



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Newsletter

Friday 9th February 2024

February Half Term holiday:

Please note the dates below as school closes on Friday 16th February and re-opens Monday 26th February.

GEMS Assembly:

The winning team for the weekly GEM Trophy was **Ruby** Well done to everyone in Team **Ruby!**

Find out about our GEM procedures here: <https://whinfield.net/parents/gems/>

World Book Day:

World Book Day is Thursday 7th March. We will be doing lots of exciting activities in school and having a special assembly.

The theme this year for the whole school is "Bedtime Stories". We would like staff and children to dress in their pyjamas. We would ask parents/carers to ensure children wear shoes/trainers and dress appropriately for the weather. The children may also like to bring their teddy.

Parents/Carers Activities Summer Term:

We have planned some activities for parents/carers to join the children in school during the Summer Term as we used to do pre-Covid. Please check the dates in the box below.

At the end of the year there will also be a 'Welcome' meeting so that you can come and meet the next year group's staff before we break up for the holidays in July - again dates are below.

School drop off and pick up:

When dropping off and collecting your child from the Key Stage 1 playground, please ensure they stand with a grown up. Please don't allow children to climb on the wall or run up and down the astro turf as this can slippy. Thank you for your co-operation.

Year 3 Tennis:

Some of our Year 3 pupils attended the Tennis Festival at the Dolphin centre on Monday. They took part in a variety of Tennis games to practice their tennis skills. The children had a great time!

Year 4 Tennis Tournament:

Some of our year 4 Pupils attended the Queens Elizabeth College on Thursday to take part in a Tennis competition. The children competed against a number of other Schools. The boys won their competition and the girls placed third. Well done to everyone who attended!

Sickness:

As you are aware it is the time of year when there are lots of different bugs and viruses going around. If your child is absent due to sickness or diarrhoea, please keep your child off school for 48 hours after the last time they were sick. This helps to prevent the virus spreading. Thank you for your co-operation.





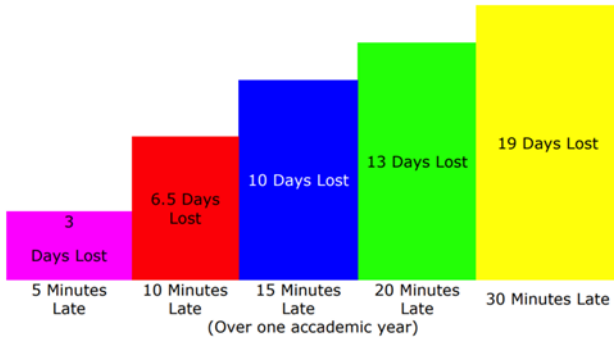
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Late children:

Last week we had 80 children sign in late through the school office.

Every Minute Counts

If you arrive late to school everyday your learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school everyday over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



When pupils arrive late, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the lesson. This can significantly reduce achievement, regardless of academic ability. Your child may also feel awkward arriving to the classroom when everyone else is settled. Furthermore, when one pupil arrives late, it disrupts the entire class and the teacher - everyone's education is compromised.

Please ensure you adhere to your child's school start time. Children should not be coming into school late through the school office. They should also be picked up at their allocated time and not collected from the office early. We ask that where possible any appointments are made out of school time. If this is not possible and your child has an appointment bring a copy of your appointment letter to the office. Children coming to school late and leaving early are missing valuable learning time which can have a long-lasting impact on their progress. Thank you for your continued support.

Important Dates for the Spring term :

Friday 16 th February	School closes for February half term
Monday 26 th February	School reopens for pupils
Monday 4 th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 6 th March	Parents Evening
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day (more information to follow)
Thursday 28 th March	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 15 th April	School reopens for pupils
Tuesday 21 st May	Class RN Stay and Play (more information to follow)
Wednesday 22 nd May	Class RM Stay and Play (more information to follow)





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Wednesday 5 th June	Year 1 Parent workshop 2pm - 3pm (more information to follow)
Thursday 6 th June	Year 2 Parent workshop 1:30pm (more information to follow)
Wednesday 12 th June	Year 5 Parent Workshop 9:30am (more information to follow)
Thursday 13 th June	Year 3 Parent Workshop 1:30pm (more information to follow)
Thursday 13 th June	Reception new starters 2024 meeting 4pm
Wednesday 19 th June	Year 4 Parent workshop 9:15am (more information to follow)
Thursday 27 th June	Parent meeting for new year group - Year 5 moving to Year 6 - 3:15pm
Tuesday 2 nd July	Year 6 parent workshop - 1:30pm (more information to follow)
Wednesday 3 rd July	Parent meeting for new year group - Year 4 moving to Year 5 - 3:15pm
Tuesday 9 th July	Parent meeting for new year group - Year 1 moving to Year 2 - 3:15pm
Wednesday 10 th July	Parent meeting for new year group - Reception moving to Year 1 - 3:15pm
Thursday 11 th July	Parent meeting for new year group - Year 2 moving to Year 3 - 3:15pm
Monday 15 th July	Parent meeting for new year group - Year 3 moving to Year 4 - 3:15pm

