



20th April 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE RECEPTION TEACHERS

This half term Reception are learning about recycling and reusing. If you have any of the following, please can you wash them out & send into school for us to use so we can repurpose them.

- Plastic milk cartons
- Plastic/ metal bottle tops/caps
- Corks
- Tins (which have had a ring pull lid so they aren't sharp around the edge)

Thanks for your support Mrs Walker, Mrs Burrell and Miss Davidson

UNIFORM RECYCLING

It has been wonderful to have so much uniform being recycled and worn again by our children. Thank you so much to everyone who had brought in preloved uniform. Due to the huge success we have had with our uniform recycling stand, we are now running out of items (especially the bigger sizes!). If you have any items of uniform that your child has out-grown, please donate it to school. We will sort, wash and refold it and it can be used again by others. Uniform can be given in at the office or to your child's class teacher or any member of staff and everything is greatly appreciated! Items we can recycle include:

Navy sweatshirt or cardigan

Gold or yellow 'polo' shirt

Navy, black or grey skirt or pinafore

Navy, black or grey trousers

School summer dresses/skirts in either blue or gold/yellow checks.

AND KS1 REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT UNDERWEAR

If you also have any girls and boys underwear for the KS1 spare clothes box please could you also send these items into school. We are ideally looking for sizes from 5 years to around 9 years old and again we will re-wash everything and sort it so if children in KS1 need a quick change we have clothing available.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT READING BOOKS IN KS1 BASE & THRIVE

We are thrilled to let you know that we have purchased some new reading books to be used at home and in phonics. These books are essential for teaching your children to read. However, we would also like to share that over this year and last we have spent **£10,000** on books to restock our supplies as hundreds are not being returned or are returned in such disrepair that we cannot use them.

This is a plea to you all to look after the books and to return them to school as we are not in a position to finance anymore stock. We were lucky this time that we were able to get a grant from the English Hub but we have exhausted our entitlement and there is no more money available. It is a shame that such a substantial amount has been spent on replenishing stock rather than other things for your children.

You may have noticed that we send books home weekly regardless of whether children have returned their previous book. We do this as phonics and reading are the foundation to the whole curriculum. We are passionate about all children being readers as reading skills are a predictor for success in later life. Please support us to do this by taking care of the books and returning them to school in good condition.

If you have any books at home, we are having a book amnesty until Easter so please return them and there will be no charge. From Easter every lost or damaged book will be charged at £4.50.

YEAR 5 HOOKED BY THEIR NEW NOVEL

On Tuesday, Year 5 enjoyed experiencing life at Camp Green Lake the fictional setting of our new class text Holes. With our new uniforms on, we marched to the hall for our morning briefing by the warden before going outside to dig holes to build character. We were delighted to see the water truck arrive so that we could have a quick drink before returning to our important work. All of year 5 are now so excited to explore the story further over the next few weeks.



POLITE REMINDER ABOUT PARKING ON THE VERGES

Last term we had a number of complaints from local residents about the illegal parking outside of the school on the grass verges as well as double parking and parking on the junction. As a community we need to consider the safety of our children and also the safety of the surrounding residents. Alternative parking in the car park at the back of the school has lots of space and is only a short walk to the main gates. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter. Back in October we met with the local authority transport department to look at ways to improve the access into the school and they are currently working on a travel plan for us.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON MIND

Washington Mind are holding a "back on the rack" pre loved event on Saturday 27th April. It is free entry and an opportunity to grab some bargains. There is also an option to sell if people would like too. Please see the poster in the notices section at the bottom of the newsletter for more information.

LITTLE ONIONS CLUB

The Little Onions Club has opened in Usworth Park in the Pavilion and is offering lots of exciting activities locally. See the flyer at the bottom of this newsletter or we have flyers to take away in the school entrance outside the main office.

WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Chloe 6JM came to show me her hilarious parody of the three little pigs that she is currently working on in her English lessons. She has drafted one of her paragraphs to create atmosphere and a well-developed setting but I think what she has done best is make the reader think -What if the wolf was underfed and looking for friendship? Well done Chloe I can't wait to read the finished story!



FOSTER WITH NORTH EAST

Local schools have been contacted by Foster North East who are looking to talk to adults who have considered fostering or who would like to talk informally about the opportunities locally to become involved in fostering. There are leaflets and information packs in the school foyer and I have attached a leaflet to the bottom of this newsletter and the QR code to take you to their website.

SUMMER TERM DATES

Monday 15th April - Children and staff return to school
Thursday 18th April - Reception Mini Movers Intergenerational Visits
Monday 22nd April – EYFS Master In Number at home workshops for parents 2pm
Tuesday 23rd April – Y1 Master In Number at home workshops for parents 2pm
Wednesday 24th April - Washington Academy visit to Y5
Friday 26th April- Y2 Master In Number at home workshops for parents 2pm
Friday 26th April – Y5 Visits Washington Academy to see performance
Monday 29th April – Y2 visiting Washington Wildfowl Park
Monday 29th April - Y3 Water Workshop with Northumbrian Water
Tuesday 30th April - Y5 School Nursing Team
Thursday 2nd May - 1EP Discovery Museum
Friday 3rd May – Phonics Y1 Parents Meeting and classroom visits (9am)
Friday 3rd May - RDB visit to St Mary's Lighthouse
Monday 6th May - school closed for Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7th May - RAW visit to St Mary's Lighthouse
Thursday 9th May – 1RD Discovery Museum
Friday 10th May – 2CB Class Assembly
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 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

All these after school clubs start NEXT WEEK

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			

These clubs start slightly later due to Terry's availability

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.

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

These classes have the highest attendance this week. Well done everyone!

Whole school attendance – 93.91%

EYFS/KS1 96.82% - 1RD KS2 99.43% - 3LC

Mrs Alison Forster Headteacher

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NOTICES



mind Washington
Back on the Rack Event

27th April 1pm - 3pm
The Life House,
Grasmere Terrace,
NE38 7LP

Come along to our free entry pre-loved event to grab some top quality bargains - there will be something for everyone

Let us know if you would like to sell your preloved items
£10 per table



Hello we are new here to Usworth Park. We have recently taken up residence in the new pavilion we have called

The Nook.

We have new classes for pre-schoolers and after school clubs.

FREE Storytelling time.

Games club, cooking and so much more.

Check out our FB page for more information or pop in and see us.

Foster *with*
NORTH EAST

**Share your home.
Shape their future.**

Could you offer the right home, at the right time
for a child or young person through fostering?
Find out more at fosterwithnortheast.org.uk



Foster with North East is England's first regional support hub for foster carers, combining 12 Local Authorities from all over the North East of England.

We are looking for people with different experiences and backgrounds to care for babies, children and young people who are just as individual as our carers.

Whether it's fostering for a night, a week, a month a year or more, by sharing your heart and your home, you can shape a child's life and future for the better.



We're here to support you as you apply to be a foster carer and we look forward to working together to build better futures for children and young people in the region.

If you think you could share your home to shape the future of children and young people in the North East, we'd love to hear from you.

Phone: 0800 917 7771

Email: contact@fosterwithnortheast.org.uk

Website: fosterwithnortheast.org.uk

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