



# Shanklea Primary School

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

Telephone : 01670 715205

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Website: [www.shanklea.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.shanklea.northumberland.sch.uk)

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

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## Weekly Newsletter

We ask all parents who send their children to Shanklea Primary to support our school uniform policy. We believe that parents and guardians have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. This includes ensuring that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean, in good repair and of appropriate fit.

Please support our positive school image and ensure that all children abide by this uniform policy. This includes no nail varnish or extreme hairstyles.

P.E. is a statutory part of the curriculum and children are entitled to 2 hours of P.E. each week from KS1 upwards.

### **It is compulsory that children have their PE kit in school.**

Every pupil must be fully equipped with the required P.E. kit for every lesson. Our uniform policy states that: 'The school has adopted the following uniform for P.E. lessons:

- A white t-shirt
- A pair of black shorts
- A pair of black pumps / black trainers
- During winter months, children may wear a pair of black jogging bottoms and a black jumper/ Shanklea Hoodie.'

Throughout school, there are some children who regularly forget their P.E. kits and this is having a detrimental effect on their learning as it may be that they cannot participate without the correct clothing.

We also have numerous children throughout school who are trying to do their P.E. lesson in school shoes. This is a serious health and safety risk and can result in serious slips, trips and falls.

Participation in P.E. lessons is monitored; therefore if a pupil does not have the required kit or cannot remove earrings, then this will result in an initial verbal reminder to the child, followed by a letter to parents/carers if the reminder proves to be unsuccessful.

Children who bring their P.E. kits every week will be rewarded with Castle Points.

Children can only wear small plastic stud insert earrings to school for newly pierced ears. Parents/carers are encouraged to only allow their child's ears to be pierced at the start of the summer holidays so that they have



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time to heal before returning to school. For their safety of **ALL** children, **NO** other jewellery (i.e. bracelets/necklaces) are allowed to be worn at school.

If your child does come to school in jewellery (other than small plastic stud inserts ) please be advised that they will be asked to remove it, and staff will keep it safe until the end of the day when you can collect it.

## Reading

It has been pleasing to see the pupils starting to enjoy the new reading books that have been purchased this year and regain some normality in their learning. To ensure we are able to continue to send books home we ask that all parents continue to support the school systems that are in place to limit the risk of transmission.

They are as follows:

- Pupils in all classes will receive a book to take home each Monday
- This should be kept at home throughout the week
- Books **must** be returned to school on a Friday

Returned books will be left over the weekend (72 hours) before being returned into circulation.

Unfortunately, therefore, at this time we are not able to receive books into school during the week as this will not support our health and safety systems.

If you are looking for ways to enjoy reading with your child there are many authors that have interesting websites and games and activities about books they may have read.

Alternatively you can listen and share books on sites such as

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>

## Supporting Children with Healthcare

Shanklea Primary School follows strict procedures to ensure we fully support every child who has any kind of medical need and that we properly manage medications kept in school. It is very important that families communicate any medical information to school and advise us if anything changes.

We will shortly send parents/carers of children who currently have a Healthcare Plan a new form so that we can ensure that all information held in school is accurate and up-to-date. Please return the forms to the Office Team as soon as you can.



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## Happy Halloween Reading

On Thursday 22nd October, 11:30am our younger children will be joining a 'live read broadcast' which will last for 30 minutes, and make reading exciting and book characters come alive:

### *Halloween Live Read - Room On The Broom with Janey the Witch.*

Room on the Broom is a very funny story of quick wits and friendship which will captivate children with Julia Donaldson's irresistible verse and Axel Scheffler's spectacular illustrations.

This spooky witch will not only be reading Room On The Broom but will also be telling her stories on Witches, Goblins and Ghosts!

There will be an interactive section where Janey will teach children how to create their own spells, and the best spell that gets entered in the chat facility, will win a prize for their school but the question is will this be a trick or treat?

## Halloween Fun Day Fundraiser

We are also delighted to announce that on **Thursday 22nd October** we will be hosting a **Halloween Fun Day Fundraiser!**

We would be extremely grateful if all parents could contribute **£1.50 per child**, via the **School Gateway**. This is to cover the cost of all prizes rewarded on the day with any remainder going towards school funds.

What will the day include?

- A day full of fun Halloween themed activities (in class groups of course!)
- Competitions and prizes to be won throughout the day.
- Halloween themed non-school uniform (weather appropriate)

## Competition Time

### *STAY home and STAY safe over the half term holidays!*

To help children to have fun whilst staying safe over the half term holidays, we have decided to run 3 competitions to be completed at home individually or as a family. Each competition will have a **£1 entry fee**. Each pupil or family can enter all the competitions or take your pick of 1 or 2!



