



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives



Dear Parents and Carers,

11th September 2020

It's the end of Week 2 already and all seems to be running smoothly so far. If you follow us on twitter you'll have seen that the children have enjoyed a great variety of learning – scientists, artists, mathematicians, writers, explorers, sports people... you can see this and more if you check out our twitter account @TanfieldPrimary



We are now in a position to confirm some dates for the year. We've decided to plan up to February half term. We'll see how things go and if the situation has changed by then (for the better we hope) then we'll be in a better position to know what will be possible for the second half of the academic year.

We've had to look at our usual, traditional events and decide what we could do and what was potentially too difficult to arrange. It's been our aim to ensure that we do as much as we can for the children to enrich their learning and ensure that they have a breadth of experiences as well as some exciting things to look forward to. I hope we've managed this despite the restrictions we are working within. We are having to work differently but hopefully it will work just as well.

There are some other things I wanted to mention to you are remind you about too.

Beginning and end of the school day

The arrangements are generally working well. Adults are remaining socially distanced, the children are coming to school calm and settled.

Just a few reminders:



- Only one adult per family (even if you have 2 or more children, please just one adult to reduce the number of people on the site)
- Please keep to your time slot. Each year group, apart from Y5 and Y6, has a 15 minute window to arrive to school and leave. Please do not come on to the grounds before your allocated time.
- When collecting your child, please don't be late as this can impact on the next group of adults arriving on site.
- Please keep your children with you at all times. They should not be allowed to run around and play on playground equipment.
- Please don't bring any dogs onto the school grounds.

Finally:

- Please don't wait outside of school. If you can time your arrival for your time slot and on leaving, don't group outside of school – this can cause congestion and impact on the ability for all to maintain their social distance.

We need to work together to keep our school community as safe as possible. Thank you.

Non School Uniform Days

For those parents who are new to us, we have a non-school uniform day on first Friday of the month (except September). We ask for a monetary donation (one per family) to support enrichment activities within school. Although we are now taking most payments through Schoolcomms, for non school uniform days we ask for cash. Thanks in anticipation for your support with this.

This year we have decided to donate the first month's contribution to The People's Kitchen. We have supported them before through our Harvest Celebrations. As we are not doing that this year we thought this would be an alternative way to support them.

Given the current situation we also thought it would be great if we could support families in our community by collecting non-perishable food donations during the month of October to donate to PACT House in Stanley.

If you are able to do this, please send any donations e.g. cereal, tinned produce, cooking ingredients, with your child during October and we will deliver those to PACT House at the end of the month. Thank you.



Sharing information about your child's progress

Last year we adapted the way we keep you informed of your child's progress and their attitude to learning. This seemed to work well and so we will be continuing it this year. Parents of children in Y1 to Y6 will receive an 'Attitudes to Learning' sheet before half term each term. This will indicate how they are engaging in their learning, their participation in class, behaviour and approach to home learning. All parents will then have the opportunity to talk to the class teacher (the autumn term Parent Meeting will be a phone call appointment) and then, towards the end of the term parents will receive a data sheet indicating where their child is working in relation to age related expectations.

As well as the Parent Meetings, Pre-School and Reception parents will receive a termly update regarding their child's progress. In the autumn term this will be regarding how they have settled in. The spring and summer updates will be regarding current progress including an update for Reception as to where their child is in relation to age related expectations. Parents will be asked to add their own comments too regarding progress at home. This will all be explained by the staff when these are issued.

This information sharing is important so you know how your child is progressing and you can offer support and encouragement.

Friday's Recognition Assembly

Traditionally every Friday afternoon we hold an assembly for Y1 to Y6 to recognise the children's achievements and celebrate all that has happened during the week in school. We also review class attendance for the week as we have a half termly competition for the best attending class. We discuss the overall % attendance for each class and then also enter all children (Reception through to Y6) who have 100% attendance for the week into a prize draw. The children's names are put into a spinner and a name is randomly selected. They get a small packet of sweets or small fun item. This year the assembly will take place in the children's classrooms.



Success Cards are also awarded during this assembly. A Success Card is awarded when your child receives 10 'stamps' in their Personal Organiser. The stamps are awarded for something a bit special – usually in recognition of particular consistency, resilience, growth mindset, progress, behaviour, commitment, being a good citizen. These are recorded in the Personal Organiser with a brief note saying why they have got it. Once a child has 10 'stamps' then they will receive a Success Card. This will be presented to them in the Recognition Assembly.

