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6th October 2023 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have lots to share and look forward to in the last few weeks before half-term which we have included below in today's newsletter.

Year 4 visit- Monday 9th October

Year 4 are all so excited for our trip to the Roman Wall on Monday 9th October- they have a busy day planned. They will be visiting The Roman Army Museum and Vindolanda, which was a Roman fort. If the weather is kind, they will take a walk up on to the wall so children can see what it would have been like to be a Roman soldier patrolling the wall.

Children will not need to wear school uniform, but they will need to be prepared for an Autumn Day. This will mean having a warm, waterproof coat and old trainers or wellies. Fiona went at the weekend and in some places the walk to the wall was muddy, but not too bad.

The gift shop was very expensive and small so the children do not need to bring money. They would also not have time to go as there is so much to do!

The staff will be taking lots of photos and will get them uploaded as soon as they can.

School Photos-Wednesday 11th October 2023

The photographer will visit school next Wednesday to take individual photos. They will begin to take photos from 8.45am. Any families with younger siblings can arrive at the school hall doors at 8.45am to have their photos taken. Any afternoon Nursery children can come to the school hall at 8.45am too. Any siblings in school will have their photos taken during the school day.

All children (including Reception) will need to be in full school uniform. Thank you!

Harvest Festival- Monday 16th October 2023

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Monday 16th October at 10am. Each class will perform an Autumn themed song. Our Year 6 children are on a visit to Hamsterley Forest but we have been promised a recorded version so they don't miss out. We are asking for donations of tinned and packet food and we will accept donations from Monday 9th October.

Open Evening- Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th October 3.15-5pm

We are looking forward to inviting all of you to our Open Evening on Monday and Tuesday 23rd and 24th October between 3.15-5pm. Hopefully, this will allow you to see what your child(ren) have been learning and hear how they have settled in. We ask that all children are dismissed, as usual, at 3.15pm. Any parents with an appointment between 3.15 and 3.30pm can enter via the hall. We would ask that all other parents with later appointments arrive and leave through the Main Office door.

If parents are unable to attend and would like to make alternative arrangements, they can let us know via: Tapestry, contacting the school office via phone or email.

Half-term

School will close on Thursday 26th October at 3.15pm. There will be no clubs on this day. School will re-open on Monday 6th November 2023. Please see <https://www.thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk/parents/school-holidays/> for additional holiday dates for this academic year.

Attendance

Our attendance target is 96% for each child. We are keen to identify families who need any support with attending as often as possible. Staff continue to monitor attendance and we remind parents/carers of children attending school as much as possible.

Attendance Week Beginning 2nd October 2023

	<u>Class</u>	<u>%</u>
1 st Place	Year 2	97.7%
2 nd Place	Year 1	97.3%
3 rd Place	Year 6	97.1%
4 th Place	Year 3	95.4%
5 th Place	Year 4	94.8%
6 th Place	Reception	91.6%
7 th Place	Year 5	88.8%
8 th Place	Nursery	85%

Well done Year 2!

Illness

The weather is getting colder and we know that many children have had coughs and colds. We are asked to encourage good hand hygiene to prevent the spread of germs.

The NHS website has guidance of when not to send your child to school

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> and we would

recommend that parents use this link to support them.

After School Club- Booking System

Our After School Club link is sent out via Tapestry and we would ask parents to use this system as it is linked to ParentPay for payment. This link will close at 9am every Monday and if parents have not completed the booking will have to book children in daily by phoning the office.

School Book Fair

The Book Fair is nearly here (Wednesday 11th October)! Just some information about payment. Children can bring their money in and they will be able to go to the fair at breaktime.

Books can be purchased with cash or by following the payment link below and entering your details.

www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay Use Postcode DH88AP or our school name.

Please remember that the more you spend, the more the school gets back in books.

We will advertise after school visit times to The Book Fair- next week- for parents via Tapestry.

Mobile phones

It has come to our attention that some children have been using their device inappropriately to send messages. We understand that it is parental choice if children should/should not have a mobile phone. We would ask parents/carers to continue to check their child's mobile phone on a daily basis.

Reception Places- Nursery Parents

Our Reception class has 25 spaces for next academic year. You can apply for your child's Reception place until 15th January 2024 by visiting <https://www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces>

We would hope that many of our Nursery parents would choose to apply as children are familiar with routines, staff and friends too!

We still have a few morning and afternoon Nursery spaces (15-hour places) for this academic year too.

Secondary Places- Year 6 Parents

Please remember that the deadline to apply for school places is Tuesday 31st October 2023. If you still need to apply, please do so at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/secondaryschoolplaces>