



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

## Right of the Fortnight

**Article 29** - Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to school. I can't believe it is 2025 already! We would like to pass on our good wishes to you all for a happy and healthy New Year and, as always, we look forward to working with you in supporting your children here at school over the coming year.



It has been lovely to see everyone back in school and everyone working hard. It's like we've never been away - well done everyone!

As always, we endeavour to keep you updated with everything we do at school, either through these newsletters, the website and on our social media pages.

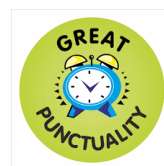
## A reminder about applying for a school place

If your child is due to start school in **September 2025**, please make sure you have applied for their school place before **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. Please note that if your child attends our nursery, they do not automatically get a place in our Reception class.

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

I want to remind everyone of the reviewed attendance policy and related guidance that is available on our website. Being in school every day that it is open, is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development. The policy highlights what support is available and the procedures that you need to follow if your child is going to be absent from school. Please take the time to read the reviewed attendance policy and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I also just wanted to remind you that children can come into school from 8.35am - 8.45am. It is really important that your child is in school on time as they can miss learning time if they are late and we can get lots of things done in that short space of time. It can also make children feel anxious about coming into school after everyone else. Please support us and your children by getting them into school on time. Thank you.



## **School Uniform Policy**

The start of the New Year is a good time to remind everyone of the school uniform policy. This also includes information about jewellery and hairstyles. The policy is on

the website and it includes information about where you can get help with uniform if you are finding it challenging with uniform costs.

### Winter weather!

As always, our weather is so unpredictable so please ensure that you send your child into school with coats, hats, scarves and gloves as playtimes can still be chilly. All items need to be clearly labelled with their name. When it is really cold, we do reduce the length of time the children spend outside at any one time.

### Scamps Holiday Childcare - February Half-Term (Mon 24<sup>th</sup> -Fri 28th)

Our childcare provision is going to be available again this coming February. Knowing our numbers well in advance will help us plan best for staffing and activities - so booking is open from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Childcare runs from 8.30am until 4pm. The cost of the childcare is £12.50 per day or £50 if you book all 5 days in advance with a 10% discount for any siblings. This means that any sibling booked in for all 5 days would cost £45. If you are interested, and your child already attends Scamps, then please book and pay via the school gateway. If you are not registered with Scamps and you would like your child to attend one or more of the holiday club days, then please contact the school office to request details of how to register and pay online.

### School Library

Just a reminder that the school library is open every day except Tuesday after school. It is lovely to see families using it and we want you to encourage your friends at school to use it too! Please feel free to loan a book for yourself - we have a good selection of adult books to choose from.



### Recycling Plastic Tubs

Greene King is running 'Tub2Pub', a recycling campaign to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support and recycle plastics. If you have got any plastic tubs from Christmas that you would like to recycle, send these into school before Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January we will drop them off at one of the collection sites. For all tubs that are recycled, some money will be donated to Macmillan. Any plastic boxes such as sweet, biscuits, crackers can be accepted. For further information follow the link:

<https://www.tub2pub.co.uk/tub2pub/>

### Year 2 Art and Design

As part of our art and design curriculum this term, the children in year 2 will be finding out all about the fashion designer Hugo Pineda. Hugo is widely considered the premier tie-dye artist on the scene today. With each wring and fold, he continues to develop the infinite possibilities of the art of tie-dye. Whether it's a t-shirt or a tapestry, each Hugo is a unique creation, a work of art. As part of their learning the children will practise using the techniques on samples of cloth but will then get the opportunity to design and create their own t-shirt. The children are already very excited about this opportunity so please send in an old, plain cream or white cotton t-shirt before the 15<sup>th</sup> of January. They will then be able to bring home their very own creation to wear!



## **School Census Day - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

Did you know that the government calculates part of our funding based on the number of pupils that have a school meal on census day? We would love it if as many children as possible could have school dinner on this day. Pizzas, sausages and cheese toasties will be on the menu as they are firm favourites with the children. If your child is in Key Stage 2 and usually has a packed lunch, please send £2.80 on the day for their lunch.

## **After-school clubs**

**Clubs will start the week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.** You will be able to book a place for your child through the app. Clubs will have limited spaces so you must book early to avoid disappointment. You will not be able to book a place for your child once booking has closed on the app. You will receive a message via the app confirming if you have been allocated a place. We do want as many children as possible to enjoy after-school clubs and if a club is full, opportunities will be given to those who may not have previously attended activities.

**Y6 Study Classes** - a variety of maths and English study classes will be available for invited children in Y6. Letters will be sent out to invited children early next week and it is really important that they attend every session to gain the maximum benefit. Study classes run from 3.15pm - 4.30pm, starting week beginning **20<sup>th</sup> January**.

Other clubs - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

<b>Tuesday</b> - Dance Club with a coach	Years 1 - 3
<b>Wednesday</b> - KS2 Drawing Club	Years 3 - 6
KS2 Mindfulness and Wellbeing Club with Mrs Armstrong	Years 3 - 6
<b>Thursday</b> - Music Club with Mrs Stamper	Rec - Y6
KS1 Drama Club with Mrs Ferguson	Rec - Y2
Science Club with Mrs Atkinson	Y3 and Y4
Eco-Club with Mrs White	Y3 - Y6

## **Key Dates to Remember**

- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January - School Census Day
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Year 2 visit Ferryhill Methodist Church
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January - Y6 Parents SATs Information Meeting 5.30pm
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - Year 2 Captain Cook Visit
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January - Year 3 and 4 Careers Day
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January - Year 1 Hopetown Visit
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January - Reception Parent Storytime
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January - Year 1 Parent Storytime
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Year 6 Parent Storytime
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February - Year 2 Parent Storytime
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February - Year 4 Ferryhill Library Visit
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Year 4 Parent Storytime
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Year 3 Parent Storytime
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Year 1 Class Assembly

- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Reception Stay and Play
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Nursery Stay and Play
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February - Rights Respecting Week
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February - Valentines Disco  
KS1 - 15:30 till 16:45                      KS2 - 17:00 till 18:30

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term**

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March - National Careers Week
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Exploring Careers - Year 2-6
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 Library Visit
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March - Nursery Parent Storytime @ 2:30pm
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March - Year 2 Library Visit
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March - Year 2 Visit to Washington Wetlands
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Year 6 Library Visit
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Year 1 Library Visit
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Mother's Day Lunches
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Parent Discussion Week
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - World Poetry Day
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Red Nose Day
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Northern School of Art Workshops (whole school)
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April - Adam Bushnell Visit
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Egg Competition

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Last Day of Term**

