



January 2023

# Esh Winning Primary School NEWSLETTER

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year! I hope that 2023 is a happy, healthy and safe year for you all. The Christmas period always feels very busy with lots of things to organise or people to see and passes by in the blink of an eye. Personally, I was hoping that we would have a slightly calmer January, however, with the weather forecasts indicating a big chill and the ongoing combination of illnesses, I have a feeling that this will not be the case. One can only hope!

We have been discussing the setting of goals and targets with the children and thinking about how to make them achievable. In the assembly today, I was reminding the children of our School Values: Respect, Resilience, Happiness, Learning, Honesty and asking for examples of how and where these values can be shown. As always, the children came up with great examples and were keen to share their opinions and thoughts on this. We are also reintroducing our Values bands, which the children enjoyed using as a positive way of recognising others when they have shown these values in action.

Finally, this term always feels full of energy when the days are getting slightly longer and we are all getting a little more sunlight. In this term, we are offering more after school clubs than ever before and have lots of opportunities for the children to be leaders. We are always looking at ways to improve our offer at Esh Winning Primary School and the feedback provided by you and your children is so important to us being able to do this. Please do not hesitate in contacting the school if you feel that there is something that could be improved or that there is something missing from our offer.

It was fantastic to see so many of you at our different events during December and I am looking forward to extending these invites this term. Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Mrs Hodgson (Headteacher)

**Please note, young adults MUST be 16 year old or above to pick up pupils from our school.**

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas Fayre, we raised an amazing £1510.90 for school funds!

Dates	
<b>January 2023</b>	
4th	School resumes (Wednesday)
<b>February</b>	
16th	Break up for half term holidays
17th	INSET Day, school closed
27th	School resumes
<b>March</b>	
31st	School breaks up for Easter
<b>April</b>	
17th	School resumes (Monday)
<b>May</b>	
1st	Bank Holiday
8th	Year 6 SATS week
26th	School breaks up for half term
<b>June</b>	
5th	INSET Day, school closed
6th	School resumes
<b>July</b>	
21st	Break up for the summer holidays

It is vitally important to check children's bags for Letters daily. Please also check your emails, texts and follow our Facebook page. Thanks

This year SATS WEEK is  
**Monday 8th–Friday 12th May 2023.**

It is most important that all year 6 pupils attend school during this week.

**Reminder to parents.**  
If you are arranging for someone different to collect your child from school, you need to write a note to the class teacher that morning explaining who will be collecting your child.  
**If there is a last minute change, please ring the school office before 2.30pm. Thank you.**



Smile... and greet your child.  
Please put your mobile phone away.  
Thank you.

Mobile phones in the school Grounds.  
Please try and greet your child with a smile, not a mobile.  
We would also ask for safeguarding reasons, that parents do not take photographs with any other children in the back-ground while in the school grounds. Thank you!

## Jewellery

Thank you for supporting our "No Jewellery" policy. For Health and Safety reasons pupils should **not wear earrings or any other jewellery for school.** A sensible watch is permitted. Nail varnish is not school policy

# ATTENDANCE FOR THE AUTUMN TERM 2022

Well done to Year 3 for being at the top of our leader board with **95.7%**  
**82** pupils arrived at school late this term

**Please remember the importance of your child arriving to school on time as missing the first part of any lesson can be disruptive and unsettling, both for children and for the rest of the class.**

## Place Class Percentages

**1st** Year 3 with 95.7%, **2nd** Year 4 with 93.9%, **3rd** Year 2 with 93.8%, **4th** Year 6 with 93.4%  
**5th** Year 5 with 93.2%, **6th** Year 1 with 91.9% and **7th** Reception class with 91.7%

## Late

We still have some pupils arriving late. Please remember school starts at 8.50am. It is extremely important your child arrives at school on time as work has been set for them to complete. Being 15 minutes late every morning for a week adds up to 1 hour and 15 minutes of school time lost, over a half term this is 7 and a half hours! This is more than a whole school day. Please ensure your child arrives on time and is ready to work.

## Attendance

Please remember your child **must** attend school unless they are ill or have permission from the headteacher. Please remember to phone on the first day your child is absent before 9.30am. If we have not heard from you by 9.30am then you will be contacted by the school office. If we can't contact you, a member of staff may come to your house to check everything is okay. If we are still concerned and still not had any contact, we will ring First Contact as this potentially is a safeguarding concern. As a school we must ensure our pupils access the best possible opportunities available in relation to their education and life long learning therefore all pupils must attend school unless they are ill. If your child is absent and the school believes this is not an authorised absence, we will contact the Education Welfare Officer to discuss your child's absence percentage.

## Leave of Absence Forms

Thank you to those parents/carers who have followed the correct procedures in relation to requesting a leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances. When completing the leave of absence form for Mrs Hodgson please remember to state when, how long for and **why** you are requesting to take your child out of school during term time. The School Governors have recently reviewed the system in place and some changes have been agreed to 'exceptional circumstances'. Once Mrs Hodgson has received your form you will be sent a letter and a copy of the signed form stating whether the absence will be authorised or un-authorised and we may request more information from yourself or employers.

**Durham County Council's Fixed Penalty Notice Protocol** acknowledges that regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities. Circumstances where a Penalty Notice might be issued include unauthorised leave of absence in term time, or other parentally condoned absence where the absence amounts to **seven school days or more in a minimum twelve rolling school week period**. You can be prosecuted if you receive a fixed penalty notice and it is not paid.

## Dental/Medical Appointments

If your child has a dental/medical appointment, please remember they must come to school first if at all possible. Pupils do not need to be absent from school all day for an appointment which may only take half an hour. If they come to school first they will get their mark, even if this is only for a short period of time.

## Sickness Absence

**If your child is ill and unable to come to school, please inform the school office daily before 9.30am.** It may be possible for work to be completed at home. They may be well enough to undertake some tasks set by their class teacher. This will ensure they do not miss too much school work and on their return have an understanding of current topics discussed in class. If you feel your child is well enough to complete work at home please contact school.