



Wolsingham Primary Newsletter

6th September 2024 Volume 1
www.wolsingham-pri.durham.sch.uk

New Beginnings

Welcome to a new term and a new school year at Wolsingham Primary! We are delighted to welcome all of our new pupils and new parents and can't wait to see what this year brings.

The staff and children have once again all made a fantastic start to the year and are already hard at work. There is a lovely quiet and productive atmosphere throughout the school. As always, our aim is to continue to instil in all of the children the need to do everything to the very best of their ability, further developing their learning behaviours, so that they can become increasingly independent and take control of their own learning. The expectations of all of the staff will be very high in all aspects of school life from remembering PE kits to learning weekly spellings and completing homework. We want the children of Wolsingham Primary School to have a thirst for knowledge and know what they need to do to improve. We expect our children to complete every piece of work to the highest standard possible.

Just a reminder that it is essential that all children have their PE kits and water bottles in school at all times. If your child has had their ears pierced over the summer break, they must be covered for PE sessions until a period of 6 weeks following the piercing and then they **MUST** be removed for PE sessions. If your child is not able to remove their earrings themselves, then we recommend that they do not come to school wearing them on days when they take part in PE sessions (including swimming). For health and safety reasons, all earrings worn in school must be studs only and no bracelets or necklaces should be worn.

The majority of our children look extremely smart this week upon their return to school for the new school year, thank you to all those parents who have followed our uniform policy. However, we have many children whose shoes do not adhere to our uniform policy – please note that children should be wearing **black shoes** not trainers to school.

School Councillors and Team Captains

Voting has taken place to elect our new School Councillors and Team Captains. Those children wishing to take on the roles, put themselves forward and the children voted for who they would like to see in the roles. Congratulations to all of our new School Councillors and Team Captains!

Class 2	Amelia Twentyman and George Scown
Class 3	Oban Megahy and Arthur Alliston-Godding
Class 4	Lucas Twentyman and Finlay Sriwiang
Class 5	Euan Kelly and Georgia Ashton
Class 6	Corinne Palombella and Ben Elliott

Green Team	Conan Sanderson and Pippa Marshall
Blue Team	Ben Elliott and Morgan Sriwiang
Yellow Team	Mason Thompson and Darcy Fearn
Red Team	Corinne Palombella and Amelia Gordon



Nuts in School

Please remember that **ALL** nuts or products containing nuts are not allowed in our school or school visits in the form of snacks or in packed lunches. We do have some children who will have an allergic reaction to nuts in any form and this may cause serious harm to them. Thank you for helping to keep our children safe.

Payments to School

We would like to remind parents that payments for school lunches and wrap around care must be paid via ParentPay on a weekly basis. Invoices not paid on time may result in access to services being removed.

After School Activities

We are in the process of organising our After School Activities for this half term and more details and booking links will be sent out via Arbor next week. As our new Reception children get used to coming to school full time and are often tired at the end of the school day, particularly in the Autumn term. After school activities offered in the autumn term are therefore only available for pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 pupils.

Applying for a school place for next year

Applications for primary and secondary places are now open. Applications close at midnight on 15th January 2025 (primary) and 31st October 2024 (secondary). Find out more: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. We will be holding an Open Event for any parents of children due to start primary school in September 2025 later in the half term. Please keep an eye out for more details and encourage anyone you know with children of Nursery age to come along to have a look around and find out more about our school.

Swimming Sessions

Class 6 will be swimming on Tuesday afternoons this half term. Children will require a swimming kit consisting of a one-piece swim suit or trunks (not shorts), a towel and swimming hat which is essential (swimming hats can be purchased from the pool at a cost of £2). Goggles are permitted, but are not essential.

School Lunch Payments

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that school lunches this year cost £2.81 per day and should be paid for on the **Monday** of each week or at the beginning of the term if you wish to pay for the whole term at once. A reminder to parents of our Year 3 children that free school lunches are only for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and therefore lunches for Year 3 children will be charged.

