

Excellence
for All!



Windy News

Email: windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

Parental Questionnaires

January 2022

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. This year we also included a section on the school's response to COVID restrictions.

The Governors of the school collect and collate the responses and then feedback to me as Head teacher. It was great for me to see such positive comments and results with a 100% positive response to a number of statements including children enjoying school, children feeling safe in school, children being treated fairly by staff, the school being a happy and welcoming place and parents feeling comfortable being able to approach the school with any questions or concerns.

The positive responses to the majority of statements about the school are 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.

A couple of parents did ask about school providing an after school provision for pupils similar to our breakfast club. We would love to be able to offer parents this service, however, we have no suitable space to be able to offer this. The main hall cannot be used as this would mean we would be unable to offer any after school clubs such as dance or any sports related activities.

It has been another difficult year for the whole school community and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the smooth running of the school for their continued support. We are hopeful we will be able to offer more face to face contact for parents and more visits and visitors for the children this year

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

Staffing / COVID updates

Coming back after the Christmas break, has provided the school with some challenges with regards staff absence due to COVID. The closure of the nursery for 2 days was not undertaken lightly, but in order to have the correct staff ratios and familiar adults present, we felt it was the only viable option. We are hopeful that we will not have to repeat this in any other area of school. We would like to welcome Mrs. McNally to the Nursery team.

Please find below the latest guidance from the Department for Education From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

What's happening?

◇ Dates for your diary

◇ Governor Focus

◇ Reminders

Parking around school

Although our school has some off-road parking, there are still drivers parking carelessly and blocking the drives of nearby residents or blocking in other cars while children are being delivered to or collected from school. As a school, we would like to keep good relationships with our neighbours, so please park considerately. There have also been incidences of parking on the grass verges and the bus stop. Please can you think carefully about where you park as it is your children that are at risk.

Article 19: The right to be safe

Remember!

We close for the February half term break at the end of the school day on Friday 18th February.

Windy Nook Primary School

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Punctuality

Good school attendance includes being there on time. The habit of good punctuality in primary school will help your child throughout their education and on into adult life and the work place.

**Lateness = Lost Learning
Did you know that**

5 mins late each day 3 days lost!

10 mins late each day 6.5 days lost!

15 mins late each day 10 days lost!

20 mins late each day 13 days lost!

30 mins late each day 19 days lost!

Danger Zone: As few as 19 missed days over the school year reduces your chances of success.

Please ensure your child comes to school on time.

***(Figures are calculated over a school year)**

We have a small number of families who are consistently late for school.

This is not only distressing for your child but wastes a huge amount of office staff time and disrupts the learning of the rest of the children in their class. Mrs. Conroy monitors this on a weekly basis and if your child continues to be late you can be referred to the Legal Intervention Team for prosecution.

Article 28 Children have the right to an education

Future dates to note

School will be closed on
Monday 2nd May 2022 for the
May Bank Holiday.

KS2 SATS start the week
beginning the 9th May.

School will be closed on
Thursday 30th June for the
school's occasional day and on
Friday 1st July as a day in lieu
of the Queen's Platinum
Jubilee, which is during half
term.

Polite Reminder

Please can you ensure that your children are supervised when leaving the school grounds. Once again we have had school equipment broken by children climbing on / playing with equipment that is meant for much younger children. This lack of respect for school property is hugely disappointing in this time of limited school budgets where equipment cannot be easily replaced.

Thank you for assisting us with this.

Dates for your Diary

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

| | |
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| Tues 18th Jan | 2 teams of Year 5—basketball competition Heworth |
| Fri 21st Jan | Oaks trip to Nissan |
| Tues 25th Jan | Assessment and Curriculum Committee meeting 4 - 5pm |
| Fri 28th Jan | Beeches trip Nissan |
| Thurs 3rd Feb | Year 6 SATs meeting for parents 5pm |
| Tues 8th Feb | Internet safety day |
| Wed 9th Feb | Year 5 Boccia Team |
| Mon 11th Feb | Parents' evening this week |
| Fri 18th Feb | Break up for half term |
| Mon 28th Feb | School reopens after half term |
| Wed 2nd Mar | Full Governing body meeting 5pm |
| Mon 14th Mar | School Assessment week SEN reviews this week |
| Mon 4th Apr | Easter egg designs brought into school |
| Tue 5th Apr | 9:45 am Easter Service St. Albans (TBC) Reports to parents |
| Fri 8th Apr | School breaks up for Easter holidays |

Healthy Eating in school

Please can I remind you that children are not allowed to bring sweets, chocolate bars, fizzy drinks or any nut based products in their packed lunches.

Breaktime snacks should be fruit or a healthy cereal bar.

Miss. Clough will be working with the School Council and the children this term on gathering views about lunchtimes and healthy eating.

Article 12 Children should have the right to say what they think should happen

School Uniform Reminders

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

Long hair should also be tied back and earrings should not be worn.

On PE days pupils should wear grey or black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, a white t shirt and a school jumper / cardigan.

Governor Focus

We are currently looking for a new parent governor to join our small and friendly governing body.

If you are interested in being nominated for the parent governor post a nomination form can be collected from the school office or requested by e mail. Nominations for candidates for the vacant post should be returned to school by 12 noon on Monday 31st January. For further information please contact

Mrs. Forrest or the Governor Support Service by email to GabrielleMains@Gateshead.gov.uk if you wish to discuss what is involved or would like more details.

Book Donations Please

Reception and nursery are currently trying to update their reading areas. They have posted a list of books on the website that they need. If anyone has any copies (in good condition) of the books needed that you no longer need please could you donate them to school.

