

Excellence  
for All!



# Windy News

Email: [windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:windybrookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk)

## Helping others

March 2022

### Comic relief

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in our Red Nose day activities. It was great to see the children enjoying the activities in school and we were hugely grateful to the contributions which helped us raise £534.37 for this great cause.

### Ukrainian Day

On Friday 8th April we will be holding a dress down day to raise funds for the UNICEF appeal for Ukraine. For a monetary contribution children can come to school in their own clothes or in the colours of the Ukraine flag.

### Clothes bank

As you may be aware we now have a clothes bank in the school car park. If you have any good quality clothes, shoes or bags please bring them to the main office and we will put them in the clothes bank for you. This will help raise funds for our school.

### Defibrillator Update

Last year we raised enough money to purchase a defibrillator. We were hoping that we could put it on an external school wall so that it can be used by the whole Windy Nook community, rather than just the school community. Unfortunately this is proving very costly. We are working with the Rotary Club and Gateshead Council to see if we can come up with some financial agreement so that we can make the defibrillator available to all. We will keep you updated. Until that point we will purchase the defibrillator for use in school.

Article 27 You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met.

## Pupil questionnaires

This term we have completed our annual KS2 Questionnaires. These are based on the questionnaire Ofsted provide for pupil to complete during an Ofsted school inspection.

It was great to see the responses

- 94% of children feel safe in school all / most of the time
- 91% of pupils believe their behaviour in school is good most / all of the time.
- 98% of pupils agreed or strongly agreed that our school encourages them to respect people from other backgrounds and treat everyone equally
- 98% of pupils agreed or strongly agreed that school lets them know their rights and helps them to understand their rights
- 98% of pupils believed that either bullying doesn't happen in school or when it does happen teachers are good / really good at resolving it.
- Individual staff are given their own class's feedback so they can identify any concerns that may need to be looked at.

Article 20—You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

### What's happening?

- ◆ Diary Dates
- ◆ Easter Celebrations
- ◆ Governor update
- ◆ Punctuality
- ◆ Handwriting

### Free School Meals / Holiday Vouchers

Regardless of which year group your child is in, if you think you may qualify for means tested free school meals, please contact the main office for a claim form, or apply online at <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals> Even if you do not wish your child to take the school meal, you may receive food shopping vouchers for school holiday periods from Gateshead Council. This Easter holiday you will receive vouchers of £15 per child per week. Our school will also benefit from the grant attached to each pupil who is eligible. Currently, this is worth £1,300 per pupil and would be a huge loss to the school if parents do not claim.

This grant is used to provide extra staffing in school.

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

### Staffing update

Mrs. Little has decided to take Early Retirement from her role as PPA teacher in school. She has worked at Windy Nook for 18 years during which time she has supported a huge number of children across the school. We wish her well in her retirement and hope to see her back to cover any staff absences.

## Dates for your Diary

### Windy Nook Primary School

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Albion Street  
Gateshead  
NE10 9BD  
www.windynookprimary.org

Telephone: 0191 4694954  
www.windynookprimary.org



### Trip voluntary contributions

As more school trips begin to take place, we would like to remind you that although we request payment by voluntary contribution, if enough contributions are not made to cover the cost of the trip then it cannot go ahead and the trip will be cancelled.

### 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. The Governor Attendance panel will meet with families whose children's attendance is a concern on Wednesday 6th April.

*Article 20—You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.*

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

Tues 29th Mar	Year 1 Phonics meeting for parents 3:30
Fri 1st Apr	UKS2 visit Centre for Life
Mon 4th Apr	Easter egg designs brought into school
Tues 5th Apr	Reports to parents
Wed 6th Apr	9:45 am Easter Service St. Albans
Fri 8th Apr	School breaks up for Easter holidays—children can wear colours for Ukraine
Mon 25th Apr	Back to school
Tues 3rd May	KS1 visit Hall Hill Farm
Thur 5th May	Reception vision screen
Mon 9th May	KS2 Sats this week
Mon 16th May	KS1 Sats this week
Tues 17th May	Governors Resources committee
Fri 20th May	Y6 swimming lessons start
Fri 27th May	Jubilee Day more information to follow
Mon 6th Jun	Y6 Fun Run- Saltwell Park
Wed 15th Jun	Break up for half term
Thur 30th June	Back to school
	Year 1 Phonics check
	Y6 residential—Dukeshouse Wood
	School closed occasional Day

### Easter Celebrations

As school begins to open up to parents and carers we would like to remind you of a couple of events that will be happening linked to Easter.

The Easter Service will take place at St. Alban's church on Wednesday 6th April at 9:45. As we are still restricted on numbers in the church, we would ask that only those parents of Year 5 pupils, Sign Squad and the musicians who have been asked to perform attend the church for the service.

We will also be holding our Easter Egg competition. Children can bring their egg design into school on MONDAY 4TH AND TUESDAY 5TH April. They will be displayed in the main hall and parents can view the Egg display from 3pm on Tuesday 5th April. We have limited space to display them so try not to let your designs get too big.

The eggs will be judged on Wednesday 6th April and the winners will be presented with their prize during the Windy Winner's assembly on Thursday 7th April.

### Governor Update

Our long serving community governor and ex parent Victoria Billings has resigned her role. On behalf of the staff and governors I would like to thank Victoria for the commitment she has given to the role over the years. We would like to welcome Dan Griffin onto the governing body as our new community governor. We look forward to working with him in the future.

### Handwriting

After the Easter holidays the whole school will be having a focus on improving handwriting and presentation. Lockdown appears to have had a negative impact on a number of children's handwriting and presentation skills. We will have a whole school rewards and sanctions approach. I have asked staff to encourage children to produce their best handwriting at all times and so on some occasions children will be asked to redo a piece of work if it is not to an acceptable standard.