

Spittal Community First School News



Create Achieve Respect Enjoy!

7th September 2016

www.spittal.northumberland.sch.uk

01289 307413

Welcome

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you had a lovely summer and the children have a happy and successful year. We are welcoming 34 new children into school as well as two new staff members. Miss Lundy is covering Miss Bayly's maternity leave (no baby news yet!) and Miss Martin is covering Miss Dixon's maternity leave (baby Scarlett arrived in the holidays and both are doing well). We hope all our new starters settle in well and enjoy their time at Spittal.

School News

The staff have been busy in school over the holidays and teacher training days getting the new classrooms ready and having training on using the outdoors more. We expect this year to be outside much more regularly so children will need to have suitable clothes in school for the weather. Miss Richards and the early year's team are developing an outdoor area at the side of the school. At present we enter through this area so in the next few weeks we will change the school entrance to the side gates after the new build is finished completely. The new classrooms are virtually finished inside but the outside will be completed over the next few weeks with as little disruption to the children as possible. This building has created two fabulous teaching spaces and we have invested in technology to match what is available in our main building.

At the beginning of each half term you will receive a copy of this newsletter with dates for the term so far. There is an updated newsletter added to the website every week with more dates added along with the names of our 'stars of the week', so please check the website regularly for information and news at www.spittal.northumberland.sch.uk. The website also contains other useful information such as term dates, the school prospectus, curriculum information and photographs. Copies of each week's newsletter are also displayed on the notice boards in the school playground. Our school face book page also has reminders and updates of useful information.

Attached to this letter you will find a permission letter for local visits, photographs and an updated data sheet. If your child has any medical conditions such as asthma, epilepsy, allergies please add this on to the data collection sheet as we then need to complete medical plans.

Please could you remember to send any money into school in a named envelope on a Monday? The cost is £1.95 per day. Swimming this year again for years two, three and four is £3.00 per week payable on a Monday.

Free School Meals and School Milk

School meals are free for those in reception, year one and two but need to be paid for from year three onwards unless you are eligible for Free School Meals. However, to receive free school milk from the term after your child's fifth birthday parents will still need to apply for Free School Meals. The school also receives funding for each child from families receiving these benefits if Free School Meals are applied for.

This funding is used to provide extra support for children to help them to achieve their very best at school. Please apply for Free School Meals if at any time you become eligible for any of the benefits listed even if your child is in reception, year one or two. Forms are available from the school office.

Children are eligible for Free School Meals if any of the following are met;

- Child Tax Credit ONLY- Income below £16,190 (Families receiving Working Tax Credit are not eligible)
- Income Support
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Income Based Job Seekers allowance
- Guaranteed Element Of State Pension Credit.
- The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

P.E and swimming will both start next week so please ensure all kits are in school.

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the school office. I hope we have a fabulous year!

Wendy Kiff

Diary Dates

Week beginning 12th September

Reception children stay until 1.20 p.m

Week beginning 19th September

Reception full time.

Monday 19th September

1.30 p.m Reception parents session on phonological awareness

Thursday 29th September

1.30-3.00 p.m Reception parents session on vocabulary and language development part 1.

Monday 3rd October

Miss Ellis's class trip to the Hirsell

Tuesday 4th October

Mr Hair class trip to The Hirsell

Wednesday 5th October

Miss Richards class trip to The Hirsell

Thursday 6th October

Miss Lundy class trip to The Hirsell

1.30-3.00 p.m Reception parents session on vocabulary and language development part 2.

Wednesday 12th October

2-3 p.m Reception parents session on speech development

Thursday 20th October

9.00-9.30 a.m Harvest assembly y Mr Hair Miss Wallace and Mrs Wallace's classes

2.24-3.20 p.m Harvest assembly Miss Richards, Miss Ellis and Miss Lundy's classes

Friday 21st October

School closes 3.20p.m for half term

Monday 31st October

School re-opens 8.55 a.m