



Allendale Primary School

September 2018 Newsletter

Welcome back to a new school year. For our new families, the newsletter is sent out at the beginning of each month and contains information about events in school, news in school or general things you should know. In addition we also send out emails with reminders or information about extra events that arise.

School is a very busy place and the newsletter tends to contain important dates and information about things that are taking place in school, trips and visitors and activities after school. If you opt not to receive it via email, we do hand out paper copies but from past experience, the children don't always arrive home with them! Copies of the newsletter can be found on our website, as well as the school calendar which will be populated with events as we know about them.

You will receive paper copies of various consents which we have to have to meet the new GDPR regulations. Please could I ask you to read them carefully, tick as required, sign and return to school by Wednesday 12th October; there is also an updated medical form to complete. If your child is new to school and you have just completed a medical form you will not receive one.

Hopefully the children are settling into their new class and routines. We've had to make a couple of temporary staffing changes due to illness. Mrs Huddleston and Mrs Norfolk are teaching in Skylark Class and Mrs Harrison is covering in the school kitchen, helping Mrs Turnbull with the school lunches. Mrs Atkinson from Allstars has had a baby boy so is now on maternity leave. Mr Atkinson is supervising breakfast club and Miss Kennedy is supervising after school club, both have had recent experience of working in Allstars. We are hoping to appoint another temporary member of staff a.s.a.p. to cover for Mrs Little in her absence.

We're taking lots of bookings for Allstars which is great as we run it as a non profit making facility. In the morning it is currently running from 7.30am to 8.45am and after school it runs from 3.30pm to 5.30pm, although again opening hours have been extended to 5.45pm as there are a few families who have requested this.

The classes are as follows:

Pipit Class - Reception	Miss Armstrong Monday - Thursday: Mrs Norfolk Friday
Skylark Class - Y1 / Y2	Mrs Norfolk Monday & Tuesday: Mrs Huddleston Wednesday - Friday
Lapwing Class - Y2 / Y3	Miss Read
Curlew Class - Y4 / Y5	Mr Vincent

Kestrel Class - Y5 / Y6 Miss Honeyman

If you have any concerns or questions about your child, please speak to their class teacher. They are on the playground or at the school gate at the start and end of each school day when they can arrange to see you or can be contacted by phone. Often a quick conversation can resolve an issue.

Please can I ask that all children bring in a named water bottle. They have access to fresh water each day and playtimes are generally thirsty work with all the running about.

Also lots of new uniform is very evident - the children have grown a lot in the 6 weeks holiday! We had an amazing amount of lost property last year. Please could you name or initial all your child's uniform, including P.E kits so we can return any stray items to them.

We already have 2 trips planned for this week. Kestrel Class are going to the Quayside trail tomorrow, visiting the Sage, Baltic and Northern Design Centre and Curlew Class will be doing the same on Friday. Both trips are taking place within the normal school day timings.

A couple more dates for your diary:

Parents Evenings will be held on **Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th October.**

Harvest Festival **Thursday 25th October 1.45pm.**

PTFA Beetle Drive **Friday 21st September.**

The Allendale Folk Festival is the weekend of **28th - 30th September**

Gatehead Cross Country Competition for teams from Y3 - Y6 will be on **Tuesday 2nd October.**

BikeAbility training for Y5 and Y6, (those children who did not complete the L2 training last year) is from **3rd - 5th October.**

PTFA Marble Night - **Friday 5th October.**

Skylark and Lapwing classes will be having hand hygiene workshops delivered by the school nurse team on **Friday 12th October.**

PTFA Halloween party - **Friday 26th October.**

Half term is from **Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November**, with a teacher training day on **Monday 5th November**, so the children will start back at school on **Tuesday 6th November**, which will be the start of Health Week.

If any parents have any spare time and would like to volunteer their time / skills in school, you would be made most welcome. Also, we are always looking for volunteers to accompany classes on any trips they may go on, so if you think you may be able to help out at any time, please let us know.

We're looking forward to a happy, healthy term.

Mrs A Hawkins
Headteacher