



Northern Saints

NEWSLETTER



Friday 25th June 2021

A message from the Headteacher

It seems hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of term. It has been a year like no other for all of us, but our children have been a credit to you all. They have attended school and enjoyed the “normality” of seeing friends and engaging in face-to-face teaching once again. A number of classes have enjoyed school trips and we have been able to offer a programme of after school clubs this term.

Whilst sadly, current restrictions still prevent us from inviting parents/ carers to our summer events, we look forward to hosting a series of mini-Sports Days and watching our Year 6 leavers performance, which will be recorded and shared for parents/ carers to enjoy virtually.

As yet, no one knows what September will look like, but if all restrictions are lifted on July 19th, we will write to you again to confirm arrangements.

Consultation on changing the times of the school day

During the last 18 months we have been forced to alter the times of the school day to keep bubbles separate and safe. We have reduced lunchtime to 45 minutes and the latest pupils have finished school has been 3.15pm. This has worked really well. Children have had sufficient time to eat their lunch and just enough time to play with their friends before getting bored or involved in issues on the playground.

Therefore, should everything return to normal in September, we propose the following timings of the school day:

Start time: Doors will open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am.

Lunchtime will be 45 minutes.

School will finish at 3.15pm for all pupils.

Sibling arrangements will be in place once again to support families with more than one child in school.

Please contact school via email reception@nsprimary.org.uk or telephone the main office on 0191 9171685 if you would like to make an appointment to discuss this further.

Transition arrangements for new classes

You will receive your child's annual school report on Friday 2nd July. Within the envelope will be a letter informing you of your child's new class teacher for September. To support transition, we have planned 2 afternoons on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th July for your child to meet their new teacher.

Sports Day

Our Sports days will take place over 2 days, Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th July (please see below for each year group) We are planning a classic Sports Day, aiming for participation for all. Please send your child into school in suitable PE kit (Plain navy shorts and white T-shirt), a sunhat, and a drinks bottle on their allocated day. To follow our sports day, please visit our PE twitter page ([pe_nsp](#)) and/or our school Facebook page.

New RSHE Policy consultation

Thank you to those parents/ carers who responded to our recent consultation on the new RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) policy. I fully understand why a small number of parents expressed a concern about the age appropriateness of these lessons. If we are able to have large groups of parents back into school in the autumn term, you will be invited to view a sample of the teaching materials we will use. This is a statutory requirement that we must teach by law, however, you will be given notice of your right to withdraw your child from RSHE lessons in the autumn term.

School Uniform

During the pandemic we have been a little flexible with school uniform to support our families during these challenging times. From September, we will be enforcing our uniform policy, to ensure appropriate school shoes are worn, a school tie and plain unbranded PE kit. Can I remind you that PE kit, including shorts, T shirts and tracksuits with our school logo is available to purchase from the school office, but this is not compulsory. Plain navy shorts, white T-shirts and plain dark tracksuits are acceptable.

School will be open w/c 30th August for collection of uniform orders, if you have not been able to collect before the end of term. Please note the 30th is bank holiday Monday so school will be open from Tuesday 31st.

For a full list of school uniform, please refer to our school website: <https://nsprimary.org.uk/>

Staff presents

A number of parents have contacted school to confirm the position on bringing presents into school for staff at the end of term. Firstly, I would like to clarify that this is not an expectation at all! However, if this is something you would like to do, can I encourage you to bring them on the very last day, to limit transmission between home and school.

Absence Reporting

Can I please remind parents, if your child is absent from school, you must inform the school office by 9.30am. If you ring the office on 0191 9171685, choose option 1 and leave a message giving the reason for absence.

Reminder of diary dates

Please note we break up for the summer holidays on Friday 16th July. We have a staff training day on Monday 6th September and pupils return on Tuesday 7th September. A separate letter will be sent to parents who have children starting Reception next term with details of transition arrangements.

Date	Time	Event
28.06.21	All week	Y5 Bikeability
28.06.21	All day	Miss Liddle's class trip to Bede's World
29.06.21	All day	Mrs Race's class trip to Bede's World
01.07.21	All day	Miss Woodfield's class trip to Bede's World
02.07.21	2.00pm	St Anthonys in school for transition meeting
02.07.21		Pupil reports to parents/ carers
05.07.21	Morning	Sports Day – Year 5/6
05.07.21	Afternoon	Sports Day - Year 3/4
06.07.21	Morning	Sports Day - Year 1/2
06.07.21	Afternoon	Sports Day - Reception
07.07.21/08.07.21	12.30pm-3pm	New class transition afternoons
07.07.21	All day	Year 6 transition day at CVEA
08.07.21	All day	Language provision trip to Eden Camp
09.07.21		Year 6 Bowling
13.07.21	All day	Year 2 trip to Durham Cathedral
14.07.21		Year 6 leavers performance available to parents
15.07.21	6.00pm-7.30pm	Year 6 Disco
16.07.21		Break up for Summer holidays
07.09.21		Children return to school