



Marine Park First School Newsletter

Safety and Welfare

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of our pupils we would like to remind you and ask for your cooperation in the following matters:

1. Several of our children have a peanut allergy so **please do not send** peanuts in your child's packed lunch.
2. Due to the very large number of children and adults in the yard at the start and end of the day, pupils (and parents) **must** dismount scooters and bikes when they are inside the school gates. This includes pre-school children. To avoid any temptation, we would prefer it if bikes and scooters were stored in the racks near the gates and not brought down to the classroom doors.
3. Please supervise your children if using the slide, climbing slope, timber trail and outdoor classroom before and after school. During the school day the children climb **up** the slope and slide **down** the slide. In the interests of safety and consistency, please ensure your children, including any pre-school children, also play the same way.
4. Dogs (or any other animals!!) are not permitted on the school site. Could we also request that you do not tie your dogs up too near to the school gates so that the children and parents can enter and leave the school site in safety?
5. Parking is extremely limited on the school site. Please do not park in the disabled bays at any time (including dropping off and collecting from **club and Nursery**) unless you have badge permitting you to do so or you have arranged this with the school. We have noticed and appreciate that almost all parents/carers are showing consideration to this requirement. Please continue to leave these parking spaces available for parents and visitors that have a need to use these bays and use the large car park opposite the school or the car park opposite the church. Traffic camera vans monitor parking on an ad-hoc basis to ensure that parents/carers park



Admissions 2018

From Friday 8 September 2017, parents/carers of pupils in Nursery and Year 4 can apply for their child's school place in Reception 2018 or Middle School (Y5) 2018. North Tyneside publish the [essential guide to admissions](#) on the council website. This guide outlines the admission criteria, key dates and the application process.



Apply online at www.northtyneside.gov.uk

PTA Meeting



A final reminder that the first PTA meeting of the year will be held on Thursday 21st September 2017 at 8.00pm in the Beefeater. It would be wonderful to see new members in addition to the loyal hard working group that contribute so much to the pupils' experiences at our school.

The Curriculum



This half term's Parent Information Sheet has been included in your child's homework book or inside the learning journeys. It shows some of the things your child will be learning this half term and how you can support them. The Parent Information Sheets are also available for you to download from the Parentzone area of our website. We have also attached a handy laminated timetable to the book bags Y1-4 to help establish routines for bringing things to school.

Forthcoming Events

- ☺ 20/9/17– 22/9/17 Y4 Residential to Robinwood
- ☺ 21/9/17 PTA Meeting at Beefeater 8 p.m.
- ☺ 26/9/17 Reception Parents Information about learning meeting 7 p.m.
- ☺ 5/10/17 Funday Lunch Event
- ☺ 10/10/17 Parents' Evening
- ☺ 12/10/17 Parents' Evening
- ☺ 17/10/17 Nursery and Reception (EYFS) Harvest Assembly 9.15 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
- ☺ 18/10/17 Year 1 Harvest Assembly 9.15 a.m.
- ☺ 18/10/17 Year 2 Harvest Assembly 2.30 p.m.
- ☺ 19/10/17 Year 3 Harvest Assembly 9.15 a.m.
- ☺ 19/10/17 Year 4 Harvest Assembly 2.30 p.m.
- ☺ 20/10/17 Pupils break up for half term holidays– Non uniform for leading family group
- ☺ 30/10/17 Pupil return to school
- ☺ 5/12/17 Key Stage 1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Concert 2 p.m.
- ☺ 6/12/17 Key Stage 1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Concert 10 a.m.
- ☺ 7/12/17 Key Stage 1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Concert 10 a.m.
- ☺ 12/12/17 Key Stage 2 (Y3 and 4) Christmas Concert 2 p.m.
- ☺ 14/12/17 EYFS Christmas Concert 2 p.m.
- ☺ 15/12/17 EYFS Christmas Concert 10 a.m.
- ☺ 22/12/17 Pupils break up for the Christmas Holidays
- ☺ 8/1/18 (Monday) Pupils return to school

Letter-join

Handwriting

We feel that our efforts to improve pupils' writing were a great success last year. We hope you noticed the difference! We will continue to use Talk for Writing and the cursive handwriting scheme called Letter-join. This is an image of the letters which may be of interest to you.

School Meals

We are aware that there have been some teething problems with the issuing of JOINOS codes. We hope that this is resolved and that parents are now able to log on and make pre-order meal preferences for their child. If not, please contact North Tyneside on (0191) 643 8355 or email:

catering.services@northtyneside.gov.uk

North Tyneside School Meal Service are planning a special Funday lunch service on 5th of October 2017. Look out for more information direct from North Tyneside. Pupils that don't normally have a school meal are invited to take part and can make a one off payment via JOINOS if they normally pay for school meals. Special diets will, of course, be catered for on this day too.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are directly linked to attainment and success in education. As such, attendance and punctuality are closely monitored by school staff. The school's overall attendance rates are well above the national average and persistent absentee rates are also very low so we know that the overwhelming majority of parents understand the importance and benefits of good attendance.

We are pleased to be able to inform you that in the 2016-17 (last) academic year, **40 pupils in R-Y4 had 100% attendance**-never missing a day! We will be issuing 2016-17 100% certificates (and special 100% family credits) to pupils soon!

The Government define pupils with attendance of 90% or less as 'persistent absentees'. Although most absences are due to unforeseen circumstances, it is important that you are aware that 90% attendance equates to almost 4 weeks of lost education. As a consequence, learning and development is likely to be affected negatively. We have reviewed carefully, and will continue to monitor closely, pupils with attendance below 90%. In the majority, but not all, of these cases, it is a combination of illness and unauthorised holiday absence which results in attendance below 90%. As such, we would strongly discourage any avoidable absence (such as holidays). We also recommend that medical appointments are made outside of school hours unless unavoidable, vital or due to an emergency. Following this guidance and avoiding future absence, means that your child's attendance will be as high possible and that all pupils

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii

Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq

Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv

Ww Xx Yy Zz

really benefit from all the learning experiences the school provides.

It is also worth clarifying that, since September 2011, Marine Park has not authorised any holiday absence and holiday absence is included in overall absence. Whilst we continue to expect parents to complete a "Notification of absence due to a family holiday form," if pupils take a holiday during term time this absence **will not** be authorised.

We are certain parents/carers value their child's education and understand the implications should their child regularly miss or be late for school. However, when a pupil's attendance falls below the persistent absentee threshold of 90%, the school will be expected to take action. These actions may include letters from or meetings in school, referral to the Local Authority or, in rare cases, the issuing of Fixed Penalty Warning Notices or legal proceedings against the parents or carers of pupils who are deemed "persistently absent." The hierarchy of action the school takes is outlined in our attendance policy which you can view on our website.

We are proud to inform you that the school had one of the lowest % of pupils deemed to be Persistent Absentee in the Local Authority in 2016-17. **Only 15 pupils in the school had attendance below 90%.**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their support in ensuring the regular and punctual attendance of their children. If you require any further information or would like support in relation to attendance please do not hesitate to contact the school.