



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

School reopens on Thursday 5th September 2024. We look forward to seeing you all then!



A Message from Mrs. Boulton

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to thank you for all of your continued support for our school. Your children are indeed amazing and they are certainly ready for a bit of a rest. They have worked hard, have tried their best, and they tell us they are now wishing for lots of sunshine this holiday! We have had our fair share of rain these last few weeks, so let's hope that the sun shines for us all!

We wish Mrs. Buxton, our Reception and Nursery Teacher, a very happy retirement. Mrs. Buxton has been with us for thirty years, and has taught many of our children's parents. Thirty years of teaching children is certainly something to be very proud of indeed. Enjoy your well-deserved rest, Mrs. Buxton!

We wish our Year 6 children very fond farewells as they embark upon their journey into Year 7. They certainly have been excellent ambassadors for our school this year. They have shown such great determination and wonderful resilience. We know that they will continue to do this as they move on to exciting ventures in Year 7, and will go on to continue to make a very positive difference to the world.

With thanks to all of our families who have worked with us, in partnership, to help the children of Timothy Hackworth be the best that they can be. We look forward to working with you again, very soon.

As this school year draws to a close, we wish you all a very safe and happy, sunny, Summer! We are really looking forward to welcoming all of your children back to school ready for a new school year, on Thursday 5th September.

Have a wonderful Summer,

Mrs. Boulton



CRC Article 28 All children have the right to an education

We had a fantastic 91 students who achieved 100% for the Spring Term and enjoyed a celebration disco; well done everyone!

Why school attendance is important

Children who attend school regularly are much more likely to achieve positive outcomes both during their childhood and later in life. Being in school, around friends and teachers, plays a big part in children's wellbeing and their wider development. We want all children to thrive throughout their lives and attending school to learn and develop socially is an important part of achieving this.

Did you know

One full school year at 90% attendance is the equivalent of four weeks of learning missed! Over five years of school, this adds up to half a school year missed. This is known as persistent absence.

Just a reminder of what our expectations are for September for all children and how you can help:

We understand there may be unavoidable and/or genuine reasons for absences. However, due to the impact irregular school attendance may have on your child's academic progress, we ask that you:

- ensure that your children attend school regularly; at least 97%;
- take an active interest in your children's education, and to support their children by discussing their progress with them;
- avoid taking family holidays during term time;
- if you wish to take leave in term time, requests should be made in writing at least 4 weeks in advance. Please do not take leave without informing school as this can lead to safeguarding concerns;
- Help your child get into the habit and learn the value of regular routines;
- Teach your child that attending school is non-negotiable unless they are truly sick;
- Get into good routines: start the year right and make attendance a priority;
- Talk about school at home - ask your child what they're learning, how their friends are and how they're getting on. Encourage them to tell you about the good and the bad!
- Don't let your child take time off school for minor illnesses, particularly those that would not stop you from going to work.

We want to work with parents to ensure that all pupils are given the opportunity to develop their full potential. If you think or know that your child is having any difficulties, talk to us about how we can help you and your child. As you may already be aware, there are to be some changes to Fixed Penalty Notices from September 2024, as outlined below:



Fixed Penalty Notices for irregular attendance at school Important information for parents and carers

1 Overview

Penalty notices are issued as an alternative to prosecution where parents have failed to ensure their child attends school regularly. They can be used in cases where absence has not been authorised by a head teacher.

The notices are used to prevent the need for court action, for example, when support has not been engaged with or is not appropriate (for example, leave of absence during term time). **Changes from September 2024 are shown below.**

2 Leave

Head Teachers are unable to grant leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation **would not** constitute an exceptional circumstance.

3 Absence

A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued if there are **5 days / 10 sessions** of absence in a period of **10 school weeks** (where absence has not been authorised).

A notice may be issued where the 5-day level of absence has not been reached, for example, if there are several periods of leave.

4 Amount

Within a 3-year period:

The first penalty notice is **£160** if paid within 28 days, reduced to **£80** if paid within 21 days.

A second penalty notice is **£160** to be paid within 28 days.

A third penalty notice cannot be issued. **Legal action** may result (for example, prosecution).

For further information please see Durham County Council website page on school attendance or email AIT@durham.gov.uk

Thank you to all the parents and children who have worked hard this year to support the school and maintained their child's attendance.



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| Above 97% | Less than 6 days absence a year- Excellent attendance. | Pupils with this attendance should achieve the best they can. |
| 95% | Less than 10 days absence in a year. | Pupils with this attendance are more likely to achieve their targets at the end of the year. |
| 90% | 20 days absence in a year. | Pupils with this attendance are missing approximately a month (20 days) of school per year and may fall behind in Maths, English and other subjects; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best. |
| 85% | 30 days absence in a year. | These pupils are missing approximately 6 weeks of school a year. It will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best. |
| 80% | 40 days absence a year. | Pupils with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school. It will be almost impossible to keep up with their work and achieve their best. |

There are 190 days in a school year, which leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things!

