



January 2020

# Esh Winning Primary School NEWSLETTER

I hope that you all had a very enjoyable break and had some valuable time as a family. Thank you for supporting your child in returning to school with the correct school uniform—it was fantastic to see as I held the first whole school assembly of the year. The focus of the assembly was ‘No Outsiders’ and the children have spent the week looking at, discussing and learning about all the different aspects of this theme. ‘No Outsiders’ is a great motto for 2020 - everyone is welcome in our school. No-one is the same, but everyone is equal. Happy New Year! Thank you, Mrs Hodgson, Headteacher.

## Dates

- ★ **February**
- ★ 14th Break up for half term holidays
- ★ 24th School resumes
- ★ **March**
- ★ 5th World Book day
- ★ **April**
- ★ 03rd School breaks up for Easter
- ★ 20th School resumes
- ★ **May**
- ★ 8th May VE Day Bank Holiday
- ★ 22nd School breaks up for half term
- ★ **June**
- ★ 2nd School resumes
- ★ **July**
- ★ 17th Break up for the summer holidays

This year **SATS WEEK** is  
**Monday 11th—Friday 15th May 2020.**

It is most important that all year 6  
pupils attend school during this week.

## FAYRE INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas Fayre, we raised £955.61 which will go towards the Brass Christmas Cracker Concert which was in school 18th December.

**FAYRE WINNERS** Name the Polar Bear winner was Darcie in Yr 2, who correctly guessing 'Sparkle'. Guess the weight of the cake was won by Jenson in Yr 3 & Guess the number of sweets in the jar was won by Chloe in Yr 6 Well done to you all!

It is vitally important to check children's bags for Letters / newsletters daily.

## Parent Focus Group

We are very keen to hear your thoughts on what we are doing as a school, but also what we can do to improve. One way of sharing your ideas, thoughts and opinions is by attending one of our Parent Focus Groups. Mrs Doherty, our Parent Support Advisor also attends these meetings and the next one is on Tuesday 28th January at 9am. Everyone welcome!

Please can parents/carers be aware that our current text service only allows us to text one parent per child. The text will be sent to the priority 1 contact listed. We are sorry for any inconvenience this causes.

**Welcome to Laura Moralee.** Hello, my name is Laura Moralee, I am a level 5 social work student and will be completing my placement here at Esh Winning Primary School. I will be working alongside Lynn Doherty supporting children and families and I am available if you wish to discuss any concerns or issues. I can offer advice and suggestions. I look forward to my placement and meeting everybody!

**Reminder re School Uniform** Please ensure all items of your child's uniform are clearly marked with their names to avoid items getting lost or taken by accident. Thank you

Notice of Change from School Dinners to Packed Lunches and visa versa. If you want to change your child from school dinners to packed lunches then we need 2 weeks notice. Please also inform the school office before 10am if your child needs an emergency school meal if their packed lunch has been forgotten.

**Jewellery** Thank you for supporting our "No Jewellery" policy. For Health and Safety reasons pupils should not wear earrings or any other jewellery for school. A sensible watch is permitted. Nail varnish is not school policy

## ATTENDANCE

42 pupils have achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn Term 2019/2020  
115 pupils achieved over 96% attendance  
**EXCELLENT! Very well done to those children!**

The attendance winners in December were

**KS2 Gold—Savannah Yr 4**

**KS2 Silver— Charlie Yr 5**

**KS2 Bronze— Jake Yr 4**

**Rec & KS1 Gold— Kaitlin Rec**

**Rec & KS1 Silver - Lily-Mae Rec**

**Rec & KS1 Bronze — Olivia 1R**

### Late

We still have some pupils arriving late. Please remember school starts at 8.50am. It is extremely important your child arrives at school on time as work has been set for them to complete. Being 15 minutes late every morning for a week adds up to 1 hour and 15 minutes of school time lost, over a half term this is 7 and a half hours! This is more than a whole school day. Please ensure your child arrives on time and is ready to work.

### Attendance

Please remember your child **must** attend school unless they are ill or have permission from the headteacher. Please remember to phone on the first day your child is absent. As a school we must ensure our pupils access the best possible opportunities available in relation to their education and life long learning therefore all pupils must attend school unless they are ill. If your child is absent and the school believes this is not an authorised absence, we will contact the Education Welfare Officer to discuss your child's absence percentage.

### Leave of Absence Forms

Thank you to those parents/carers who have followed the correct procedures in relation to requesting a leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances. When completing the leave of absence form for Mrs Hodgson please remember to state when, how long for and **why** you are requesting to take your child out of school during term time. The School Governors have recently reviewed the system in place and some changes have been agreed to 'exceptional circumstances'. Once Mrs Hodgson has received your form you will be sent a letter and a copy of the signed form stating whether the absence will be authorised or un-authorised and we may request more information from yourself or employers.

**Durham County Council's Fixed Penalty Notice Protocol** acknowledges that regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities.

Circumstances where a Penalty Notice might be issued include unauthorised leave of absence in term time, or other parentally condoned absence where the absence amounts to **seven school days or more in a minimum twelve rolling school week period**. You can be prosecuted if you receive a fixed penalty notice and it is not paid.

### Dental/Medical Appointments

If your child has a dental/medical appointment, please remember they must come to school first if at all possible. Pupils do not need to be absent from school all day for an appointment which may only take half an hour. If they come to school first they will get their mark, even if this is only for a short period of time.

### Sickness Absence

If your child is ill and unable to come to school, it may be possible for work to be completed at home. They may be well enough to undertake some tasks set by their class teacher. This will ensure they do not miss too much school work and on their return have an understanding of current topics discussed in class. If you feel your child is well enough to complete work at home please contact school.

### Absence Procedures

Please remember the sickness absence procedures. School must be informed on the first day of absence before 9.15am. It is extremely important as any absences will be recorded as un-authorised if we have not had any explanation or reason why a pupil is absent from school. As always, if you have any concerns about your child's attendance or wish to discuss any of the above information further please do not hesitate to contact school.