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Competition 1	Family pumpkin carving, drawn or painted face (take a picture and send it to school preferably in the dark with lit candle inside if carved)
Competition 2	Halloween themed decorated biscuits, cakes or anything baked (take a picture and send to school)
Competition 3	Halloween drawing, painting or anything art related (take a picture and send to school)

Please email all entry pictures directly to your child's class teacher by **Tuesday 3rd November**.

There will be one overall winner for each competition which will be judged by our Senior Leadership Team. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded on **Friday 6th November**.

**Payment details**      Payment can be made via the School Gateway for both Halloween Fun Day contributions

Please pay for the Fun Day by Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

Please pay for the competitions by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.




## EYFS Pumpkin Patch

Next week EYFS are turning our outdoor play area into a pumpkin patch. We have lots of lovely activities planned including: scavenger hunts, rhyming potions, number hunt and lots more.

As part of our pumpkin patch programme, children will be able to choose a pumpkin. Please contribute to the Halloween Fun Day Fundraiser on the School Gateway, as described earlier, to cover the cost of pumpkins.

## Halloween Lunch

To celebrate another successful half term, our Catering team will be preparing a special, Halloween Themed Lunch on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October:

-  Hot dog and chips (or vegetarian sausage and chips)
-  Jacket potato with choice of fillings
-  Sandwich with choice of fillings



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🍌 Halloween baked treats

🍌 Cartons of fruit juice

Please pre-order (and pay where appropriate) on School Grid.

## Christmas Cards

Early next term, will see the much anticipated return of Christmas Card designing. This has proved extremely popular in the past as parents and carers have the opportunity to purchase professionally made Christmas cards designed by their children. A new online ordering system has been developed to meet the challenges of Covid-19 and more information will be sent out shortly.

## Fundraising – can you help?

We are always looking at new and improved ways to provide more exciting curriculum and extracurricular activities for the children. Any help with fundraising is always greatly appreciated.

With shrinking Government support and budgets, we rely more and more on the generosity of our parents and the local community to help with projects around the school. The **Friends of Shanklea** do an amazing job of helping to raise funds and we are indebted for their support in obtaining the fantastic new computing equipment in 2020 - iPads, iPods and Chromebooks. If you have any contacts with local shops or businesses that may be able to help our school please get in touch with our Office Team. For example, Cramlington Asda have kindly agreed to support our school with local crafts linked to the Halloween theme

## Computing and Remote Learning

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic presents an unprecedented challenge for our school system and the traditional approach to delivering education. The impact of the pandemic has necessitated many pupils being out of school, and this will continue to be the case for some pupils, in line with the legal requirements and guidance in place to tackle the virus.

Shanklea Primary School has responded to this with a strong and proactive commitment to providing remote education, in these challenging and uncertain circumstances.

From Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020, the Government has made it a legal duty legal for parents, teachers and schools to provide remote education for state-funded, school-age children who are unable to attend school due to COVID-19.

## Remote education expectations

Where a class, group or a small number of pupils need to self-isolate, or local restrictions require pupils to remain at home, the Government expects schools to have the capacity to offer immediate remote education.





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Schools are expected to consider how to continue to improve the quality of their existing curriculum, for example through technology, and have a strong contingency plan in place for remote education provision by the end of October 2020. This planning will be particularly important to support a scenario in which the logistical challenges of remote provision are greatest, for example where large numbers of pupils are required to remain at home.

In developing these contingency plans, the Government expects schools to:

- use a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources and teaching videos and that is linked to the school's curriculum expectations
- give access to high quality remote education resources
- select the online tools that will be consistently used across the school in order to allow interaction, assessment and feedback and make sure staff are trained in their use
- provide printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks, for pupils who do not have suitable online access
- recognise that younger pupils and some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support and so schools should work with families to deliver a broad and ambitious curriculum

When teaching pupils remotely, schools are expected to:

- set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects
- teach a planned and well-sequenced curriculum so that knowledge and skills are built incrementally, with a good level of clarity about what is intended to be taught and practised in each subject
- provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher in the school or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos
- gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum, using questions and other suitable tasks and set a clear expectation on how regularly teachers will check work
- enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding
- plan a programme that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, ideally including daily contact with teachers



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In the younger years, families will be able to access digital learning through Tapestry and from Year 1 through to Year 6 Google Classroom.

A Google Classroom leaflet will be sent home shortly with lots more information on how to access learning at home. If you have any problems, please contact your child's teacher via email or contact our Office Team.

## Shanklea Stars of the Week

Congratulations to last week's Stars of the Week who have impressed their teachers with their hard work:

**Amelie M, Catie T, Scarlett R, Sean J, Harley H, Chloe M, Jackson C**

**Isla B, Luke E, Jessica C, Beth W, Thomas R, Maya J**

Please remember **school closes** for the half-term holidays after school on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** and **reopens** on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**. Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October is a staff training day.

Kind regards,

Mrs H Brown  
Head Teacher