



Dinnington First Newsletter



No 1 - September 2024



Welcome to the new
school year from all
the team!



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone and a warm welcome to our new families! We hope you have all had a lovely summer break.

We are also delighted to welcome Miss Gray as Class 6 (Y2) teacher and Mr Souter as class 5 (Y1) teacher .

Entering and Exiting School

There will be staff on hand to direct children to the right place tomorrow morning. We are looking forward to seeing them all!

We have a new climbing wall for the children to enjoy at lunch and break-times. Please do not allow your children to climb on this before or after school.

Please ensure children dismount scooters prior to entering school and park them up. Also a reminder not to bring dogs on to the premises. Thank you for your co-operation.

Coffee Mornings

We will be hosting welcome Coffee Mornings for each year group next week. You will be able to meet your child's new class teacher and hear about how to support your child throughout the year.

In the meantime if you have queries or any concerns about how your child is settling in to their new class please get in touch via the school office.

Community Coffee Mornings

Our community coffee mornings will also continue and all are welcome. This term these will take place after drop off in the large hall on Friday 3rd October and Friday 7th November.





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School Lunches

A reminder that all children from Reception to Year 2 are entitled to a free school meals. Theresa (our school cook) and the team work really hard to provide meals that the children (and staff) will enjoy. We will be holding a taster day in October for any children who are normally on packed lunches and would like to try a school meal. More information to follow.

Nut Allergies / Packed Lunches

We have children in school with severe nut allergies.

There is a ban on all nut products in school. This means staff, visitors and children are not allowed to bring in anything containing nuts for lunches or snacks. This obviously includes **Nutella** and hazelnut spreads, chocolate and cereal bars with nuts, peanut butter sandwiches or any whole nuts. Any nut products brought into school will be confiscated and disposed of. Please be very mindful as to what goes into your child's packed lunchbox.

Curriculum Plans

Overviews of your child's curriculum will be sent via parent mail and saved on the school website. The half termly curriculum plans give you an overview of the knowledge and skills your child will be working towards. We hope this will enable you to support them and discuss their learning with them at home. If you would like hard copies please ask your class teacher.

Out of School Club

The out of school club runs our wrap around care before and after school. If you wish to use this provision please contact the school office.

School Attendance

Please be reminded I am unable to authorise absences during term time for family holidays. Both Newcastle City Council and the Department for Education are taking a tougher stance on attendance. Fixed penalty notices may be issued in the event of unauthorised absence in term time which is greater than 10 sessions (5 days). Fixed penalties for the first offence are £160 per child, per parent, reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days. Please follow the link for further information. [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/100000/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance-19-august-2024.pdf)



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Friday Enrichment Activities

Children have a choice of enrichment activities on Friday afternoon from 1.30-2.30pm – an email regarding choices will be sent out on Tuesday 3rd September.

Please ensure the children have suitable outdoor clothing for the clubs they are taking part in as we aim for outdoor clubs to be outside wherever possible.

If you'd like to bring wellies or old trainers for forest school and leave them at school that would be fine.

Year 4 Parents / Carers – Applications for Middle School

It is now time to apply for your child's Middle School

place for September 2025. Please follow this link - [Apply for a school place | Newcastle City Council](#)

The closing date for applications is midnight on 31st October 2024. If you submit a late application, you are less likely to get your first choice of school.

Newcastle City Council strongly encourage parents to make your application online.

If, however, you would prefer to make a paper application please pop into the school office for a paper form. The link to make your online application is inside the leaflet.

Applications for Reception Places for September 2025

Applications are now open for Reception places. Please follow this link - [Applying for Reception places | Newcastle City Council](#)

Applications open: 1 September 2024

Applications close: 15 January 2025

National offer day: 16 April 2025





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We regularly talk to the children about how to keep themselves safe. We will ask the children to '**Show Me 5**' - they hold up their hands and talk about 5 ways that they can stay safe. We do this for different situations. For example:

At school (e.g. stay safe online, walk slowly in the corridor, carry scissors correctly, wash our hands)

Outside (e.g. Walk on pavement, cross roads at a crossing / with an adult, wear bright clothing if it is dark, do not speak to strangers, water / beach safety)

Asking your child to do this at home is really helpful in supporting these messages and keeping them safe. If you would like any further information on how to keep your child safe or you ever have concerns about a child please get in touch with school. One of our Designated Safeguarding Leads (Mrs Ash, Mr Donnelly, Mrs Parker and Mr Wright) would be happy to advise you.





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Social Media

All of our important messages are sent to you through parentmail. However we do post some of the children's learning on our social media pages.

Please find us on Twitter (X) @DinningtonFirst

Your child's class also has its own twitter page;

@Dinnington_Nur (Class 1)

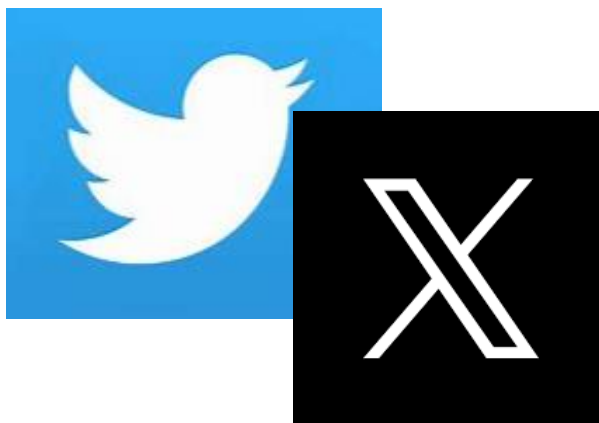
@Dinnington_Rec (Class 2 & 3)

@Dinnington_Y1 (Class 4 & 5)

@Dinnington_Y2 (Class 6 & 7)

@Dinnington_Y3 (Class 8 & 9)

@Dinnington_Y4 (Class 10 & 11)



The private facebook page will be discontinued from 9th September and a new public facebook page will replace this. We will only use photographs of children where permission has been given – a form will be sent out to all families.

Private Social Media Accounts



Each year group has a private messenger or whatsapp group where parents share information and organise social events. School does not take any responsibility for these accounts but if you are new to school or wish to join please speak to another parent/carer who should be able to add you to the group. Please ensure that any social media presence does not bring the school into disrepute and any concerns are brought straight to the attention of the Head Teacher.



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September 2024

Monday 2nd – Training Day

W/C Monday 9th - Meet the Teacher & Team Coffee Mornings at 8.50am

Monday - **Year 1** Tuesday – **Year 2** Wed – **Year 3** Thursday – **Year 4** Friday – **Reception**

Tuesday 10th – Year 4 Fire Safety Talk – Newcastle Fire Safety Team

October 2024

Wednesday 2nd – Individual School Photos

Friday 4th – Community Coffee Morning 8.50am – All Welcome

Monday 7th , Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th - Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6pm

Monday 14th – Parent Phonics / Early Reading Workshop 2.30pm & 5pm

Wednesday 23rd – **Year 1 and Year 2** Harvest Festival at St Matthew's Church 2pm

Wednesday 23rd – **Nursery & Reception** – Little Movers

Thursday 24th – Autumn Discos – Year 1 – year 4

Friday 25th – Training Day – School closed to all pupils

Half Term – Monday 28th October – Friday 5th November

November 2024

Friday 7th – Community Coffee Morning 8.50am - All Welcome

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

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