



ACOMB FIRST SCHOOL



Headteacher Mrs Angela Speed

NEWSLETTER MAY 2018

Hexham partnership consultation results NCC and HLT

Thank you for all the fabulous support through a difficult and uncertain time. Needless to say we are delighted that Acomb is no longer under threat of closure from NCC consultation. We are looking forward to a fantastic future for all the children now and in the future!

GDPR

We are currently reviewing some of our systems to ensure we are GDPR compliant by 25th May. The GDPR relates to how personal data is stored and used. We will be sending out some new consent forms that reflect the new requirements in due course.

Young Entrepreneurs

Well done to class 2 who raised the fantastic amount of £205.30 at their craft fair on Monday 30th April. The money will go towards new books for school.

Attendance. Target 96%

As you are no doubt aware it is one of my responsibilities as headteacher to monitor attendance weekly and consider how attendance rates can be improved.

It has been a long winter and at the present time several children's attendance level is currently well below the expected level of 96%. I do understand that this is mainly due to illness. However as I am sure you will understand, this is a cause for concern. If a child misses a significant number of lessons, then they may fall behind the rest of the class in their academic progress, as well as losing touch with friends and teachers. I am hopeful that as the weather improves there will be less illness.

I appreciate that children fall ill and can be too unwell to come to school. However, if an ailment seems minor, please send your child to school; very often, children forget their symptoms in the course of a busy school day and staff will support them. If

your child continues to feel unwell in school, then rest assured that staff will contact you and make the appropriate arrangements to return your child home.

I know that you will wish to support the school in our efforts to improve attendance for the benefit of the children. Therefore, in accordance with current guidelines, I suggest that if your child is ill and their attendance is below the expected figure of 96% you make an appointment with your GP; I would also request that proof of any medical appointments be sent to school so that I can authorise the absence. Appointment cards or prescriptions would be acceptable. It is not necessary to purchase a letter from your GP. Please do ensure you ring the school office on each day of absence to speak to Mrs Craig who is in school from 8.15am.

As always I wish to work with families to do the very best for your children and if there is anything that I can do to support you in this matter, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Please note that family holidays cannot be taken in school time. If you should decide to go ahead with a request for term time absence please ask Mrs Craig or myself for the appropriate forms before booking any such holidays and a meeting with me will be arranged to discuss if there are any exceptional circumstances in line with the Local authority policies and Hexham partnership agreements.

Where appropriate I will be sending individual letters regarding your child's attendance and attendance reports to date and may ask you to come in for a meeting with myself to discuss how we can understand and support any attendance issues. If need be a referral to our Education Welfare Officer may be made on an individual basis where attendance is well below expectations.

Diary dates for the summer term

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Monday 7 th May	Bank holiday; school is closed	
Thursday 17 th May	Royal Wedding Celebration Buffet Lunch	
Week beginning 21 st May	Walk to school Week. NCC scheme Please try to walk to or from school as often as you can or park a little further away.	
Friday 25 th May	Judo sessions for C1 and 2 at school. Please send the children to school in Wentworth uniform and trainers	
	Half term	
Monday 11 th June	School photograph day. Information to be sent to you nearer the time	
Sunday 24 th June	Little Oaks and Acomb school PTA Summer fair on school field. Please do support this event by helping with preparation and help on the day and of course attending.	11.00am-1.00pm
Monday 25 th June Sports week	First school Swimming gala. Invited swimmers will be given a letter nearer the time	9.30am-12.00pm
Friday 29 th June	School sports day.	Time to be confirmed
Monday 2 nd July	Broomley Grange Residential Trip for year 4. Meeting for parents. If you are unable to attend please ask Mrs Hinchcliffe for details nearer the time.	3.15pm
Tuesday 3 rd July	Transfer day for children who are moving on to middle school.	
Thursday 5 th July	Reports to Parents sent home	
Date to be confirmed	Hexham partnership Sports festival for year 4. No spectators for this event	In school day
Monday 9 th -Wednesday 11 th July	Broomley Grange Residential Trip for year 4	
Tuesday 17 th July	Provisional date for end of year school performance. Details to follow.	Afternoon and evening performances
Friday 20 th July	Last day of term. Year 4 leaver's assembly and celebration. Year 4 parents invited.	2pm

Class trips to be arranged and details to follow.