



Shanklea Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Helen Brown
B.Ed(Priamry)Hons, Dip.(Humanities) NPQH

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Nairn Road, Parkside Chase, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 1RQ

Friday 30th April 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Weekly Newsletter

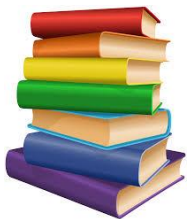
As we welcome summer, we are hoping to leave behind some of the restrictions placed on us by the pandemic and refocus our attention on our core business of teaching and learning.



Summer Learnin'- it happens so fast!



It feels strange to highlight that we are in the final term of the academic year but I sense a real positive atmosphere around school and the **Shanklea Team** is determined to give your children a stimulating and inspiring experience before the year ends. There is little doubt that there is a lot to fit in but our key focus must be on supporting the children to be **"the best they can be"** - socially and academically.



The school continues to plan and develop high quality catch up strategies ranging from individual/ small group tutoring sessions to daily learning activities to supplement and support your children. We are keen to ensure that your children are able to access the Shanklea teaching team as much as possible and we want the extra provision to be driven by those teachers that know your children the most. I firmly believe that this evidences the ongoing care and commitment that Shanklea staff have towards your children.

The most important factor in your children's progress when at school is the quality first teaching that they experience each day and I pledge that all of the children will be able to benefit from a broad and balanced curriculum. Children deserve to be excited about school (!) and, as their feedback told us, they mostly were looking forward to seeing their friends again- and rightly so! **EVERY** day at school does make a difference and we hope that **ALL** parents continue to support the school by enabling their children to attend and join in with any additional opportunities that we plan for them.



Following the parents/carers' consultations, you will be aware of your child's targets and we really appreciate your support at home helping your child to achieve these goals this term.

Of course, we will continue to address the social, emotional and mental well-being issues that have presented themselves as a result of the pandemic. In addition to pastoral support in all of our classes, we have Mental Health First Aid trained staff and a programme of well-being activities delivered through our PSHE lessons each week.





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Our aim is to gradually re-introduce more opportunities for our children to experience school as they once knew it. So far this week we have seen the re-introduction of outdoor and dance clubs during the week. Keep your fingers crossed for lots of sunshine so that we can be enjoying games lessons outside on the field too. Music tuition has resumed, providing a fantastic opportunity for the children to take up keyboard, guitar and recorder lessons.

The children so far, have been a credit to the school on their return and I know will respond positively as we re-establish expectations about learning and behaviour. As always, we are grateful for your support in these matters.



Staying safe in school

This week we have revisited our classroom rules and routines in line with our Covid risk assessment. Some of the restrictions are starting to lift in society but guidance for schools remains the same. The safety of the whole school community remains paramount, therefore we are continuing to keep individual bubbles separate whilst at school. We are following cleaning guidance in lessons and around school, as well as continuing to regularly wash our hands.



- If you or your child shows any symptoms please book a PCR test, isolate and inform us immediately so that we can take advice and act accordingly. Lateral flow tests are not suitable for checking someone who has symptoms.
- Please continue to socially distance and wear a face covering.
- May we respectfully request that children remain with their parents/carers whilst waiting for siblings on the school site. Please do not allow them to use the tyre park or the trim trail.
- Think **"safety"**.

A good rule of thumb is anything a child brings with them (including backpacks and clothes/shoes) is potentially contaminated. With that in mind, extra steps to sanitize this Summer term are essential. Just consider that every time your child takes the backpack to and from school; everything the backpack contains is dirty. At school the children are touching everything - they're touching friends, shared surfaces and so it's very hard to keep things clean. It's definitely better to be super cautious and continue to restrict your child's belongings coming to school.

