

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday, 17th September 2021

This day in history

2001 The opening of the Gateshead Millennium Bridge



Reception Places for September 2022

If your child turns 5 between 1st of September 2022 and 31st August 2022 you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2022. This is done through Durham County Council. Please visit www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions for further information. Applications are now open.

You still need to apply for a Reception place even if your child already attends our Nursery.

Secondary School Places for September 2022

If your child is in Year 6 and will be transferring to secondary school in September 2022, you must apply for their school place before October 31st 2021. This is done through Durham County Council.

Please visit www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions for further information.

When you apply on-line you will receive an acknowledgement and you will be offered a school place for your child by email on 1st March 2022. Late applications may not receive their first choice school. As Consett Academy was oversubscribed last year we would advise you to apply as soon as possible, if this is your first choice.

Our Reading Dog

Janet and Brodie, our reading dog, enjoyed her second visit to school on Tuesday. She listened to children read again and seems to be really enjoying her new job! We look forward to seeing her again next week.



Music Lessons

We are very pleased to have Durham Music Service back in school. Year 5 and Year 6 have started to learn the clarinet and will continue until February half term. Music lessons will start at Lower School next week and the children are really excited about getting started with their new music teacher.



Whole School Attendance

Year 1 = 96.0%
Year 2 = 92.8%
Year 3 = 98.3%
Year 4 = 95.5%
Year 5 = 92.4%
Year 6 = 93.8%



Congratulations

Well Done Year 1 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 3 for the best attendance in Upper School.

Our school target is 97%.

Year 2 Trip

Year 2 enjoyed a great day at Hartlepool Marina finding out about ships and life at sea. They learned how to make ropes and went on the HMS Trincomalee, the oldest warship still afloat in Europe. Apologies for the late return due to the road closures in Durham.

Dog's Trust

We are looking forward to welcoming the Dog's Trust to Lower School on the 11th of October to teach the children awareness about how to interact with dogs.

Year 5 Trip

Year 5 will be going to the Hancock Museum on Tuesday to visit the Planetarium as part of their Themed Topic Work. Please remember to return the permission slip if you have not already done so.

Year 6 Residential

Just a reminder that payments for the Year 6 residential will be falling due. Please ensure that you keep your payments up to date. Texts will be sent out as reminders of the dates that payments are due.



Starting School

**Will your child turn 5 between
1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023?**

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2022.

Visit www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. We encourage you to apply online wherever possible as although restrictions have been lifted, staff will in the main be working from home due to the Coronavirus pandemic. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to apply for a place in Year 3 in a junior school for an older child.

Applications open 6 September 2021 and close midnight 15 January 2022.

For more information please contact

School Places and Admissions Team

🌐 www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

☎ 03000 265 896



Lower School Reading

It has been lovely to see so many children coming into school and enjoying their 'breakfast with a book' at Lower Site. We are delighted to see children engaged in reading and enjoying a much more relaxed start to the day.

We know that research has shown children who read daily not only perform better academically but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and gain a better understanding of different cultures. Competence in reading is the key to independent learning. We warmly encourage all children to attend this extra opportunity outside of the school day to help develop their reading skills.

If you wish your child to participate in 'breakfast with a book', which has been very popular this week, please bring children to the main entrance from 8.30am. Please note that the bottom door on the yard will not be staffed until 8.55am for those children not wishing to join us for reading activities prior to the start of the school day.

Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that we have reopened breakfast club this term for parents requiring this provision on both sites. Breakfast club runs from 8am. Lower school children should be dropped off at the main reception door at lower school, and Upper school children should be dropped off at the Year 6 porch door. Breakfast club is available to children from Reception to Year 6, however Reception children can only attend once they are at school for full days.

The cost of breakfast club remains £1.50 per day per child. Please contact the Office if you require a space on either site.



