



Windy News

Email: windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

Helping others Down Syndrome Day

Down Syndrome Day occurs on 21st March and aims to raise global awareness of Down Syndrome. As a school we are taking part in Dress up for Down Syndrome on Friday 24th March and Matthew Atkinson, a young adult with Down Syndrome will present an assembly where he will tell us about Down Syndrome and tell us what he has achieved in his life so far. Matthew will present us with a book called 'Look at me'. It shows 37 members of DSNE photographed in 2017 and again in 2022. The idea behind the book is to let everyone know we all have dreams and aspirations. Any money we raise will be sent to DSNE.

Clothes bank

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 that is in the school car park for you. This will help raise funds for our school.

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

Mental Health Workshops

Years 5 and 6 took part in a drama-based workshop all about mental health and well-being. The workshop was a fantastic opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings about a wide range of topics. We also took part in some meditation and grounding exercises to support our mental health. Damn Cheek, the theatre company who ran the workshop, will now use our thoughts to write a play which will help young people to better understand mental health and well-being. We will attend a shared workshop session with nine other schools from Gateshead on 30th March where we will work together to develop the play alongside Damn Cheek.

Article 12: you have the right to an opinion and to be listened to.

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

92% of pupils agreed school encourages me to look after my emotional and mental health

92% of pupils believe their behaviour in school is good most / all of the time.

96% of pupils agreed or strongly agreed that our school encourages them to respect people from other backgrounds and treat everyone equally

94% of pupils agreed or strongly agreed that school lets them know their rights and helps them to understand their rights

93% 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. They have shared them with their class and asked how we can improve it for those children.

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.

March 2023

What's happening?

- ♦ Diary Dates
- ♦ Easter Celebrations
- ♦ Punctuality
- ♦ School meals price increase
- ♦ PTFA spring discos

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

Lates

Don't forget from September 2023 the school day will start at 8:45. The gates will open at 8:35 so that you have time to get your children to the classroom doors.

Registration will take place at 8:45 and the classroom doors and gates will be locked at this point. Any child arriving at school after this point will get a late mark.

Windy Nook Primary School

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Trip voluntary contributions

We appreciate that the cost of living crisis impacts everyone no matter what their circumstances. We believe it is really important that our children get to go on school visits and we try to subsidise these trips as much as possible. Can we 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 in later life.

*(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.

After Easter, the Governor Attendance panel will meet with families whose children's attendance and punctuality is a concern.

Please ensure your child comes to school on time.

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.

Dates for your Diary

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

Tues 28th Mar	9:45 am Easter Service St. Albans
	Y5 / 6 Dance festival pm
Wed 29th Mar	Easter egg designs brought into school
Wed 29th Mar	New nursery stay and play session
Thur 30th Mar	Year 5/6 production at St. Alban's Church Hall
Fri 31st Mar	School breaks up for Easter holidays
Mon 17th Apr	Back to school
Tues 18th Apr	Y3/4 Quick Sticks Hockey
Tues 25th Apr	Y3 /4 Discovery Museum visit
	Year 5/6 Puberty Talk
Mon 1st May	BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed 3rd May	Year 5 Beamish visit
Fri 5th May	King's coronation celebration
Mon 8th May	BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED
Tues 9th May	KS2 Sats this week
Mon 15th May	KS1 Sats this week
Mon 22nd May	Science week
Thu 25th May	Governors Resources committee
Fri 26th May	Y6 Fun Run- Saltwell Park
	Y3 /4 Cricket taster sessions

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 Tuesday 27th March at 9:45. As we are 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 WEDNESDAY 29TH AND THURSDAY 30th MARCH. They will be displayed in the main hall and parents can view the Egg display from 3pm on Thursday 30th March and before school on Thursday 31st March. We have limited space to display them so try not to let your designs get too big.

PTFA Spring discos

The PTFA have organised spring discos to take place on Tuesday 28th March 2023

Reception 3.00pm to 3.45 pm

Years 1,2,3 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Years 4,5,6 5:15pm – 6:15pm.

It is £2 per child (please pay on the door).
Tuck shop – goodies 50p each.

ALL children must be collected by an adult from the school hall at the end of the event.

School Meal Price increase

I am writing to inform you that from Monday 17th April, the school meal price will be £2.90 per day, or £14.50 per week.

Our school meals are provided by Gateshead Council's School Catering Service. The service has faced rising labour and food costs and have therefore increased the price of school meals that we have to pay. As a school we will continue to subsidise the cost of your child's meals; however, with the current funding crisis in school we are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain the levels of subsidy.