. We would urge you to continue to hear your child read on a regular basis, even when they enter KS2, and mark it in their diary so that they can feel part of the competition. You can make a huge difference! Parents are the most important educators in a child's life - even more important than their teachers - and it's never too early to start reading together.

Cricket—Felling

Following a really successful cricket roadshow held in school on the 28th February, the Allstars at Felling Cricket Club, NE10 9XD are offering a cricket coaching club which commences on Thursday 21st May for 8 weeks from 5-5:45pm. For more information contact Alex on [07736941141](tel:07736941141).

Sanitary protection

I'm sure you have seen in the press recently the campaign to end period poverty for girls and women in Britain. We have signed up to this scheme and so please make your children aware that if they are in need of any sanitary protection whilst in school to speak to a trusted adult.

Sports sponsorship

We are currently looking for a local business to sponsor our school t-shirts that are used by pupils in local sporting competitions. If you think you could help please contact the main school office.

March 2020

What's happening?

- ◆ Diary Dates
- ◆ Extra funding to support your child
- ◆ Staffing updates
- ◆ Pupil questionnaire
- ◆ Homework

Advance Notice for school closure

School will be closed on Friday 19th June for the school's occasional day.

Easter Egg Competition

As usual, we will be hosting our annual decorated egg competition very soon. Please can we remind you that the competition is for the best egg decorated by your child. There is a separate competition for parents who want to show off their own creative talent.

We also have limited space to display them so designs should be no bigger than A4 paper size.

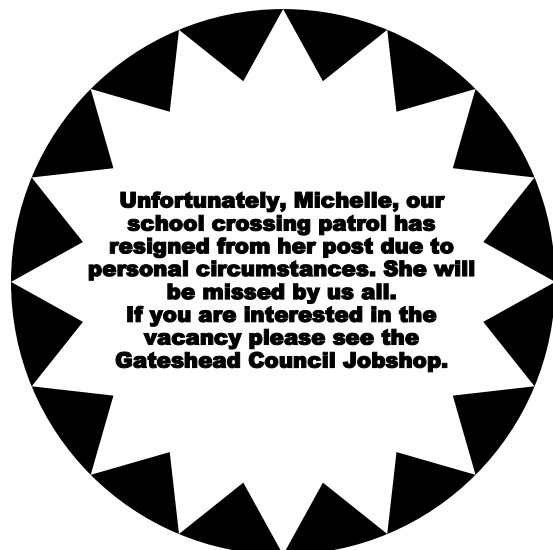
Children and adults are welcome to bring their eggs into school on Monday 30th March.

They will be displayed in the Hall on Wednesday 1st April at 8:40 and 3:00 for parents to view, and sent home on Thursday 2nd after class winners and prizes are awarded in our Windy Winners Assembly.

Windy Nook Primary School

Windy Nook Primary School
Albion Street
Gateshead
NE10 9BD
www.windynookprimary.org

Telephone: 0191 4694954



More Information

Coronavirus

The school receives daily updates from the Department for Education regarding the coronavirus. The advice continues to be that school needs to continue as normal. The following NHS link both summarises the symptoms and also sets out further actions to take should you or your children believe you are infected:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Staffing Updates

Mrs. Ferry has decided to retire at the end of the summer term. Not only has Mrs. Ferry been an excellent class teacher for the past 15 years, but she has also been a hugely important part of the management team as KS1 Phase Leader and English Lead. Luckily for us, Mrs. Ferry has agreed to come back in September on a part time basis. Mrs. Preece will take on the role as KS1 Phase Leader and Mr. Brown will be English lead. Following Miss Cowan's departure we are pleased to announce that Mrs. Samantha Montague will be starting after Easter as our new TA in the Dragonflies.

Dates for your Diary

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

- Tues 17th Mar Judo taster sessions
Wed 18th Mar Judo taster sessions
Y5 Tag Rugby
Reception multi sport festival
Gardening club tree planting
Thur 19th Mar FGB 5pm
Mon 23rd Mar Y3 /4 Hockey
Mon 30th Mar Easter egg designs brought into school
New Nursery starter home visits
Wed 1st Apr Easter egg display open to parents
8:40 , 3pm
Y6 Dance Festival at the Sage
Reports to parents
Thu 2nd Apr 9:45 a.m. Easter Service St. Albans
PTFA disco
Fri 3rd Apr School breaks up for Easter
Mon 20th Apr School re-opens after Easter holidays
Thur 23rd Apr Y5 /6 Visit Great North museum
Tues 28th Apr Y3/4 Visit Sunderland Winter Gardens
Mon 4th May KS1 Sats week
Fri 8th May School closed—Bank Holiday
Mon 11th May KS2 Sats week

Extra Funding to help support your child's learning

If you think you are (or would be) entitled to Free School Meals please fill in the form

If your child is in Years 3-6 and you think you are entitled to free school meals, please contact the school office to request a claim form. Your child could get extra funding to support their learning within school.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and is already receiving the free meals provided, but you would have been entitled, please also contact the school office and request the form anyway.

Even if you do not wish your child to take the school meal, our school will benefit from the grant attached to each pupil who is eligible to free school meals.

Currently, this is worth £1,320 per pupil per year and would be a huge loss to the school if parents do not claim. If eligible your child will receive the money on an annual basis until they leave primary school.

If you need any more information, please contact the school. Thank you.

Pupil questionnaire

The annual Ofsted questionnaire for pupils has gone out this term to pupils from Year 2 -Y6. Results were very positive, in particular with regards to encouraging pupil to look after both their physical and mental health, encouraging them to take on responsibilities around school and respecting people from other backgrounds and treating them equally. Individual class results were shared with staff so that they could talk to their pupils about any class specific issues.

Homework

We have an increasing number of children who are not completing their homework at home. Please support your children in doing this as it teaches them good work habits ready for when they move onto the next stage of their learning journey. Starting this week any child who has not completed their homework will miss all of Golden time.