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NEW CURRICULUM – NEW PROJECTS	Parent Information
Nursery <i>Why do you love me so much?</i>	What is special about me? How do we show that we care? Explore these questions and more in this project about love, families, friends and how people are the same and different.
Reception Me and My Community	This project supports children with settling into the new rules and routines of school and encourages them to make new friends and feel confident in their class. It teaches children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and at school. This project also teaches children how they are unique and special, the importance of friendship and how people in their family, school and local community are important and can help them.
Year 1 <i>Superheroes</i>	Intergalactic greetings, young heroes. It's time to rescue the planet from evil villains. Who's your favourite superhero? Spiderman? Wonder Woman? Maybe your heroes are ordinary people who've achieved great things. Or is it those people who save lives in our emergency services that you admire most? Superheroes have super senses. Use yours to identify mystery items by their smell, taste, sound and touch. What do true superheroes eat to keep their senses and special powers sharp? Can we stop the dastardly plans of Professor Slime? He's dropping his villainous instructions around town. We must stop people following them, but can we make it in time? Is that phone box free? Please excuse me – I have to save the world.
Year 2 <i>Land Ahoy!</i>	Yo ho, yo ho, it's a sailor's life for me. Get your sea legs on, it's time to sail the salty seas. Navigate, investigate and explore the world, just like Captain Cook. Make a boat, sink a ship, fly a pirate flag. Speak like a pirate, write like a poet, then weigh and measure a pirate's booty. How do rescues happen at sea? Find out about brave volunteers and young Miss Darling, rowing her boat across stormy seas. Sing a sea shanty whilst cleaning the poop deck, then search the school grounds for Captain Longbeard's hidden treasure. There's land ahead. Let's get this ship to port.
Year 3 <i>Flow</i>	From humble beginnings, the river flows down the mountain and into the sea. Pull on your wellies and wade right in. How deep does it go and how fast does it travel? What soil types can you find by the river? Which animals make their homes there? Let's get down to the river bank and find out. Now hop on an imaginary boat and travel some of the world's most majestic rivers – the Ganges, the Thames, the Amazon and Nile – and keep a journal as you follow their course. Time to investigate. As part of the local news team, it's your task to track down the source of some mystery pollution. Where did it come from and who is to blame? Let's meander through the world of rivers, taking a dip into their watery world.
Year 4 <i>Burps, Bottoms and Bile</i>	Open wide – let's take a look inside. We're on a voyage of discovery to investigate the busy world inside your body. Do you have a toothy grin or a winning smile? Take dental impressions and test the effects of sugary substances on your pearly whites. Follow a tasty morsel as it makes its way through your digestive system, helped by some mouthwatering saliva. And don't forget the importance of good hygiene at both ends. And whilst we're talking business, could you recognise an animal just by its poo? Are you brave enough to take the challenge? Make a working model of the digestive system and use it to persuade others to eat healthily. Learn how to look after this marvellous belching, squelching, mixture making machine we call our body.
Year 5 <i>Stargazers</i>	Journey through space, the final frontier. Navigate beyond the Sun, the magnificent, blazing star at the centre of our Solar System. Investigate the eight planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Take a look at the Moon, a celestial body that orbits Earth. Programme a rover to traverse a lunar landscape and work scientifically to investigate gravity, and what happens when there is none. Compare the times of day at different places on the Earth and use GPS satellite navigation systems to track hidden treasure. Get in a spin making simple models of the Solar System and listen to the haunting sounds of space themed songs. Then it's 3, 2, 1, blast off. Build and launch a rocket for an important test mission. Exploring space is probably the greatest adventure that humankind has ever undertaken. Are we alone? Or are there other life forms out there?
Year 6 <i>Darwin's Delights</i>	We're off on an exciting expedition with Charles Darwin and his crew on HMS <i>Beagle</i> . Can you trace his route across the vast ocean? Stop at the magical Galápagos Islands to see the amazing species that helped Charles Darwin to develop his theory of evolution by natural selection. Do you know what's so special about a lava lizard, or why the blue-footed booby has blue feet? See how animals adapt to their environments over time and meet some of the world's greatest explorers and naturalists. Imagine how humans will evolve in millions of years. It's a scary thought. Ready to trace the origin of species? Let's set sail.