

THANK YOU - UNIFORM RECYCLING

Thank you so much to everyone who has so kindly donated uniform to our recycling programme. The shelves look much fuller again now! This is such a great programme that helps our children and their families as well as helping us do our bit towards saving the planet. Any school items are gratefully received and can be dropped off at school at any time.

ATTENDANCE REMINDER

As we continue to strive for excellence at Usworth Colliery Primary School, I want to address a crucial aspect of our children's education—attendance.

Regular attendance is essential for your child's academic success and social development. It ensures they do not miss out on important lessons, school activities, and the development of their friendships which are fundamental in these formative years. Research shows that students with higher attendance rates are more likely to achieve better grades and enjoy school more thoroughly. Currently, our school's attendance rate stands at 93%. Meaning we are ranked 48th out of 72 schools! We are aiming to improve this figure to ensure all our students can benefit as much as possible from the education we provide. **Every day counts**, and missing school can significantly impact learning, especially when it comes to complex subjects that build on previous knowledge. In our ongoing efforts to support every student's education, please note that attendance letters will be sent out next week as part of our regular reviews. These are intended to inform you of your child's attendance record **and provide support if there are challenges affecting their school attendance.**

We kindly ask for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and punctually. Together, we can provide them with the best foundation for a bright and successful future.

RECEPTION VISIT TO TYNEMOUTH

This week and last week Reception visited St Mary's Lighthouse. Everyone climbed the 137 steps to the top, we saw seals resting on the rocks, created sand art, went rock pooling and watched the causeway disappear as the tide came in. The children had a wonderful time and many thanks to the parents who came along to help.



WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Talliah 2CH came to show me her own story about a magic apple that changes a dull and gloomy world into a bright and colourful one. Her story was super, her handwriting beautiful and she even tried some tricky punctuation.

Keira 2CH also wrote a story based on the book *Flowers* but her magic instrument was a pink pencil and her character changed the world by drawing a friend

Melissa 2CB wrote her story about a magic guitar that filled the world with beautiful music to make everyone happy and her handwriting made me very happy- it is beautiful!

Aronas 2CB has moved from tramline books into a KS2 writing book because his writing is neat, joined and his letters are accurately sized. In his story, magic glasses helped everyone see the beautiful world hidden behind the dull grey city!
Well done all of you!

SPOTLIGHT ON MATHS

We pride our mathematicians in school as critical thinkers, problem solvers, children who take risks and are resilient when things are tricky. As a staff, we always try to help children understand the connections between different areas of Maths and also the Maths they have learned previously. This is a huge strength of our curriculum. This year, we have had a staff training focus on addition and subtraction and children have really risen to the challenge, learning lots of new and important vocabulary to help them develop their reasoning. Well done everyone!

To really help your child at home, practising their addition and subtraction facts with them is so important. This could be helping them remember which numbers add to make 10. It is also especially important that they know what combinations of numbers add to make all the numbers up to 10 too as this really cements their ability to add when bridging ten and then apply this to larger numbers later. If they know that $3 + 5 = 8$, then they also know $30 + 50 = 80$ and so on.

Have a look at your children's work on our school website by following this link

<https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/blog/2023-10-19-20-34-43-subjects-in-the-spotlight>



JUNIOR SKETCH FOR SURVIVAL 2024

As a school we are promoting the opportunity for children to take part in this global competition. More than 35,000 species of animals are threatened with extinction, and here is how you can help. Submit your animal or wildlife themed art for exhibition & auction to help raise funds & awareness for this amazing cause. For more information or if your child wishes to take part tell them to speak to Miss Sheldon and visit

<https://explorersagainstextinction.co.uk/initiatives/sketch-for-survival/junior-sketch-for-survival/>



SCHOOL PHOTOS REMINDER

Over the next couple of days your children will be bringing home with them a letter to give consent for them to have their class photo taking on Wednesday 12th June. If you have more than one child at school, each child needs their own form completing. If we do not have a consent form your child/children will not be able to have their school photo taken so please complete the consent forms and return them to school no later than Friday 7th June.

LUNCHTIME DINOSAUR THEME DAY IS COMING SOON!

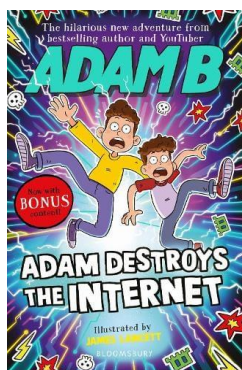
Next Thursday - 16th May 2024 Our school meal provider is running a special themed menu. If your child doesn't normally have a school meal but would like to try the dinosaur day menu, please contact the office to arrange. I have attached the menu to the bottom of the newsletter so you can have a look at what is on offer.



HELPING THE HOMELESS

One of our Y4 pupils is currently collecting crisp packets that can be recycled and used to make sleeping bags for the homeless. She is collecting for a local company 'Nite Lite CIC' The foil inside the crisp packets acts as an insulator helping the sleeping bag stay warm. However, it takes 150 crisp packets to make one sleeping bag. She is asking for your help by bringing into school any empty crisp packets (only the ones with foil insides) which she will then take to the company. For more information see the images at the bottom of this newsletter.

