



Dear Parents and Carers

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

It's our last week before Easter and we have some Easter activities the children will be taking part in this week so I thought I'd remind you about those and then about 'Track and Trace' over the Easter break as well as how we are continuing to use eSchools.

We've had to be creative in finding different ways to work and continue our traditions this year. The children have accepted this and thrown themselves into the activities. I have no doubt that some of the changes we have had to make we may well continue with, but there are others, like our Easter Celebration Service, that we look forward to holding at St. Margaret's in 2022. Thank you for adjusting with us and let's hope that in September 2021 things can start to get back to normal.

Please read on for more information. I've also included the 'Dates for your Diary' again as I realised I had missed off the Non School Uniform Days.

Don't forget, for those children who have attended Spanish Club or School Council last term, these will resume straight after Easter. Spanish Club starts on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April and School Council on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

I hope you all have a happy Easter when it comes.

Kay Hemmings (Head Teacher)

## Egg Decorating

It's our annual Egg Decorating Competition on Thursday.

Lower School children should bring their pre-decorated egg into school that morning. Please make sure they bring a sign so that they can display their egg with their name. (If your child is in Pre-School and comes the first half of the week, please send them with their egg on Wednesday morning).

The Upper School children should bring their undecorated boiled eggs (always worth bringing some spare ones) in to school on Thursday, plus any resources they would like to use to assist them in their decorating. Unfortunately it won't be possible for parents to come in and help this year.

We'll display all the eggs in the Lower School Hall and hope to share these with you via our YouTube channel. We'll let you know when this is ready to view.



## Easter Celebration

This week the Upper School children will be recording their poems and singing for our Easter Celebration Service. I'm pleased to say that the Rev. Andy Miller will be offering us his Easter Message too. This will go live at 4 p.m. on Friday. I hope you enjoy it.

## Multi Sports Morning, Football Competition and ABCs

Y3 will enjoy a morning of sports this Tuesday morning. They will do a combination of activities both inside and outside. The weather looks as though it will be kind too 😊

Y1 and Y2 will have year group football competitions on Friday morning.

Our ABCs (Anti-Bullying Champions) will meet virtually with our partner schools on Friday morning and explore more ideas with regard to supporting each other in school

## eSchools

As I said in the newsletter earlier this month, eSchools served us well over the last lockdown and we intend to continue to use it on a weekly basis for Home Learning. I appreciate that for those of you who have been managing the remote learning you will be ready for a rest over Easter. For those of you whose children came into school every day you'll be starting to learn how to use eSchools. If you have forgotten passwords etc. just let us know. If you are not sure how to use it, please get in touch with your child's teacher. It won't take long for you and your child to master it.

Instructions for weekly Home Learning for all except Pre-School can be found on eSchools and, as usual, this will be set on a Wednesday. The work should be completed by the following Monday.

Children will be asked to submit their Home Learning either via eSchools or in their Home Learning Book.

It's more important than ever that you support your child's Home Learning. No matter how successful you were with remote learning, the children have missed out on some of their learning and so it is catch-up time. We have extended the school day to help with this but we really need your support to ensure children get their weekly home learning tasks completed.

If Home Learning is not done then, wherever possible, time will have to be found in school at break times or lunchtimes for children to get this completed.

Likewise with Reading Comments – reading skills are crucial for all children. As with any skill, it needs to be practiced. Please encourage your child to read at home and complete their reading comment log for them in their Personal Organiser (you only need to put in 3 comments a week but if you can hear them read more than this that would be terrific). If they've not been reading at home then time will be found for children to catch up on this in school.

We can't afford for children to miss out on this learning. Please do all you can to help with this at home.

## Track and Trace

We continue to have to be vigilant with regard the virus. If your child, or anyone in your bubble, has symptoms of the virus then they must have a test and, whilst waiting for the result, all people in the bubble must isolate.

**At the start of the holidays then we must continue to 'Track and Trace'.**

If your child develops symptoms up to and including Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March and this results in a positive test then you must inform us.

