



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

Thursday 28th March 2024

School closes today for the Easter holidays and re-opens Monday 15th April.

Happy Easter to everyone - have a lovely holiday!

Dance Festival:

A superb performance by the Year 2 children at the Dance Festival this week. The confidence they had performing on the stage at The Hippodrome was amazing. You made us all very proud. Thank you for working so hard and thank you to Mrs Airey for choreographing the dance and training the children.

Year 5 Easter performance:

Well done to all of Year 5 for the excellent telling of the Easter Story for your parents/carers. The children did a great job, the singing was lovely, and it was so evident that you had all worked extremely hard. Thank you to all of you and thank you to the Year 5 staff team.

School meal price increase from 1st April:

We informed you a couple of weeks ago that the price for meals would increase on 1st June. Unfortunately, Chartwells have since informed us that they are increasing their cost from 1st April. As you will appreciate, this means that we are unable to delay our price rise. We can only apologise as we were unaware that Chartwells were changing their cost per meal. Meals from 1st April 2024 will now cost £2.95 per day, therefore, total cost for 1 week will be £14.75.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to access the Universal Free School meal system so no payment for them is necessary.

Parent Code of Conduct:

You will see that we have a Parent Code of Conduct published on our website and would like to draw your attention to it following a number of unpleasant incidents in recent weeks. Like all public places and public facing roles we expect that parents/carers and any other visitors to school treat all staff with respect. Should this not be the case we will refer to the Code of Conduct we have in place.

PE Kit:

Please can we remind you that PE kit is plain red or black with no sporting logos.

Advice from the NHS regarding MMR vaccine appointments in relation to measles (you may have seen the adverts on the TV):

- As you may be aware there is growing concern nationally about the rising number of measles cases across the country. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) having now declared a national incident - warning that measles could spread rapidly causing a national outbreak of this vaccine-preventable disease. Data released this week shows there were only three cases in our region last year and that from October 2023 to January 2024 there have been no cases in the Northeast. While the uptake of the mumps, measles and rubella vaccine (MMR) in our region remains the highest in England, the number of children getting their second dose of the vaccine has now fallen below 95%, the national target required to avoid outbreaks and the rapid spread of the disease. MMR is part of the NHS Routine, Childhood Immunisation Programme - with one dose offered at one year and another second





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dose at 3 years 4 months. People must have both doses of the vaccine to be protected. Health teams across our region [are calling on parents and carers to urgently book any missed MMR vaccinations](#), with their GP practice, to ensure they and their children are fully protected. It's important to remind everyone that measles is a highly infectious illness, that can affect unvaccinated adults and children - complications can be life-changing with dangers including blindness, deafness, and swelling of the brain. Spending just 15 minutes or more in direct contact with someone infected is enough to catch measles, making it one of the most infectious diseases in the world. [Find out more about measles symptoms and treatment](#). Parents and carers whose infants missed out, or anyone of any age who has not yet had their MMR vaccine, are urged to come forward. The free MMR vaccine is a safe and effective way of protecting against measles, as well as mumps and rubella. Anyone concerned should contact their GP.

- [Get advice about measles on the Healthier Together website](#)

Afterschool Activities:

Day	Club	Year group	Time	How to book
Tuesday	Board Game Club	Year 5	3:15pm - 4:15pm	Book through School Gateway - Tuesday 16 th April 12:30pm
Tuesday	Story craft	Reception and year 1	3:15pm - 4:15pm	Book through School Gateway - Tuesday 16 th April 12:30pm
Tuesday	Football	Years 2 & 3	3:15pm - 4:15pm	Book through School Gateway - Tuesday 16 th April 12:30pm
Thursday	Drawing club	Year 5	3:15pm - 4:15pm	Book through School Gateway - Tuesday 16 th April 12:30pm
Thursday	Gardening Gang	Year 3 and 4	3:15pm - 4:15pm	To continue with same children as before Easter.
Thursday	Boys and Girls Netball	Year 6	3:15pm - 4:15pm	Book through School Gateway - Tuesday 16 th April 12:30pm

All activities will start week commencing 22nd April 2024 and finish week commencing 13th April 2024. Children need to be collected after the club by an adult from the Asda entrance. If your child is attending a sporting activity, please send them to school in their school PE kit (no football strips).

Important Dates for the Spring term :

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)
Wednesday 5 th June	Year 1 Parent workshop 2pm - 3pm (more information to follow)



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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

