

ESCOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter — 16th September 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of the new school year! It is lovely to see the children looking so smart and tidy in their uniforms—Thank You parents!

We would like to say a special welcome to our new children in Reception Class and new starters; Jacob B, Alfie B, Darcey B, Jack B, Jessica C, Alfie C, Connor C, Leon D, Heidi-Olivia D, Kate D, Samuel E, Molly E, Noah G, Anna Lee G, Thomas H, Sophie H, Nieve H, Sonny J, Robbie O'N, Abbie P, Ivy R, Christopher R, Matthew R, Jamie S, Keira S, Natalie S, Aela S, Jensen T, Nancy T, Elena W and Bethany P (Y6) and James R (Y3)

We have attached the following information for you:

- **Yearly Planner:** We have put the key dates on the planner for this year. Please add further dates to it as we send out information over the course of the year. I know from questionnaires that parents would like more notice of events - and I know that this can sometimes be frustrating! We will try our very best to do this but sometimes please understand it is very difficult for us as we don't get confirmation of events until near the time or sometimes we are given an 'opportunity' at the last minute and don't want to miss out as it is of benefit to our children! Please note that we have included dates for Class assemblies for the Autumn term. In the Summer term we will be inviting you to our 'Strawberries and Cream Open Afternoon' which we will hopefully hold on the amphitheatre and each class will 'perform'.
- **Curriculum Plans:** (These will be available next week). This guide gives you an overview of what your child will be encountering in their learning across this whole academic year. This will enable you to support and work with your child at home. These plans are also available on the website and information relating to all areas of the curriculum are also on there. There is also some regarding our approaches to Reading and Mathematics. Year group expectations for maths and English are also available on the website and we will send a copy of these out with the curriculum plans.
- **Homework Expectations:** We have revised our policy following some of the feedback from the parent questionnaires at the end of last year. This outlines the practice within school and ensures a consistency of approach across the school.

Other Information

- **School Bags:** We really struggle for space in our porch areas in school and have difficulty storing large rucksacks and bags that a lot of children, particularly in key stage 2, are bringing. Where possible, please can children use school book bags for reading books and homework etc as these are so much easier for us to store. One keyring is also sufficient to attach to the school bag as again this makes storage difficult. The drawstring PE bags are the most suitable for P.E. and swimming kit or alternatively a carrier bag is great! We really appreciate your help with this.
- **Newsletters:** We will be sending newsletters home hopefully on a fortnightly basis unless there is something that we really need to let you know about. Please note that we will continue to use our texting service to send messages as appropriate.
- **Free School Meal Entitlement:** Although all children within Early Years and KS1 are being offered a free school meal this year, parents claiming certain benefits should continue to complete an eligibility form to ensure that our school funding (pupil premium) is not affected. Please complete the form and return to school as soon as possible. Thank you.
- **Dinner Money:** Please note that the KS2 school dinner cost has increased to £2.00 per day (as from 6th September 2016). Please ensure all monies are sent into school on Monday.

We are looking forward to working together with you and your children this year to continue to make Escomb School the best place to be!

Thank you for your continued support.
Wendy Gill & Staff



Congratulations



Star of the Week Award

16th September 2016

Class Nominations

Reception	Whole Class
Class 1	Whole Class
Class 2	Katie P
Class 3	James R
Class 4	Ava W
Class 5	Evi D
Class 6	Bethany P

Superstar of the Week!

*** Katie P ***

Writer of the Week

16th September 2016

Class 1	Oliver J
Class 2	Finley B
Class 3	Ethan O'N
Class 4	Leah R
Class 5	Indianna R
Class 6	Amelia B

**Well Done for producing
such fabulous writing!**

Good to Be Green

Lucky Dip Winners

KS1	Lucy R
KS2	Hope S

ATTENDANCE

Week Beginning:

6th September 2016

Year 3 & Year 5

100%

Well Done



Starting School

Will your child be 5 on or between
1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018?

Durham
County Council

If so, you need to complete an application to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2017 by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

You will still need to apply even if your child already has a sibling at the school.

The application process also includes applying for a place in a junior school for an older child.

You can access a guide called 'Primary School Admissions in County Durham 2017/18' which contains essential information to help you with your application.

You can apply online for a school place from 12 September 2016 and the deadline for application is midnight on 15 January 2017.

For more information please contact the School Admissions and Transport Team on 03000 265 896.