



Dinnington First Newsletter

No 2 September 2024-2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a very busy and successful start to the year and the children have settled really well back into learning. We are looking forward to seeing you all next week at the parent consultations and sharing their progress with you.

We are currently planning a new website which will be more user friendly and have more available content. Mr Donnelly is holding the first of our **parent forums on Wednesday 16th October at 5pm** in the school hall where we will gather your views for the website. If there are other issues you would like to add to the agenda please contact the school office Contact@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk

Kind regards

Mrs Ash and the Team

Nursery

All of the children have settled into Nursery life really well. We are so proud of them all! They are enjoying our outdoor area and all of the activities they can do inside too. They are getting to know one another and becoming more confident each day. We have focussed on nursery rhymes, Elmer and Brown Bear, Brown bear so far. We have enjoyed listening to each child's favourite book at story time. The children are having so much fun whilst they are learning!



Reception

In Classes 2 and 3, we have settled in really well and have started to make new friendships. We have particularly enjoyed learning how to match sets of objects and make repeating patterns in Maths. We have also been very busy starting our Woodland Learning and PE lessons for the first time, where we have been playing lots of fun games, exploring and learning how to follow instructions.



Upcoming Events

1st October

Y3 Gilsie Trip

3rd October

Community Coffee Morning 8.50- 10.00

7th 8th 9th October

Parent Consultations

8th October

Year 3&4 Cross Country (selected pupils only)

9th October

GEMS Open Evening for Y4

10th October

School Photographs

14th October

Parent Phonics / Early Reading workshop
2.30pm and 5.00pm

16th October

Parents Forum 5.00pm

17th October

Y1 Great North Museum Visit

21st October

Y3 Great North Museum Visit

23rd October

Harvest Festival St Matthew's Church
2pm Year 1 & 2 All welcome

Final Day for Harvest donations

24th October

Autumn Discos

25th October

Training Day - School closed to pupils

Half Term 28th October - 1st November



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Year 1

Year 1 have had an amazing start in September and we are so impressed with how they have adapted to their new classrooms and provision. In art, we have had a great time exploring line art and looking at art by Bridget Riley. We have been looking at different types of lines and making patterns with them. We have been out and about in Dinnington exploring the village and the key features of our local area in Geography. Woodland school has been a huge hit this year and the children have been showing amazing community spirit by working together to make dens for the animals that might live in our woodland area.



Year 2

We have made an excellent start to the year in Classes 6 and 7. We have enjoyed learning about Kenya in geography and have designed our own safari parks. We have linked this to our woodland learning where we have created tribal necklaces based on the Maasai tribe. In science, we have been learning all about animals and what they need to survive. We created our own mammals out of play dough and labelled their needs and features

Year 3

Year 3 has started with lots of wonderful learning and fun. Both classes are thoroughly enjoying Woodland Learning on Thursdays. The weather has varied but it is great fun - rain, shine or snow! We have been using charcoal in art and learnt how to enlarge our drawings - scaling. In English we have been learning about synonyms and the children thought of lots of wonderful words for blue, for example: sapphire, ultramarine and indigo. The children are learning to recall maths facts speedily and loving their science lessons.



Year 4

Year 4 has had an excellent start to the year, with the children fully embracing their learning across all subjects. In PE, they have been developing their cricket skills, focusing on batting, bowling, and fielding, while also building core strength and coordination. In art, the children have been experimenting with a variety of mediums to create unique compositions, all while working towards an exciting class 'Power Print' project. In history, they've been diving into the fascinating world of the Romans, exploring their invasions of Britain, building Roman buildings in woodland learning and growing their knowledge in preparation for our upcoming trip to Vindolanda in just a few weeks.



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Notices

Facebook

Unfortunately, our new Facebook account was instantly hacked and closed down. We will let you know when it is back up and running. In the meantime please visit our X (twitter account) @DinningtonFirst

Communication with School

We are continually working to try and improve our communication with you all and ensure that it meets your needs. If you need to contact school please do so via contact@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk or telephone the school office 01661 822457

Please note that Seesaw is not used for parental communication beyond Reception other than to send out curriculum information.

Head Lice

There have been several cases of head lice reported to us so please check your child's hair regularly and treat where necessary.

Community Coffee Morning

Our first community coffee morning takes place this Thursday 3rd October straight after school drop off. This is very informal and chance to meet other parents and join us for coffee, breakfast baps and biscuits.

Harvest Festival

Year 1 and Year 2 will be singing songs for our Harvest Festival at St Matthew's Church at 2pm on Wednesday 23rd October. We would love to see you there.

Harvest Collection

We are collecting for The People's Kitchen Food bank – all donations of tins, packets and toiletries are would be welcome by Wednesday 23rd October.

Library Donations

If you have any pre loved books that would be suitable for our school library we would welcome donations please!

Vacancies

Kitchen Assistant – 10 hours per week 11.30am-1.30pm. Please speak to the school office for an application form or Jobs North East



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Every week we talk to the children about an aspect of how to keep themselves safe. This includes road safety, safety near water, stranger danger, anti-bullying, people who help us and safety around the home and school.

So far this term we have talked about people who can help us at home and at school, internet safety and we have looked at the NSPCC Pants assembly. There are age appropriate videos for all children. The link is below if you would like to watch this again at home and discuss this with your children.

[Let's talk PANTS with Pantosaurus! | NSPCC](#)



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A look ahead...

November 2024

Monday 11th – Anti Bullying Week – parent online workshop (TBC)

Monday 11th - 8.50am Books n Brunch Year 4

Enjoy breakfast with your child

Tuesday 12th – 8.50am Books n Brunch Year 3

and time to share a book

Wednesday 13th – 8.50am Books n Brunch Year 2

Thursday 14th – 8.50am Books n Brunch Year 1

Friday 15th – **Children in Need Non-Uniform Day**

Monday 18th – Nursery Stay and Play 2pm

Nursery parents invited to stay & play

Tuesday 19th – Nursery Stay and Play 2pm

Tuesday 19th – Choir Performing Newcastle Cathedral 2.30pm (TBC)

Wednesday 20th – Reception Books n Buns Class 2

Afternoon tea with your child

Thursday 21st – Reception Books n Buns Class 3

and time to share a book

December 2024

Thursday 5th – Christmas Fair

Tuesday 10th – 9.30am EYFS Nativity

1.30pm Y1-Y2 Festive Performance

2.15pm Y3-Y4 Festive Performance

Wednesday 11th - 9.30am EYFS Nativity

1.30pm Y3-Y4 Festive Performance

2.15pm Y1-Y2 Festive Performance

Thursday 12th – School Christmas Lunch

Monday 16th – EYFS Christmas Party (AM) Key Stage 1 Christmas Party (PM)

Tuesday 17th – Key Stage 2 Christmas Party (PM)

Wednesday 18th – KS2 Carols at St Matthew's Church