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Year 4 Alnwick Residential Parents Meeting

Parents with children attending the Y4 Alnwick residential trip are invited to attend a parents' meeting on **Tuesday 26th September 2017, 3.30p.m.**

At this meeting we will be able to give parents and carers a better idea of the planned activities during the trip and the suggested kit list.

This is an amazing opportunity for the children to visit a different part of Northumberland and get involved in a whole range of activities that we would not be able to offer readily in school.

We bet it was only a short time ago that you were peeling a tearful child off your leg at the school gates; soon it will be your turn to “weep at the thought of them going on a residential trip!” Hopefully, we can answer your questions – and ease any worries – about the children’s first residential visit.

We look forward to seeing you.

Special menu: Thursday 5th October

Our kitchen is offering a special menu on **Thursday 5th October**. For one day only it will be:

Sausages, chips and beans

Chocolate cake with chocolate sauce

We will NOT be sending flyers so you MUST PRE-ORDER on Live Kitchen. IF you have already ordered can you please check you are happy with this menu change.

We advise that parents check Live Kitchen regularly to ensure allergen information is up-to-date.



Hoopstarz Heart Day: Friday 29th September 2017

Congratulations to all our children who took part in Hoopstarz sessions. The whole school took part in this fun way of keeping active and we found some really talented children and staff!



Everyone worked very hard to showcase some super hula hooping skills! We have enjoyed it and this is only the beginning of Shanklea Hula Hooping stars! 🌟

In recognition of **World Heart Day, Friday 29th September**, we will take the opportunity to revisit our Hoopstarz skills and have fun whilst keeping healthy. Children should come to school in uniform as normal but ensure they have their PE kit with them.





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Bikeability Training

Next week, many of our older children will be participating in Bikeability training. Professional instructors will help the pupils develop better, safer cycling habits and skills.

Bikeability is like cycling proficiency but even better! Children gain practical skills and an understanding of how to cycle on today's roads. Bikeability gives everyone the skills and confidence for all kinds of cycling in Cramlington.

There are three Bikeability levels, each designed to improve cycling skills, no matter what is known already. Trainees are taken from the basics of balance and control, all the way to planning and making an independent journey on busier roads.

We are sure the children will have a fantastic and very beneficial experience.

Last Week's Attendance

Year Group	Average Attendance %
Reception	96.2
1	99.3
2	97.7
3	94.8
4	95.4
5	98.3
6	96.9



Coffee Community

Our shared reading sessions proved very popular last week as did the coffee refreshments! Feedback from the children was very positive and it was great to see so many parents, grandparents and carers in Shanklea classrooms – over 140+ people in fact.

There was such a buzz around school...The children seem to be developing a real love of reading.

Thank you to everyone for supporting this family learning initiative. It was the perfect way to get our community working together.



Can you help?

EYFS are hoping to make some improvements to their outdoor areas.

If anyone has any of the following or has any expertise or relevant contacts, can you please get in touch with us at the school office, 01670 715205

Metal arches

Pallets (assorted) for making teepees etc

Compost

Milk crates

Cable reels

Large and small pebbles

Planks of wood (210mm x1000mm)

Waterproof felt for greenhouse roof

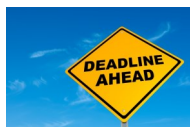
Tyres– any size

Trellis

Thank you for your support.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Secondary School Applications 2018

Can we please remind **Year 6 parents** that the portal is open for parents to apply for school places from September 2018.

The portal will close on 31st October so applications **MUST** be submitted by then or your child's chances of obtaining your choice may be significantly less. Please see the attached poster.

Health Care Plans

Can we please remind parents of children with any medical condition (including asthma and allergies) to ensure that we have a completed and up-to-date healthcare plan in school.

It is **ESSENTIAL** that school is aware of all medical conditions and medicines needed.

Uniform Matters

Can we please remind parents of our Uniform policy. Children must **NOT** wear trainers or jewellery in school.



