



SEPTEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

22.09.15.

Welcome back to a new school year and to the first newsletter of the year. It is great to see everyone back looking so fit and healthy and we all look forward to another successful school year.

As always, we look forward to working in partnership with you as parents and guardians so that we can help your children be happy and achieve their full potential while in our care.

Welcome

I'd like to begin by welcoming all of our new starters who have joined us this year:

Ava, Imogen, Jack, William, Oliver, Maisie, Dexter, Elle, Milosz, Stephen, Lucie-Kate, Thomas, Bartosz, Max, Summer, Kayla, Zak.

I'd also like to welcome Mrs. Sherrard our new teacher in Class 3.

Website

Our school has a website. Our school policies are on there, and we will keep updating the events & dates. The school holiday dates are also on there. The web address is:

<http://www.st-godrics.durham.sch.uk/>

We will also keep our newsletters on there too.

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon – Friday 26th September

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon & Non Uniform Day – Friday 25th September

We hope you are able to join us for coffee at 2.00pm, so that we can raise funds for this important charity.

We will also let the children come to school in non uniform if they bring in £1 towards the MacMillan charity.



Class 1 & 2 Welcome Liturgy – 2.30pm on Monday 28th September

You are invited to Class 1 & 2's liturgy to welcome all of our new starters. This will take place in the school hall on the above date. All welcome.



Video Games Safety Reminder

Attached to the newsletter is a reminder about video games ratings and the law that we sent out before the holidays. It is our duty of care to our children that we ensure that they are safe. If we feel concerned about any child playing inappropriate games for their age, we may need to take further action.

Whole School Photographs - Wednesday October 7th

With reference to school photographs—if your child has a younger brother/ sister (not in school) and you would like them to have a photograph taken with them, please come along to the school hall at 9.00am.

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SCHOOL OFFICE IF NEEDED



A Few Reminders!

ONLY SMALL BAGS TO BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL – please!

We have an increased number of children in school and limited space in our cloakroom. We do not have the room for children to have large PE bags or book bags. PLEASE send your children to school with only small bags.

Holidays:

The Government have still tightened the rules concerning taking leave of absence in term time.

The head teacher is only allowed to grant any 'leave of absence' in "exceptional circumstances", and these can only be very exceptional circumstances.

PLEASE be aware of the law when planning holidays in the future.

Please note: NO absences will be authorised in May. This is an important assessment time, including Y6 SATs, and pupils must not miss work at this point. Year 2 pupils will also be required to be assessed during May .

SATS week is from 9th – 13th May.

Haircuts:

Governors agreed that the school policy would be only appropriate haircuts for school should be permitted. This means no patterns to be shaved into heads – this includes the 'v' shape that is shaved down the back of children's heads.

Jewellery:

Governors agreed that the school policy would be that NO jewellery is allowed to be worn in school for health & safety reasons. Children will be asked to remove any & it will be kept safe for a parent to collect. In the case of earrings, parents will be asked to come down to school to remove the earrings if a child is unable to do this themselves.

Packed Lunch Policy

Our packed lunch policy is in place. No crisps (except baked crisps) and **no** chocolate or sweets will be allowed. There should be no chocolate yoghurts or anything else containing chocolate. A piece of cake or 2 biscuits is allowed. There are lots of alternatives to crisps such as bread sticks, crackers etc.

A copy of the policy is on the website, or held in the school office, or if you need to speak to us about this, please don't hesitate to contact school.



Medication:

No medication is allowed in school unless it has been prescribed by a doctor and must be taken 4 times per day or more. If this is the case, an adult must bring the medicine to school & collect it, and must fill in a medication form at the office.

Dogs:

No dogs on school premises please.



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Names in clothes:

As you will realise, it can be a great problem identifying which clothes belong to who when the children all wear uniform. PLEASE put names in your children's clothes, coats & on their book bags.

Money in school:

Please remember to put any money sent into school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and what the money is for. Dinner money should be sent into school on a Monday, with correct amount of money if possible please - £9.75.



Morning supervision:

Please remember that there is no supervision for children until 8.45am each morning.

Until then, parents are responsible for the supervision of their children. We cannot admit children into school until 8.45am from which time we are able to supervise them.

Absence:

If your child is going to be absent, please inform school before 9.30am so that we know that they are safe.



Breakfast Club

Thank you to those of you who have kindly volunteered to help at breakfast club. If you do find you have a spare half hour, we would love to hear from you.

Birthdays

The staff are happy to hand out cake for children's birthdays but could you please send in individual small cakes or biscuits as sharing out big cakes can be quite challenging, thank you.

Dates for your Diary so far

- 25th September - Non uniform day for MacMillan
- MacMillan Coffee Afternoon
- 28th September - 2.30pm – Class 1 & 2 Welcome Liturgy for our new starters in the school hall – all welcome
- 5th October - Class 5 attend a cyber bullying workshop at St. Bede's, Peterlee during school time.
- 7th October - School photographs
- 13th October - Fancy Dress Disco
- 23rd October - BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM HOLIDAY
- 3rd November - Class 3, 4 & 5 trip to a synagogue
- 12th November - Parents' Evening – please ring office to book an appointment to discuss your child's progress with their teacher
- 13th November - Class 4 trip to archaeology museum
- 4th December - 2pm – School Christmas Fair – all welcome
- 8th & 9th December – pm - Class 1 & 2 Nativity Play
- 11th December - Children have their Christmas lunch
- 14th December - 6pm – Class 3 & 4 Carol Service
- 16th December - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas Party
- 17th December - Reception, Year 1 & 2 Christmas Party
- 18th December - BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Return to school on 5th January