Please inform us of a positive test via email – [tanfieldlea@durhamlearning.net](mailto:tanfieldlea@durhamlearning.net)

Please title the email '**Positive Test Result**' and include the following information:

**Name of your child:**

**Class of your child:**

**Date your child's symptoms started:**

**Date your child had the test:**

**A contact telephone number for you:**

If I receive an email informing me of a positive test result I will contact Public Health and may have to ring you for further information. If I do ring you, the number will come up on your phone as 'Caller ID Unknown'. Please answer this.

If your child develops coronavirus symptoms from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March onwards, they must be tested and, if positive, follow the advice of Test and Trace. **You do not need to inform the school of any symptoms which occur from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March onwards.**

**The school email address ( [tanfieldlea@durhamlearning.net](mailto:tanfieldlea@durhamlearning.net) ) will be checked every morning at 9 a.m. up to and including Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. After that, the email address will not be checked as any test results from children who had symptoms up to and including Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March will have been received by then.**

***It is crucial that all parents check their emails daily as if we do have a positive case I will have to contact the parents of all children who have been in contact with the child who has tested positive.***

# Preschool Places

If you, or any of your friends and family members, have a child who has just turned 3 years old or will do so before the end of August, then you are eligible to apply for a Pre-School place from September 2021. If you have not submitted an application yet, please request a form from the office and return it as soon as possible as places are going fast.

<b>Dates for your Diary – Summer Term 2021</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Children back in school</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Non-School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for School Fund (one per family)
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Non-School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for School Fund (one per family)
17 <sup>th</sup> May	21 <sup>st</sup> May - Y3 and Y4 Cricket Competition and Anti Bullying Champions (ABCs) to meet with Langley Moor and Brandon ABCs virtually via Teams
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Art Exhibition on display today. This exhibition will celebrate the art work the children have done over the last two half terms. Children to tour this in their bubbles
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Y1 Multi Skills Festival Fundraising for a charity – our friends in Tibet. School Council to agree the activity. Art Exhibition to be shared with parents via YouTube from 4 p.m. today
26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> May	Teacher Training Days (28 <sup>th</sup> Y6 No More Marking results published) <b>TEACHER TRAINING DAYS – no children in school for these 3 days. This may be your chance to book a cheaper holiday before the rest of the schools break up on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May.</b>
<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Summer 2</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Brochures to be given out to the children who will start Reception in September 2021 (our current Pre-School). Those who don't currently attend our Pre-School will be offered a visit. Video link to be sent to all those going into Pre-School and Reception in Sept. 2021, giving all children an introduction to the Reception classroom and staff.
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Non-School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for School Fund (one per family)
21 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>Assessment Week</b> This week all children will be assessed. It's later this year due to the January lockdown. Although there are no statutory assessments the children will complete similar assessments to those we would usually do. Reception will be assessed through play and short tasks. Y1 (and those in Y2 who did not meet the required standard previously) will complete a phonics test. All Y1 through to Y5 will complete assessments in Reading, Writing and Maths. Y4 will do a tables test in addition this. Y6 will complete old SATs test in Reading and Maths.
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Children who will start Reception in 2021 to spend the day in Reception Mrs Dunham to hold meetings for parents whose children will start Pre-School in 2021
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Letters to go out to all parents re the class their children will be in next year
Week Beg. 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Sports Week and Science Catch Up Week</b>
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Active Morning – Rec to Y6 involved in active activities all morning Afternoon - Skittles Challenge (linked with Science Catch Up Week)
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 Multi Sports Festival <b>End of school onwards:</b> Sponsored Bike Ride for children from Y2 through to Y6
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	SPORTS DAY – Races done in Year Groups (Alternative date Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July) – sadly no parents
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Possible day away for Y6 –We're hoping to book a visit as consolation for not going to Howtown
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Non-School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for School Fund (one per family) Y5 and Y6 Athletics Competition
5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Days for Tanfield School
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition lesson for all children – moving up to their new class – 9 until 10 a.m.
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leaver's Meal at the Hill Top (if this is permitted)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Y2 Moving on Performance – we'll decide how this can be shared nearer the time
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday - Leavers' Celebration Assembly-we'll decide how this can be shared nearer the time
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Individual School Reports to go out today</b> Lower School Fun Day Upper School Walk from Craster to Embleton
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Back to school

