



Weekly Bulletin 15th October 2021

Headteacher's Message

Today, those of you with children in Years 1-6 will receive your child's termly progress report and a newsletter. This report provides you with relevant information in preparation for our parental consultation evenings which will take place via video calls next week. The report provides a starting point for conversation with your child's class teacher in order to agree the next steps for working together in partnership to continue to support progress in school. We will not be reporting attainment levels this term in order to allow teachers time to assess each child accordingly and accurately across the broad spectrum of the curriculum. Parents of children in Reception class do not receive a report, but have the opportunity to speak with Mrs Short next week.

From next week those classes that had a number of protective measures put in place will return to 'normal' and so I thank parents again for working with us to prevent the spread of the virus as far as is possible.

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things going on in school. For example, news from our ECO team, Worship group, V.I.P. (Very International People) and SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group). This week our focus is on PE in school and Mr Gowan has shared an update on this below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

PE Update

Following our return to school in September I would like to share with you our plans for the forthcoming year.

As restrictions have eased we have tried to provide children with a variety of extra-curricular clubs, either before or after school. This will continue as the year progresses.

We have had our Orienteering courses installed in school and training provided for all staff. This year we will be embedding OAA into our curriculum and there will be opportunities to develop its use during the year.

Through our partnership with the Durham and CLS SSP we will be having the following support:

- EYFS curriculum support from a PE Specialist
- Gymnastics curriculum support from a PE Specialist/Coach
- Curriculum support by a Dance coach (12 hours of curriculum coaching to take place on an afternoon plus 6 hours of extra-curricular coaching to take place afterschool).
- Participation in the full Durham City Primary Schools FA programme including access to football leagues.

- Upper Key Stage 2 Stingers (High 5) Netball support package which will include 2 x half days of in school support working with staff and their classes delivered by SSP staff.
- Upper Key Stage 2 Rounders support package which will include 2 x half days of in school support working with staff and their classes delivered by SSP staff.
- A year-long interhouse sports programme which comprises of 5 x half day competitions in school which will be organised and delivered by SSP staff. All results will be collated by SSP staff for the school.
- Summer Fun Run -1 half day fun run organised and delivered on your school site by SSP staff.
- OAA/Team Building -1 full day to develop children's OAA skills at both KS1 and KS2.
- DODGEBALL support package which will include 2 x half days of in school support working with staff and their classes delivered by SSP staff.
- A 36 hour fitness & health education programme (24 hours of curriculum coaching to take place on an afternoon over 12 weeks plus 12 hours of extracurricular coaching to take place afterschool). Weekly sessions will include junior circuit training, health & nutrition workshop, children's boxercise, fun fitness etc) coupled with an afterschool club aimed to help schools achieve the goal of having all students active 30 minutes per day.

Covid-19 Step 4 Guidance - Key messages

COVID-19 guidance

As part of the *Step 4 Guidance for Schools*, from Monday 16th August unvaccinated young people up to the age of 18 years and 6 months and fully vaccinated adults, are no longer required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. If you haven't already been vaccinated then you can book online <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Those identified as a close contact will be informed by NHS Test and Trace that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We strongly encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>

Pupils who are experiencing coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, will not attend the school and are advised to self-isolate and arrange a PCR test where symptoms are presented.

Primary age pupils **will not be** tested with LFDs. PHE have advised there are currently limited public health benefits attached to testing primary pupils with lateral flow devices. Staff in primary schools, will continue to test themselves using LFD twice a week at home until the end of September, when this will be reviewed.

Although social distancing is no longer a legal requirement for staff and pupils, we still have a legal duty to ensure the health and safety of staff and pupils and measures previously put in place (e.g., one-way systems/dedicated access/egress points into the building) to ease congestion when staff and pupils are entering/exiting and moving about the building will continue. The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law, but it is recommended that face coverings are worn in crowded and enclosed spaces where you come into contact with people you don't normally meet and therefore we ask that you follow, where possible, this recommendation when dropping off and picking up your children.

School will continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated, and follow public health advice on testing and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19. Handwashing and application of hand sanitiser will be part of the daily routines in school.

Dates

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Friday 15th October – Progress reports (Year 1-6)

Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th October – Parents' Consultation Evening

Tuesday 19th October – SSP Cross-Country (Running club members)

Thursday 21st October – School Photographer

Friday 22nd October – School closes for Autumn half term holidays

Tuesday 2nd November – School re-opens for Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 9th November – Y5 ISKON Temple Visit (Amended date)

Parents Evening Video – Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th October 2021

Thank you for booking your parents' evening sessions.

There are a few things that you'll need to have before you're able to have a virtual meeting with a teacher. If you don't have access to these things, please make your school aware so they can assist you or make alternative arrangements.

Whether you're using audio or video for your call, the device you are using may ask for your permission to use audio/video with Parents Evening. Please check your device settings to ensure that these permissions are enabled.

Before the parents' evening begins, **you will receive a link to the video call either via email or text message 6 hours prior to your appointment time.** When you click on the link provided, a window will open in your web browser. This is where the video calls will take place.

Before you start a video call, we recommend that you check your network and microphone/camera settings using these links:

networktest.twilio.com

test.webrtc.org

If you have any queries regarding your appointment please contact the school office.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Extra Bank Holiday

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday has been announced for 3 June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As on previous similar occasions (e.g. the 2012 Diamond Jubilee or 2011 Royal Wedding), the DfE has therefore amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the school year 2021/22 for maintained schools to a minimum of 189 days, in order to allow schools to close that day or on another day.