- Children should bring in a labelled water bottle, waterproof coat and book bag.
- **Lunch boxes**

If you're sending your child to school with a lunchbox, be sure they remove them from their bags and then give them a good wipe down or wash in the sink at the end of the day. Try to aim to do a deep clean on lunch boxes at least once a week. If they are made of fabric, you can sometimes throw them in the laundry. Washing lunch boxes once a week in the washing machine on gentle is recommended. However life does happen. Spraying or wiping them out every day is ideal.



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NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

The children are enjoying their new topics and we have 'mega maths' day coming up soon too!

On **Friday May 7th**, Shanklea School will be joining forces with schools across the country to support a wonderful cause. We are working alongside the NSPCC to keep all children safe and well.

We are asking that **all children dress up for the day as a number**.

This could entail wearing a football shirt with a number on, or even a spotty dress. You could also dress up as a famous mathematician of your choice, or create your own t-shirt with your favourite number on!

Throughout the day, we will be taking part in exciting maths activities to inspire all of our children. We are asking for a **small donation** payable on the **School Gateway** please. All the money goes to this wonderful cause and Shanklea Primary School is very proud to be making a difference. We look forward to seeing your wonderful outfits!

Number Day 2021

Join schools across the UK on Friday 7 May 2021 for our mega maths fundraising day.

Safety Concerns



Sadly, we are receiving increasing reports of cars coming around the front of school and parking on Nairn Road, Needham Drive and Northolt Avenue. Parking is prohibited in these areas without a permit from NCC. Bringing cars close to school presents a significant safety hazard, including dangers from reversing and driving too fast.

Please do NOT bring cars onto the roads close to school.

E-SAFETY

We know this is a regular feature in our newsletters and we make no apology for this. Our children are vulnerable if we all do not educate them on the dangers.

Social media sites including **Facebook**, **TikTok**, **Instagram** and **Snapchat** are **not appropriate** for primary aged pupils.

Most sites have an age restriction of at least 13 due to content which can be inappropriate for younger children and younger children using them often leads to issues in school and have an impact on learning; mental health and wellbeing.





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For more information on how to manage your child's social media use and keep them safe, please visit:
Thinkuknow.co.uk which provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online.



Welcome to Thinkuknow

Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline.

Explore one of the six Thinkuknow websites for advice about staying safe when you're on a phone, tablet or computer.

Legend Trophies

Children in Key Stage 2 are being given the opportunity to build their very own 'Legend trophy' this week. This is an opportunity for the children to show their understanding about how they can be safe when going online. The children have to answer questions about online safety to be able to unlock building instructions which will then help them to build their trophy.

This has come from an amazing website which everyone can access - Please follow the link to explore all about digital safety and citizenship.

https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_uk/interland

There is also a link below for parents to explore all about Internet Legends

https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_uk/parents/



Year 3 and 4 will be bringing their trophies home to build with parents and carers at home and Year 5 and 6 will be building their trophies in school and then bringing them home. **Happy building.**



Shanklea in the Community

We have recently received a number of complaints about children, who are wearing Shanklea hoodies and sweatshirts, using offensive language while playing out at the local park.

We understand that children need some independence and close supervision is not always appropriate but such behaviour impacts on other families who have younger children being unable to use community facilities. Such behaviour also impacts negatively on the reputation of our school. We would appreciate if families could support us by discussing appropriate behaviour and language with children and emphasise the importance of showing respect and consideration for others.





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Free school meals eligibility

Many families are currently finding themselves in a difficult situation financially. Please visit the Northumberland County Council website for more information regarding eligibility for free school meals.

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Meals.aspx>

All applications will be dealt with sensitively and confidentially.

Attendance Matters

Attendance (and punctuality) is improving throughout school. The table on the right highlights the impact on a child's education of being late each day.

A few minutes a day soon add up over time.

Children should be encouraged in helping parents at the start of each day- it's all about working together.

I am pleased to say that we have seen good commitment to attendance from most families since the most recent lockdown. I would **REALLY** hope that, whilst some families may start considering 'catching up' on a holiday, they would also consider the negative impact of such decisions considering the amount of time children have already missed. We all like to enjoy a holiday (at the right time!) but children have a **RIGHT** to an education and they only get one chance in life for that.