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Helping with Homework



When children have spent a long day in school they often simply want to play when they get home. While it is absolutely essential for them to be able to do this, time for homework is important too.

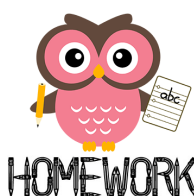
As much as they may grumble about it, doing homework is something children are going to have to get used to and, especially in the early years of school, they are going to need your support.

Instilling good homework strategies now will pay dividends when your child gets to secondary school.

Completing regular homework helps children to develop a responsibility towards their own learning and to become organised and independent learners.

It always helps if ways can be found to make homework fun! Examples include:

- 'beat the clock' - creating a challenge to see how many maths calculations can be done in 3 minutes;
- if the homework is reading, trying creating different voices and accents for the different characters, dressing up or acting out the story.



Usually, children like learning that is fast paced and they enjoy learning through games and competitions. A timer or stop-watch is a great way to keep things fast paced.

The homework your child is set will vary in difficulty but will generally aim to consolidate what your child is learning in school or starting research on a new topic.

If your child has mastered a particular technique at school then they may find the homework easier. Practise is still important however. If the homework is too difficult your child might not have fully secured the skill during their lesson time.

If you feel that homework is regularly not at the right level then it is important to discuss this with the school. If you have concerns that your child is getting too much homework or

worry that they don't get enough please let us know. You can read our homework policy on the website (or ask us for a copy) which should make it clear how much homework is to be expected for each age group.

Homework creates a partnership between school and family, giving parents an insight into what their child is learning.

Shanklea Primary School does not rely on handing out worksheets. Learning logs or challenges are becoming more popular with our children: they are given a folder of suggested activities – from writing a poem to building a model castle – and must choose a certain number to complete throughout the term.

We ensure that homework ties in with the current class topic. We have a themed approach and set homework activities that give opportunities to explore the topic in a fun way, for example, designing a lighthouse.

Unsurprisingly, technology is playing an increasingly important part in homework. We use online reading schemes where teachers allocate e-books of the appropriate level, or online maths services like MyMaths to set tasks.

We also set homework electronically, with children logging into the school website to download their task, get guidance on homework requirements and monitor their own progress on our school learning platform.

Computer Club allows children to complete their digital homework with technical and adult learning support during lunch-hours and after school for those who have no home access to the internet or computer technology.

If you have any comments or concerns, please let us know. By working together we can help our children make effective use of their time and resources to promote their learning and development.



OOSC Programme

Our theme for the week is "Tim Peake"

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
EYFS	Spaceman Spencer	Split pin astronaut	Aliens love underpants	Picnic in space	Lego Rockets
KS1	What would you take to space?	Split pin astronaut	Back to Earth with a bump	Picnic in space	Lego Rockets
KS2	Research: Who is Tim Peake?	All about Tim/Apply to be an Astronaut	Back to Earth with a bump	Who is Julia Payette?	Knex Rockets

Our Wednesday special breakfast will be porridge and berries.





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Northumberland School Admissions

If your child is starting school or transferring to a different phase of education in September 2018 you need to apply for a place.

This includes children born between the following dates:

- children born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 applying for a place to start reception in September 2018
- children in year 4 of a first school born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 applying for a middle school place in September 2018
- children in year 6 of a primary school born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 applying for a secondary school place in September 2018
- children in year 8 of a middle school born between 1 September 2004 and 31 August 2005 applying for a high school place in September 2018

Middle, High and Secondary Schools

The online admissions portal for Middle High and Secondary Schools will open on 11 September 2017 and close on 31 October 2017.

First and Primary Schools

The online admissions portal for First and Primary Schools will open on 5 November 2017 and close on 15 January 2018.

Copies of the Admissions Handbook and application forms are available from
School Admissions

County Hall

Morpeth

NE612EF

Tel. No. 01670 624889

Do not hesitate to contact one of our friendly team who are always happy to help.

Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

