



Marine Park First School Newsletter

Parent Governor Vacancy



We have a vacancy for a parent governor. Information about the important and rewarding role of being a parent governor is on the school website. If you would like more information then do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors.

If you are interested then please complete a short application form available from the school office and/or governorzone of the school website. Please hand it back to the office or submit the form electronically (marinepark.first@northtyneside.gov.uk)

by 9 a.m. on Tuesday 2nd October. Previous applicants are welcome to re-apply. Our governors recognise the talents and skills that parent governors bring to the school and are keen to attract as many applicants as possible. As such, we publicise the vacancy through a range of media and may extend the deadline if required. Please note that, under North Tyneside rules, parents/carers of pupils in Nursery are not eligible to stand as a Parent Governor. Finally, you should be aware that confirmation of appointment as a governor will be subject to satisfactory pre-appointment checks, details of which are on the application form.

Reception Pupils' Information Evening

Parents/carers of Reception children are invited to come to a meeting which will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday the 26th of September. The meeting is important as we will be sharing some of the approaches used in the Foundation Stage, providing you with an introduction to the way we teach reading and maths as well as explaining ways you can support your child with their learning.

Marine Park in the community and in the news

In the news section of our website, we have added [links to stories](#) that are published in the local media.

Admissions

From Wednesday 12th September 2018, parents/carers of pupils in Nursery and Year 4 can apply for their child's school place in Reception 2019 or Middle School (Y5) 2019. The [North Tyneside Council website](#) has an essential guide which outlines the admission criteria, key dates and the application process. You can also [apply online](#).



Don't Forget Your Water

Please remember that we encourage all pupils to get into the habit of bringing their own water bottle to school each day. We want all of our pupils to benefit from regular access throughout the day to a fresh drink from their own water bottle; we no longer have bottled water or single use plastic cups so it is much better for pupils to drink from their own water bottle. Thanks for your help with this request.



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 included a timetable which is attached to book bags/homework books in Y1-4 to help establish routines for bringing things to school.

E-Safety

E-Safety is important at school and home. We have included the E-Safety Guidance we use in school in your child's homework book/learning journey. We also have further information and links in the parentzone of the school website.

Forthcoming Events

- ☉ 17/9/18 Robinwood Meeting (for parents of pupils in Y4 going on this year's trip) 3 p.m.
- ☉ 19/9/18– 21/9/18 Y4 Residential to Robinwood
- ☉ 20/9/18 PTA Meeting at the Jam Jar Cinema 8 p.m.
- ☉ 26/9/18 Reception Parents Information about learning meeting 7 p.m.
- ☉ 16/10/18 Parents' Evening 3.45 p.m.– 6.15 p.m.
- ☉ 18/10/18 Parents' Evening 3.45 p.m.– 6.15 p.m.
- ☉ 22/10/18 Deadline for PTA Christmas Card orders
- ☉ 23/10/18 Nursery and Reception (EYFS) Harvest Assembly 9.15 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
- ☉ 24/10/18 Year 1 Harvest Assembly 9.15 a.m.
- ☉ 24/10/18 Year 2 Harvest Assembly 2.30 p.m.
- ☉ 25/10/18 Year 3 Harvest Assembly 9.15 a.m.
- ☉ 25/10/18 Year 4 Harvest Assembly 2.30 p.m.
- ☉ 26/10/18 Pupils break up for half term holidays– Non uniform for leading family group
- ☉ 31/10/18 [Closing date for applications for Middle Schools](#)
- ☉ 5/11/18 Pupil return to school
- ☉ 6/11/18 School Photographer
- ☉ 4/12/18 Key Stage 1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Concert 2 p.m.
- ☉ 5/12/18 Key Stage 1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Concert 10 a.m.
- ☉ 6/12/18 Key Stage 1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Concert 10 a.m.
- ☉ 12/12/18 Key Stage 2 (Y3 and 4) Christmas Concert 2 p.m.
- ☉ 13/12/18 EYFS Christmas Concert 2 p.m.
- ☉ 14/12/18 EYFS Christmas Concert 10 a.m.
- ☉ 21/12/18 Pupils break up for the Christmas Holidays at normal time
- ☉ 7/1/19 (Monday) Training Day– School Closed for Pupils
- ☉ 8/1/19 (Tuesday) Pupils return to school
- ☉ 15/1/19 [Closing date for applications for First Schools](#)



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. We request that parents/carers of Y1 pupils that collect their child from the yard at the end of the day stand back to give pupils and staff sufficient space whilst pupils are being dismissed; you can, of course, speak to staff once all of the other children have been safely handed back.
4. 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.
5. 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?
6. 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 a 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 safely/legally.

PTA Update

In the last newsletter we informed you about the first PTA meeting of the year. We advertised the right date and time but wrong location. The meeting will be held on Thursday 20th September 2018 at 8.00pm in the **Jam Jar Cinema**.

Also, the PTA are planning to hold a second-hand uniform sale to coincide with parents' evenings.

Later this term, the PTA will be giving parents/carers the opportunity to buy unique Christmas Cards!

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 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 2017-18 (last) academic year, **41 pupils in R-Y4 had 100% attendance**-never missing a day! We have issued 2017-18 100% certificates (and special 100% family credits) to pupils! In addition, Vision for Education generously continue to sponsor a half termly prize draw for pupils that achieve 100% attendance and no lates.

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 are 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 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.

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.