Education IS life changing!



MINUTES LATE	IMPACT ON YOUR ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
MINUTES A DAY =	3.4 days 98.4% attendance
3 MINUTES A DAY =	6.9 days 97.6% attendance
5 MINUTES A DAY =	10.3 days 94.6% attendance
10 MINUTES A DAY =	13.8 days 92.9% attendance
15 MINUTES A DAY =	20.7 days 89.2% attendance

Sun safety

As the weather is unpredictable and bad days can quickly turn in to sunny ones we thought it timely to remind everyone of our school's commitment to sun safety. On days where the weather looks promising, please ensure your child has **sun cream** on (and is sent in with their own labelled sun cream to reapply), has appropriate clothing- which may include **sunhats**, **sun glasses** and **light cotton uniform**. **Water bottles** should also be sent on a daily basis.

Please talk to your child about the importance of staying safe in the sun and teach them how to apply sun cream and what areas need to be covered.

Our Sun Protection Policy has been developed with the help of key advisors from Public Health, Health and Safety in order to ensure that we can all enjoy the sun safely over the coming months.

The sun's rays are particularly strong between April and September and can damage children's skin. This may not seem like a problem right now, but it can lead to skin cancer in later life. Your child's health and well-being are very important to us, which is why we have decided to:

- Increase the amount of school time spent learning about sun protection





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- Work towards providing more shade in the playground
- Encourage pupils to wear hats and t shirts when outside
- Encourage pupils to use at least SPF 30 sunscreen
- Ensure that pupils have 4 to 5 glasses of water a day
- Give consideration to the time of outdoor activities, where possible
- Maintain a supply of sunscreen for emergency use. The sunscreen,
 - Is at least factor 30
 - protects against UVA/UVB and UVC
 - is perfume free, dye free and water resistant
 - is suitable for children aged three and above



If you have any concerns about the suitability of use of the sun cream for your child, please let us know.

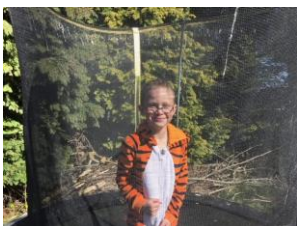
Your support is very important if the policy is going to work and you can help by:

- Talking to your child about the importance of sun protection at home
- Sending your child to school with a wide brimmed hat, either bucket or legionnaires' style
- Ensuring that your child wears cotton clothing
- Apply sunscreen, at least SPF 30, to exposed areas including the nose and tops of ears in the morning before attending at school.

Together I hope we can have a very happy and safe term to come!

Shanklea Superstars

"For all those finding it difficult, the sun will shine on you again and the clouds will go away: tomorrow will be a good day!" (Captain Sir Tom Moore 1920 – 2021)



A huge well done to **Charlie** and **Harrison D** who did 100 twirls of the pool and 100 jumps on the trampoline for the Captain Tom 100 Challenge. What an excellent effort.

Please let us know how you meet the challenge!





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We told you in last week's newsletter how children raised money for the **Daft as a Brush** charity. We were delighted to receive this wonderful thank you letter from them. They are always looking for volunteer drivers and organising fundraising events.



Congratulations to the **Shanklea Stars** of last week

Jenna M

Owen F

Brooke P

Musa C

James J

Tia J

Poppy E

Ruby G

Niamh C

Olivia J

Tyler C

Priya B

Alfie H

Olivia G



Summer Term Menu

The new Summer Term Menu comes into effect from next Tuesday and will be sent separately with this newsletter. You may now pre-order on the School Grid.



Don't forget that **school will be closed on Monday 3rd May** for the May Day Holiday. We will be open as usual on Tuesday 4th May 2021.

Have a lovely weekend.



Mrs H Brown
Head Teacher