The Success Cards are progressive from Pre-School right through to Y6 and take a trip round the world. Each one represents a different country. The first to be awarded will be the United Kingdom followed by European countries and then beyond. There will be a total of 12 to achieve during their time in school.

When a child is awarded a Success Card, in addition to the certificate being awarded in assembly, a postcard will be sent out to parents telling you to watch out for the certificate and share in your child's success.

The postcards will match up with the country awarded i.e. for the United Kingdom Certificate you will receive a postcard with the British flag on and some information about United Kingdom that you can share with your child. The postcard will be sent instead of children receiving the small gifts we have previously given.

Being awarded a Success Card is a significant achievement and will take some time to be gained. Please keep an eye in your child's Personal Organiser so you can see the 'stamps' they receive during the year and what they get them for. The 'stamps' will be carried over each year so, for example, if a child has accumulated 6 'stamps' in Y1 then they will start Y2 with that number, needing only 4 more to achieve a Success Card.



Dates for your Diary

Autumn 2020

Wednesday 9 th Sept	Start date for weekly Spanish Club, every week, end of school day to 4 p.m. Y3,4 and 5 (Louise to collect children from classes from 2:45 and 3:00)
Friday 18 th September	Voting for School Council today
Wednesday 23 rd Sept	Phototronics in school – Individual Photographs
Thursday 24 th Sept	School Council Meeting – end of the school day until 4 p.m. (Every Thursday from this date onwards)
Friday 25 th September	Voting for Team Captains
Y5 to do a circular day walk incorporating Low Force to High Force (In recompense for missing Grinton this year) Date to be confirmed but we hope it will be end of September, early October	
Monday 28 th Sept	Phonics session for parents of children in Reception (Mrs Geach's Class), plus walk through of classroom 3:15 – 4 p.m. Childcare will be available for Mrs Geach's class only
Wednesday 30 th Sept	Sue Warlock – Mosaic Artist – to work with some children in Lower School on Art Work for the Lower School Porch Area
Thursday 1 st October	
Friday 2 nd Oct	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund – 1 per family This month we will donate the money raised to The People's Kitchen. In addition to this, although we not holding our Harvest Celebration this year we would still like to request donations for PACT House in Stanley. If you could send a non-perishable food donation in during October, up to half term, these will be gratefully received.
Monday 5 th Oct	Phonics session for parents of children in Reception (Mr Durham's Class), plus walk through of classroom 3:15 – 4 p.m. Childcare will be available for Mr Durham's class only
Wednesday 14 th Oct	Phototronics – Class Groups
Monday 19 th October	Attitudes to Learning will be sent out to all year groups from Y1 to Y6
Monday 19 th October	ASSESSMENT WEEK for all children
Tuesday 20 th Oct	56T and 6P Multi Skills Festival @ our school just for our Y6 this year
Friday 23 rd October	Y3 and 4 Tag Rugby and ABCs (Anti-Bullying Champions) Meeting
HALF TERM	Monday 26th Oct to Friday 30th October
Before Christmas	All children in Y2 will complete a phonics assessment before Christmas
Monday 2 nd November	Back to School
Tuesday 3 rd November	Parent Meetings – 3:15 until 5:30 (These will be done via telephone this year, parents to book a time slot as opposed to a face to face meeting in previous years)
Wednesday 4 th Nov	Parent Meetings – 3:15 until 5:30
Friday 6 th November	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family) CNS Disability Morning – Children involved in activities all morning Bags2School to be returned to school today please (The Friends of Tanfield will give info re this)
Date to be confirmed	Fundraising Event organised by the School Council (more details later)
Monday 16 th Nov	Maths session for parents of children in Reception (Mrs Geach's Class), plus walk through of classroom 3:15 – 4 p.m. Childcare will be available for Mrs Geach's class only
Wednesday 18th Nov	Full Governing Body Meeting
Thursday 19th Nov	INSET DAY – no children in school today as it is a staff training day.
Friday 20th November	INSET DAY – no children in school today as it is a staff training day.
Monday 23rd Nov	Maths session for parents of children in Reception (Mr Durham's Class), plus walk through of classroom 3:15 – 4 p.m. Childcare will be available for Mr Durham's class only
Week beg 23rd Nov	Information re current attainment to be given to all parents this week

