



Summer Newsletter 2



Staffing Update

In September there will be a few changes to our staffing, as Miss Poskett moves into the infants and Miss Brockington moves into the juniors. Miss Brockington will take over Purple Class, Miss Poskett will take over Lilac Class and Mrs White will take over Green Class. Mrs Barker will be heading off on Maternity Leave in September; therefore Mrs. Jackson will take over Gold Class in the mornings and Mr. Barella will continue to do the afternoons. Mr. Baker will take a group of Year 6 children for English and Maths each morning and will cover in Year 6 on a Monday afternoon and in Year 5 on a Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Hague will continue to take Brown Class each morning and a Thursday afternoon and Mrs. Hunter will take Brown Class every other afternoon.

School Council Visit to Parliament

The children on our School Council recently visited the Houses of Parliament, where they were given a guided tour of Westminster Palace and a workshop in the Education Centre all about 'Our Voice' and how it is heard through our electoral system. There was just time for a go on the London Eye and a MacDonald's before heading back to Durham on the train! Sam Clinton in Year 5 summed up the day by saying, 'This was a really inspirational trip as we found out about what it's like to be an MP'.

Sports News

Congratulations to our boys and girl's football teams, all of which have played superbly throughout the season and have reached their respective finals; the girls were runners up in their league and the boys won their league. Our netball team has also had a fantastic season and they ended up in second place overall. Our Cricket Team were in action last week- both teams performed well in a high quality field with the A team making it through to the District Final. There were superb performances last night from all the children who represented the school in the Durham Dash- many thanks to the staff and parents who have helped out at this and other events.



School Choir

Our Choir are having a really busy half term. They performed at Elvet Methodist Church in the Big Sing and sang during the Sunday Service at St. Margaret's Church in recognition of the Queen's 90th Birthday. On Sunday they will perform at the Eco-Fest at St. John's Church at about 1.30. Please come and support them if you can! Thank you to all the children and their parents for supporting some or all these extra- curricular events.

Uniform

A reminder that trainers are not part of our school uniform and should only be worn by prior arrangement with the Headteacher if required for a medical reason. The last date for ordering uniform to arrive before the end of term is 24th June. Any later orders will be available to collect in September.

Run to Rio

We were honoured to be visited by Aly Dixon, who will be representing Team GB in the marathon event at the Rio Olympics this Summer. Aly gave an inspirational talk to all of our children and then led those that wished to do so in a half a mile fun run in aid of St. Benedict's Hospice and Marie Curie Care. Our children raised £250 to be shared between the two charities.



Attendance

A huge thank you to those parents who have booked family holidays during the allocated school holidays. The impact of missing a significant number of school days is substantial, which is why the Government now calculate persistent absenteeism at 10%.

95% attendance = 10 days = 2 weeks= 50 lessons lost
 90% attendance = 20 days = 4 weeks= 100 lessons lost
 85% attendance = 30 days = 6 weeks= 150 lessons lost
 80% attendance = 40 days = 8 weeks= 200 lessons lost
 Please try and get your child to school to ensure they are given the best chance with their education.

School Meals

The cost of school meals will increase to £2.00 from September. Parents of children going into Year 3 will need to start paying for meals from September as the Universal Free School Meals Grant only applies to infant children. If you feel you may be entitled to free school meals in any year group, please contact the office to discuss this. Please note that any changes to your child's dinner choices for September must be made by 1st July at the latest. There can be no alteration for September, after this date.



And finally.....

This is a really busy half term with performances, sports days, class trips and 'Friends of the School' events all taking place. Please take note of the diary dates overleaf so as not to miss out on the fun! I look forward to seeing you over the next few weeks and continue to pray for good weather!

Mrs. H. McDaid- June 2016