RECOMMENDED READ AND NEW RELEASES ADAM DESTROYS THE INTERNET BY ADAM B



The YouTube sensation follows up Adam B Wins the Internet with the madcap story of a parallel dimension where technology never happened and there's no such thing as online.

Thirteen-year-old Adam has made a lot of mistakes in his life, but this has to be the BIGGEST. Thanks to a MASSIVE fight with his little brother Callum, the mysterious and magical computer algorithm Popularis Incrementum has exploded - and accidentally transported them to a completely different world! No, not just a different world. A different dimension: one where Adam and Callum were never born and the internet doesn't exist, and neither does any of the technology they know and love and rely on to make their epic YouTube videos! Will the brothers survive in this strange Altiverse where everything is THE SAME but DIFFERENT? Can they stop an EVIL VILLAIN from sabotaging their dad's world-changing technology when in this universe their dad doesn't even know who they are? And, most importantly of all: WILL THEY EVER FIND A WAY BACK? HOME?

SUMMER TERM DATES

Monday 13th May – Friday 17th May KS2 SATs Week

Thursday 16th May - Reception Mini Movers Intergenerational Visits

Friday 17th May – 2CH Class Assembly

Saturday 18th May – Science is My Superpower Visit to Newcastle

Monday 20th May - Y4 Beamish 4VM

Tuesday 21st May - Y4 Beamish 4SB

Tuesday 21st May - Y5 Athlete visit to school

Friday 24th May - 4VM Class Assembly

HALF TERM HOLIDAY Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Tuesday 4th June – Y5 Green careers workshops

Wednesday 5th June – Y5 Science is My Superpower Visit to Newcastle

Thursday 6th June – Base Stay and Play 1:30pm

Friday 7th June – 4SB Class Assembly

Wednesday 12th June – Class photographs

Wednesday 12th June - Y6 Kooth Mental Health workshop

Thursday 13th June - Reception Mini Movers Intergenerational Visits

Thursday 13th June – Geography Fieldwork Showcase

Friday 14th June - Base 1 Beamish

Monday 17th June – 1EP Washington library

Tuesday 18th June – NSPCC Workshops Y2, Y5 and Y6

Friday 21st June - PSHCE/Mental Health Open Morning

Friday 21st June - 5GS class assembly

Monday 24th June – 1RD Washington library
 Tuesday 25th June – KS1 Sports Day (pm)
 Friday 28th June – KS2 Sports Day (pm)
 Tuesday 2nd July – RAW Pizza Express visit
 Friday 5th July - Washington 60th Anniversary picnic
 Monday 8th July - Y5 Heritage Day Beacon of Light
 Tuesday 9th July – RDB Pizza Express visit
 Thursday 11th July - Reception Mini Movers Intergenerational Visits
 Thursday 11th July - Y6 performance
 Friday 12th July – End of Year reports
 Friday 12th July - Summer Fair
 Monday 15th July - Wilderness Trip 6CS
 Tuesday 16th July - Wilderness Trip 6JM
 Friday 19th July – Y6 Leavers Assembly
 Friday 19th July – Break up for Summer holidays

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES SUMMER TERM

Day	Club name	Staff	Location
Monday	KS1 Homework	Mrs Hilton	2CH Classroom
Monday	Review Crew	Mrs Kaur	Base 3
Monday	Mindful Colouring	Mrs Allen	3LC Classroom
Monday	Lego	Mrs Green and Mrs Edmunds	KS2 Intervention Room
Tuesday	KS2 Homework	Miss Skeen	5GS Classroom
Tuesday	Gardening	Mrs Lowe	3RL Classroom/Wild Garden
Tuesday	Yoga and Positivity	Mrs Comby	3LC Classroom
Tuesday	Games and jigsaws	Mrs Dixon	1RD Classroom
Tuesday			
Tuesday			

Day	Club name	Staff	Location
Monday STARTS 13 th MAY	Football Skills boys/Girls	Mr Rutherford	School Field
Thursday STARTS 2 nd MAY	Football Skills Girls	Mr Rutherford	School Field

TWITTER STARS

Remember to check out this week's Twitter Stars! These are tweeted on: @TStarKS1_UCPS or @TStarKS2_UCPS. They also appear on @UCPrimary and on our website Twitter feed

HOUSE POINTS

Check out our house point counter at <https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/house-point-counter>. Children are awarded points throughout the week for following the Colliery Code. This week's classes with the most house points are:
 1st – 3RL 2nd – 5JW 3rd – 5JS

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

These classes have the highest attendance this week. Well done everyone!
 Whole school attendance – 93.82%
 EYFS/KS1 RAW - 98.91% KS2 3LC 99.32% BASE 1CJ-100%

Mrs Alison Forster Headteacher

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NOTICES