Friday 27 th November a.m.	Nasal Flu Immunisation for all year groups from Reception to Y6 to take place today You must have registered with the NHS to ensure your child receives this.
Monday 30 th Nov	Enterprise Week – all children to take part in this project in classes; planning and making things to sell by the class. We'll let you know nearer the time how you can purchase the product.
4 th December	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
Sadly it will not be possible for parents to attend the Pre-School, Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Performances this year. However, we will record the performance and will share this with parents. More information nearer the time.	
Monday 7 th Dec	Y1 Christmas Performance a.m. Y2 Christmas Performance p.m.
Tuesday 8 th Dec	5M Multi Skills Festival Christmas Performance by Reception p.m.
Wednesday 9 th Dec	Christmas Performance by Pre-School a.m. Bumblebees and Caterpillars Christmas Performance by Pre-School p.m. Ladybirds and Caterpillars
	Christmas Dinner ALL CHILDREN TO COME DRESSED IN THEIR CHRISTMAS JUMPER TODAY or other Christmas clothing.
Thursday 10 th Dec	Y1 to Y6 Visit to Beamish – We are investigating this possibility – more information once we have a plan in place. If possible we are going to use this opportunity for the Upper School year group bubbles to sing carols too; as our usual service will not be possible this year.
Friday 11 th Dec	Y1 and Y2 Hockey Competition and ABCs meeting
Monday 14 th Dec	Reception Party – Lower School Hall p.m. – come to school in party clothes
	Y3 Party –Upper School Hall p.m. – come to school in party clothes
Tuesday 15 th Dec	Santa hoping to visit children in Lower School a.m. - if he can fit us into his busy schedule. The Pre School Ladybirds are invited to join us from 9:15 until 10:15
	Y1 Party – Lower School Hall p.m. – come to school in party clothes
	Y4 Party - Upper School Hall p.m. – come to school in party clothes
Wednesday 16 th Dec	Pre- School Party – a.m. and p.m. Lower School Hall – come to school in party clothes
	Y5M Party Upper School Hall p.m. - come to school in party clothes
Thursday 17 th Dec	Big Foot Theatre Production for Pre-School and Reception in school this morning 'The Greediest Christmas Elf' – from 10 a.m. in our Lower School Hall
	Y2 Party – Lower School Hall p.m.
	6P and 56T Party – Upper School Hall p.m.
Friday 18 th Dec	Last day of the autumn term
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	Monday 21st December until Friday 1st January
Spring 2021	
Monday 4th January	Back to School
January 2021	Children's Art Exhibition – It is our intention to hold an Art Exhibition to promote the children's art work during this half term. As in previous years there will be a set theme and the children will create their art work during the half term. The work will then be displayed. Children will view this in their bubbles and then we'll record a tour on video and share this with all parents.
Friday 8 th January	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
Monday 1st February	Art Exhibition to be shared this week
Friday 5 th February	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
8 th February 2021	Full payment to be made for Howtown by today
8 th February	ASSESSMENT WEEK for all children
	Attitudes to Learning will be sent out to all year groups from Y1 to Y6
<i>This coming week would traditionally have been our Talent Show. We can't do this in the normal format but the children will be auditioning for this in the bubbles and those acts voted by their peers will be filmed, performing their act, and we'll share that with you.</i>	
Tuesday 9 th Feb	Y4 Multi Skills Festival @ Tanfield
Wednesday 10 th Feb	Gala Theatre – This is the day we have the Gala Theatre booked for our Y3 to perform there. We are assuming this won't be possible this year.
Friday 12 th Feb	Film of Tanfield's Got Talent to be shared with parents and children

Friday 12 th Feb	5M and 56T/6P High Five competition, Y3/4 Golf and ABCs @ Brandon
HALF TERM	Monday 15th to Friday 19th February
Monday 22 nd Feb	Back to school
We are only providing dates up to February half term this year as we will wait to see what the situation is then. However, the following dates are already set and are useful for you to know.	
8 th to 12 th March 2021	Howtown (at Ullswater Centre) – 36 Y6 children out all week.
EASTER HOLIDAYS	Monday 29th March to Friday 9th April
Monday 12 th April	Back to School
Month of May	This is an important assessment month for us. Please avoid taking any Leave of Absence until Wednesday 26th May.
Monday 10 th May to Friday 14 th May	Y6 SATs WEEK and School Assessment for the rest of the school It is very important that you do not book a holiday for this week or for the weeks leading up to it. Requests will not be authorised and absence will impact on your child's attainment.
26 th , 27 th and 28 th May	TEACHER TRAINING DAYS – no children in school for these 3 days. This is your chance to book a cheaper holiday before the rest of the schools break up on Friday 21st May.
Monday 7 th June to Friday 11 th June	Phonics Test Week for Y1
Monday 7 th June to Friday 25 th June	Multiplications Tables Check for Y4
Tuesday 20 th July	Last day of term