Schools not already on half term break on the day of the bank holiday will be able to close that day. Most schools will, however, be on half term at the time of the bank holiday. This change to the Regulations will allow maintained schools to be able to close at another time to give staff and students an extra day off.

In line with other Durham County Council schools, Shincliffe CE Primary School are taking Tuesday 4th January as their extra Bank Holiday. Our INSET day will move to Wednesday 5th January 2022. Children will return to school on Thursday 6th January 2022.

For more information please go to our website:

<https://www.shincliffe.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/>

Packed Lunches

In order to ensure that packed lunches are suitably healthy and meet the guidelines set by Durham County Council, parents are reminded that they **should not contain** any of the following:

- Fizzy / sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans
- Chocolate-coated products / sweets / confectionary
- Chocolate spread as a filling for sandwiches
- Chewing gum
- Sugared / toffee and salted popcorn

Please also remember that we are a nut-free school- your supporting in keeping all children safe is appreciated.

Caring for Our School Grounds

It has been noticed a number of children are not using the paths around school and walking on the grassed areas. These are often very muddy and this is then being brought into school. We want our school to be cared for and respected and so I ask parents to carefully supervise their children during drop off and pick up times.

Medical

- A reminder that we are only able to administer prescribed medications at school once parents have completed the required consent form. All medication must be delivered to and collected from the office by an adult.
- Packed Lunch Children – please ensure your child’s packed lunch is **NUT FREE** as we have children in the school who have an allergy to nuts.
- Medicated lozenges/throat sweets are not permitted
- School Uniform Reminder - No jewellery except for a watch is allowed in school. Earrings and nail varnish must be removed for school.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2022 – FINAL REMINDER TO APPLY - Deadline to apply is the 31 October 2021

As you will be aware, your child is due to transfer to secondary school in September next year. **The application process opened on 6 September 2021 and will close on 31st October 2021.**

According to our records, you have not yet applied for a Secondary School Place for your child, and this is a Final Reminder to ensure you make your application before the closing date. **If you think you have applied online, then please log into your Parent Portal Account to ensure you have “submitted” your application.**

Failure to apply on time greatly reduces your child’s chances of gaining a place at their preferred school!

You will need to read the Parent's Guide "Primary and Secondary School Admission Guide in County Durham 2022/23", as it contains essential information that will help you in making your child's application. The guide is available on our website www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

You must only complete one application and this must be to the Local Authority to which you pay your council tax (i.e. Home Local Authority). If you do NOT live in County Durham please contact your home local authority for details on how to apply for a Secondary School Place.

If you live in County Durham, you need to complete an application to tell us which school you want your child to attend. **You should list 3 school preferences and applying for just 1 school Does Not improve your chances of gaining a place at that school.** You can apply for any school/academy in County Durham or in another Local Authority area.

Please apply on-line at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions When you apply on-line you will receive an acknowledgement and you will be offered a school place for your child by email on 1 March 2022. **Please save your log-in details** as you will also be able to accept your child's place on-line.

Please note that school places are allocated according to specific criteria which are different depending upon which school you apply for your child to attend. **One criterion is "nearest school"**. If you wish to know your nearest school, then please contact us.

If your child's offer of a school place is for an oversubscribed school (i.e., where there are more applications for a school than places available) we will offer your child a school place based on the child's/parent's address. We will request information on the child's/parent's address when we offer a school place, and the onus will be on you to prove your address if asked.

If you do not wish to apply on-line, you can contact us via e-mail at schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk or telephone at 03000 265896 and we will send you a paper application form. We strongly advise you to return the application form to us by "Royal Mail Signed for™" or "Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed". If you complete a paper application form you will receive a letter to inform you of the school place offered to your child on the 1st March 2022.

Please note for both on-line applications and paper application forms, you will be required to read the disclaimer and sign/tick the box to agree that the information you provide on the application form is complete and correct otherwise the offer of a school place will be withdrawn.

The closing date for receipt of both on-line and paper application forms is 31 October 2021.

If you have recently applied for a Secondary School place and have received confirmation that it has been submitted, then please ignore this letter.

Yours sincerely

School Places and Admissions Team.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of endurance this half term and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Fr. Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

Further information on the value of endurance:

Endurance - is recognition that life is sometimes difficult and painful, and that it is important not to give up in the face of adversity.

Jesus endured rejection, abuse and the cross, and his followers are warned that they may well have to share that pain as persecution took hold. Discipleship is depicted as 'taking up the cross daily' and following in Jesus' footsteps (Luke 9:23).

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- How do we give pupils a better appreciation of the difficult situations that many people in the world have to endure and of the courage and resilience they show in the face of them?
- How do you help pupils understand that some things are worth working for even though they do not bring immediate results? How do we develop patience?
- What encourages and inspires you to persevere through difficult times in life?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.



Job Vacancies - School Catering

We have a number of vacancies in the Area.
We are currently seeking to appoint a Catering Manager/School Cook at

Cheveley Park Primary Belmont
Shincliffe Primary
St Hild's Primary School Gilesgate
Laurel Avenue Primary Gilesgate
Ferryhill Station Primary

working approximately 25 hours over 5 days a week during Term Time Only within our Contract, for the provision of School Meals in Durham County Primary Schools. Duties include managing catering staff, working in a busy environment, producing meals for primary school children and overseeing all aspects of the smooth running of the kitchen. Also

Catering Assistant vacancies in various schools and Mobile Catering Assistant vacancies

Successful applicants will need to complete an enhanced disclosure; all disclosure expenses will be met by Taylor Shaw.

We offer attractive rates of pay & a full uniform.
We look forward to you joining our family workforce.
If you would like to find out more please contact:

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