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Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance & Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 was 96.18% this week. This means that we are in the **Green Zone** and we are meeting our targets set by the Department for Education.

Attendance	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week commencing 28th September	98.53%	95.36%	94.70%	94.67%	98.30%	95.16%
Autumn Half Term 1	**98.27%**	**95.10%**	**94.89%**	**97.54%**	**98.51%**	**95.83%**

School Meal Ordering Reminder

Thank you to the many families who are now successfully using SwiftKitchen to pre-order their child's school meals. We would like to remind all parents that meals must be ordered in advance through SwiftKitchen. Pre-ordering helps ensure that children receive their preferred meal choice, enables the kitchen to prepare the correct number of meals and reduces food waste.

Please take particular attention to the slide explaining how to check your meal out. If you do not click on the 'Pay' button, even if you do not pay for your meals, your order will not be completed and therefore school will not receive it.

Unfortunately, we are still seeing a number of children arriving for lunch without a meal order in place. This creates significant challenges for our kitchen team, who then have to adjust catering arrangements at short notice. In some cases, this may result in children being unable to receive their first-choice meal.

If you have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible at:
https://app.swiftkitchen.co.uk/register

If you need your child's SwiftKitchen Key or any support setting up your account, please contact the school office. Thank you for your support and cooperation as we continue to embed this new system and ensure a smooth lunchtime experience for all pupils.

Operation Christmas Child

Pupils have been given leaflets for the Operation Christmas Child appeal which our school will be supporting again this year. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, a Christian international relief organisation. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These simple gifts are shipped outside the United Kingdom to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

Please return shoeboxes to school by **Wednesday 4th November.**

More information can be found here: Operation Christmas Child | Samaritans Purse (samaritans-purse.org.uk)



Book Fair
We are delighted to be hosting our Book Fair in school next week. The Book Fair will be arriving in school with hundreds of new children's books to browse and buy. Every book bought can help to get FREE books for our school library.

The Book Fair will be open on the following days:

- **Wednesday 7th October**– pupils can visit the book fair with their class during the school day.
- **Thursday 8th October 3.15pm-4.00pm** – parents can attend with pupils.

There are over 200 titles for you and your child to choose from, and with prices starting from only £2.99, there's sure to be a book for everyone. You can explore the range of titles here: The Book Fair selection - Scholastic Book Fairs

Ways to buy books:

- At the book fair with cash, book fair vouchers or online. Vouchers can be purchased from Book Fair Gift Vouchers - Scholastic Book Fairs.
- Online – please complete the 'Wish List' form noting your payment reference details and return to school.

Once payment has been received by one of the above formats, pupils can take home their new books to enjoy!



E-scooters, E-bikes, and Off-Road Motorbikes
Please see communication on behalf of Northumbria Police:

In the run up to Christmas, we would like to help you make informed decisions about presents you buy for your children. Don't help your child break the law with e-scooters, e-bikes, and off-road motorbikes.

As we're sure you're aware from the news and possibly personal experience, these illegally-ridden vehicles cause not just nuisance to our communities but also pose a huge risk to the safety of the public including that of your own child.

All privately-owned e-scooters are NOT LEGAL to be ridden anywhere on public land.
This includes roads, cycle lanes, footpaths, and bridleways.
The only place to ride them legally is on private land with the landowner's permission.

Electrically-assisted pedal cycles (EPACs) and e-bikes are a little more complex as various conditions apply for them to be road legal.
Please see the accompanying leaflet for more information about this.

CONSEQUENCES OF ILLEGAL RIDING
The vehicle can be seized by police and crushed.
The rider (including a child) could be prosecuted for driving offences resulting in penalty points and a fine.

If the rider doesn't have a driving licence, a 'ghost' licence is created where the penalty points are held until a provisional licence is issued.
A parent/carer can be prosecuted for the offence of 'use, cause and permit' the illegal use of a vehicle, i.e. they have bought the vehicle and have allowed the child to ride it.
Again, penalty points and a fine can apply.

toothPASTE Study
We would like to share a useful resource with families: the **toothPASTE Study** website.
The website has been developed to support children with autism and their families in establishing positive toothbrushing habits and improving oral health. It includes information, resources and guidance that may be helpful for parents and carers children with Autism.
You can find out more by visiting:
https://www.autismtoothcare.com/



New Adventurelands Vouchers
We have very kindly been donated vouchers for a children's birthday party and for off-peak play sessions at New Adventurelands Soft Play. In order to raise funds for school, we would like to offer parents the opportunity to buy a play session voucher at a discounted price of £5.00 (standard admission is £9.50) and/or to buy a birthday party voucher at a discounted price of £20.00 (the voucher entitles the bearer to £100.00 off any weekday birthday party package). We will allocate vouchers on a random basis and contact parents in the coming weeks. All proceeds will support our school PTA fundraising for the benefit of our pupils. Please complete the relevant forms to register your interest:

Play Session: New Adventurelands Play Session Voucher – Fill out form

Birthday Party Voucher: New Adventurelands Birthday Party Voucher – Fill out form

Dates for the Diary (as always, dates are subject to change!):
W4ednesday 7th October – Pupils to visit Book Fair in School Day
Thursday 8th October 3.15pm-4pm – Families to visit Book Fair
Friday 9th October – Year 4 Hockey Festival
Tuesday 13th October - Mr Taylor Bible Stories
Wednesday 14th October 9.00am – Reception Phonics Workshop
Thursday 15th October – Year 6 Cross Country
Wednesday 21st October – Cake Sale
Thursday 22nd October – Year 5 visit to Laing Art Gallery
Friday 23rd October – Buddies Celebration of the Word (Reception and Year 6)
Friday 23rd October – Last day of Half Term
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October – School closed for Half Term Holiday
Monday 2nd November – Pupils return to school