Holidays in Term Time

Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to make good progress in their learning. Any absence from school can have such a huge impact on the progress they make. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that holidays in term time **will not** be authorised. Unfortunately, on occasions, parents report their child's absence as illness rather than completing the Pupil Leave of Absence form. If we have reason to believe that an absence has been due to holiday rather than illness, these absences will be recorded as unauthorised. Any case of irregular attendance due to unauthorised leave of absence in term time of **5 school days for more** in a minimum 10 rolling school week period **will** be referred to the Attendance Improvement Team to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice – information about this was sent out to parents before the summer break. We would also like to remind parents that non-urgent medical and dental appointments wherever possible should also be made out of school hours.

Please note: Evidence of medical appointments during school time, should be provided to the school office prior to the appointment. Thank you.

Changing from Lunchtime Arrangements

As the ingredients for our school lunches are pre-ordered it is important that we have at least one week's notice regarding any children changing from school lunch to packed lunch or vice versa, even following the summer break. We would be grateful if parents could contact the school office to make the necessary arrangements.

Meet the Teacher Night – including information about Statutory Assessments

Parents and carers of children in Years 1-6 are warmly invited to our 'Meet the Teacher Night' on **Monday 16th September at 5.00pm**. Teachers will be explaining class procedures and providing important information where appropriate about statutory assessments such as the Year 1 phonics check, Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check and KS2 SATs. The meeting should last no longer than half an hour and is for **parents and carers only**; please try and attend if you can. We look forward to seeing you!



Online Wellbeing

The safeguarding and wellbeing of our children is of upmost importance. As part of our safeguarding duty, throughout the year we will be signposting parents to useful web links and documents linked to online safety and wellbeing. Hopefully you will find these useful and informative. If you ever require

more support in ensuring your child is safe online, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Please use the following link to find out more about how you can support your child's online wellbeing including tips for managing wellbeing online and 'Positively Online' six top tips to help your child feel good about how they use the internet. [Online wellbeing | NSPCC](#)

Our Caretaker is Retiring

After more than 37 years of service to our school, sadly our caretaker Mr Stephenson will be retiring in October. An advert for the post will be going live in the next few days on the Jobs Northeast website. If you know anyone who might be interested, we would be grateful if you would pass on the information.

Is My Child Too Ill for School?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell. There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school each day. Let us know that your child won't be in and give us the reason. If your child is well enough to come school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let us know. For more information and support, please use the following link <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> for advice.

Daisy Chain / Autism Central Coffee Mornings

Daisy Chain will be running coffee mornings in Family Hubs for parents and carers of children diagnosed, on the pathway or who have been identified by a professional as having a need relating to autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), sensory processing differences, anxiety and social and communication differences. Please click on the link below for more information:

https://www.durham.gov.uk/DaisyChain?fbclid=IwY2xjawFFBC1leHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHSqK1rQysjxDVWWjnmAw8_vDPHeNOcVtyD1cPHN837jlxRykGdeccVldmq_aem_5p3nnS4lm5BTzhPPqgwRRQ

Dates for your diary...

Year 6 Handball Festival	Monday 9 th September
Year 1-Year 6 Meet the Teacher Evening	Monday 16 th September 5pm
Early Maths / Seesaw Meeting for Reception Parents	Thursday 19 th September 5pm
Year 6 Residential to Robinwood Meeting for Parents	Monday 23 rd September 5pm
RWInc. Meeting for Reception Parents	Wednesday 25 th September 5pm
Flu Immunisations	Thursday 26 th September
Year 2 Kurling and Boccia Festival	Monday 30 th September
Class 6 Assembly	Wednesday 16 th October 10.30am
Halloween Dress Up Day	Friday 25 th October
School Closes	Friday 25 th October
School Opens	Monday 4 th November

S. Kitching

Headteacher

School Holiday and Term Dates 2024/25

Holiday	Closing Date	School Opens
Summer Break	Friday 19 th July 2024	Wednesday 4 th September 2024
Autumn Half-Term	Friday 25 th October 2024	Monday 4 th November 2024
PD Day	Thursday 28 th November 2024	Monday 2 nd December 2024
Christmas Break	Friday 20 th December 2024	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
Spring Half-Term	Friday 21 st February 2025	Monday 3 rd March 2025
Easter Break	Friday 11 th April 2025	Monday 28 th April 2025
May Day	Friday 2 nd May 2025	Tuesday 6 th May 2025
Summer Half-Term	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Monday 2 nd June 2025
Summer Break	Friday 18 th July 2025	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025