



Allendale Primary School

September 2016 Newsletter

Welcome to the start of a new school year. For parents new to our school, the newsletter comes out at the start of every month; it contains important dates, information about events taking place in school and updates about various aspects of school life. We would urge all parents to opt to receive the newsletter via e-mail as this prevents paper copies going astray and saves money and resources. The newsletter is always available on our website at www.allendaleprimary.northumberland.sch.uk

Sports News:

We're pleased that Mr Rickett's will be back with us this year. He will be teaching P.E on Monday mornings, starting with Kestrel, Curlew and Lapwing Classes this half term.

At the end of the Summer term, we were again awarded the School Games Gold Award; last year we were one of only 14 First / Primary schools in Northumberland to achieve Gold, so we are very proud of the range of physical activities on offer.

Reading:

The Accelerated Reader Programme is in the process of being introduced in Lapwing, Curlew and Kestrel Classes. The children have all taken the on-line assessment which has given a levelled range of books for each child to choose within. Once the book has been read, your child will take a quiz about the book, with questions focusing on the content, understanding and vocabulary. It is recommended that the children read books at the beginning of this range to start with, so your child's reading book may look far too easy at first; please don't be concerned about this as the information gained from the quizzes will inform the class teacher when to move along the range. We will be holding a parents information session about this on **Wednesday 21st September at 6pm.**

When the children start in Reception Class, they are given a reading folder free of charge. We provide these to keep reading books and reading records, spelling booklets, homework etc. safely stored so they don't get damaged or lost at home or in class. Children should continue to use their reading folder until at least the end of Year 4; there is no need for parents to buy bags especially for reading books as we do not have the room to store bulky bags in the classrooms as they don't fit in the children's trays or reading folder boxes. Children are very welcome to bring their reading folder in a school bag which can be hung on their peg / stored in their locker.

Uniform:

School uniform and school PE kit is available to order from Mrs Clarke in the school office. Uniform should be named which would reduce the contents of the lost property box! Our uniform policy is available on our website; just to remind parents that trainers are not allowed as footwear, jewellery, other than plain studs for those children with pierced ears, is not to be worn in school, (watches are allowed), and tram lines should not be shaved into hair.

Year 6 Residential:

This year we are taking Y6 to Lockerbie Manor in Scotland for an action packed residential in May. There will be a representative from Lockerbie Manor coming to talk to parents about the venue and activities on **Wednesday 14th September at 6.00pm.**

Allstars:

Allstars is run by school and offers affordable before and after school childcare. It is not run for profit but must break even as we cannot afford to subsidise it from the school budget, therefore we need parents to use it, regularly or occasionally. Breakfast Club opens at 8.00am, after school runs to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and 4.30pm on a Friday. Bookings can be made via school or by e-mailing

allendaleallstars@hotmail.com

PTFA:

The Parents, Teachers and Friends Association is a group of willing volunteers who help to plan social and fundraising events in school which raise much needed funds to provide extra activities, trips and workshops for all the children in school. Their next meeting is on **Monday 12th September at 7pm** at the King's Head in the village. If you can go along and show your support, it would be appreciated as their efforts greatly benefit the children.

It seems far too early but we are taking part in the Christmas Card project again this year. The children will be completing their designs in the next few weeks. These will then be sent home with an order form should you wish to have the designs made into cards or tags.

Parents Evenings:

There will be an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher on **Tuesday 27th September** or **Thursday 29th September**; appointment requests will follow.

Music Tuition:

Mrs Welch will be offering keyboard / piano lessons to children in Years 3 - 6. There is a possibility that we might be able to host a violin tutor for sessions in school and Y5 and Y6 are having concertina tuition this term provided by the Northumberland Music Service.

Dates for this term (so far):

Monday 12 th September	PTFA Meeting 7pm King's Head
Wednesday 14 th September	Punctuation show - Y2 - Y6
Wednesday 14 th September	Y6 Parents Meeting re Lockerbie Manor
Tuesday 27 th September	Parents Evening
Thursday 29 th September	Parents Evening
Friday 30 th September	Y5 / Y6 workshop run by the Centre for Life
Wednesday 5 th October	Rec / Y1 / Y2 - Theatre Performance at the Village Hall
Wednesday 12 th October	Y5 / Y6 Show Racism the Red Card workshops
Monday 17 th October	BikeAbility Y5 / Y6
Thursday 20 th October	Harvest Festival 9.30am in School - Finish for Half term that day
Friday 21 st October	Teacher Training Day
Monday 31 st October	Health and Well being week
Thursday 3 rd November	Y4 / Y5 / Y6 St John's Ambulance First Aid Awareness course
Thursday 8 th December	Nativity performances 1.45pm and 6.00pm