I hope you have a wonderful summer and I can't wait to see you all in September!



Year 3 History Trip to the Oriental Museum

CRC Article 17: All children have the right to find out information.

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to be the best that they can be.

Year 3 visited the Oriental Museum to further their learning on Ancient Egyptians. We had a fascinating time looking around the Museum and investigating artefacts that were over 3,000 years old. The children were very respectful when handling each artefact and asked very relevant questions. Our guides were quite impressed with the children's knowledge of Ancient Egyptian artefacts, especially when they identified a headrest. Lunch was a very popular activity and it was quiet for a while! In the afternoon, we learnt about 'The Weighing of the Heart Ceremony' and then role played the ceremony.

The highlight of the day was looking at the mummy and learning how the Egyptians mummified their dead. This has come in very handy as we have been mummifying tomatoes this week in Guided Reading and mummified a dear friend in our English lesson; we did resurrect them in time for lunch!

The children's behaviour was exemplary and the staff at the museum commented on how knowledgeable the children were.

Well done, Year 3.



Year 5 Secondary School Transition Visits

Year 5 have been as busy as bees, visiting our local secondary schools to get a taste for what awaits us after our primary school education.

We spent a thoroughly enjoyable day at Greenfield Academy at the start of the Summer Term and then this half term we visited no less than 3 secondary schools within 5 days. We spent Monday and Tuesday at King James 1 Academy, Wednesday at Bishop Barrington Academy and then - after another jam-packed day at the Silent Disco and Mini Police training - rounded the week off at St. John's School & Sixth Form College on Friday.

The staff at all of the secondary schools put a huge amount of effort into showcasing what they have to offer so that the children can make an informed choice about where they would like to attend in the future and be less anxious when their first day in Year 7 arrives.

The children themselves were excellent ambassadors for Timothy Hackworth Primary School and took full advantage of the fun activities on offer - and the delicious food! We covered lessons in Maths, English, Drama, Reading, Science, Music, Geography, History, Computing and lots of PE in the beautiful sunshine. Well done Year 5!



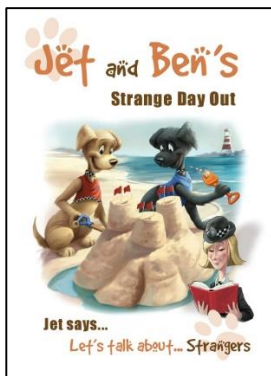
CRC Article 17:
CRC Article 29:

All children have the right to information that they can understand.
All children have the right to be the best that they can be - developing their personalities, talents and abilities to the full.

Year 5 Mini Police

We have had some very special visitors to our Year 5 classes over the last three weeks - two officers from Durham Police Constabulary.

They taught us about the varied role of the Police Force, discussed how to be considerate and respectful members of our community and even gave us the opportunity to dress up in uniform. We asked and answered lots of interesting questions, were given story books about Jet and Ben and we have produced posters relating to stopping anti-social behaviour as part of a design competition. Our time together was also a great opportunity for us to discuss the Police Force as a potential career.



CRC Article 17: All children have the right to information that they can understand.
CRC Article 19: All children have the right to be kept safe.

First Aid Staff Training Update



CRC Article 19: All Children have the right to be kept safe.

As a school we have a duty of care to ensure our pupils and staff are safe which includes having a number of staff First Aid trained. We ensure we are comprehensively covered with a mixture of First Aid at Work, Emergency First Aid at Work and Paediatric First Aid (which is required for Early Years staff).

We ensure our training is up to date and like to use our local training provider, 'Help! First Aid Training', who have a wealth of knowledge and experience – the staff really enjoy the training which makes a difference too.

Parent and Toddler Group

CRC Article 29: You have the right to education which tries to develop your personality and abilities as much as possible and encourages you to respect other people's rights and values and to respect the environment.

Our Parent and Toddler Group has been a great success since it started in October 2023. We have enjoyed seeing many new and different faces over the weeks, and growing our school community. It is fantastic to see the children develop their fine motor skills, and socially interacting with others. We are delighted to see the same group back again in September, with the addition of new faces too!



The Buddhist Workshop

- ★ CRC Article 28: All children have the right to a good quality education.
 - ★ CRC Article 29: All children have the right to develop their skills, talents and abilities.
 - ★ CRC Article 14: (freedom of thought, belief and religion) All children have the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights.
 - ★ CRC Article 31: All children have the right to rest, play and take part in cultural and artistic activities.
- ★ Year 1/2 enjoyed taking part in a Buddhist Workshop and learning about Buddhism, as part of their RE learning. This gave the children an opportunity to begin to develop some understanding of the Buddhist culture and their spiritual values. Year 1 / 2 really enjoyed having the opportunity to play parts in this experience, like dressing as a Buddhist monk, enacting stories and getting their faces painted. They experienced some Buddhist music, gongs and a singing bowl, and all the children had lots of fun learning.

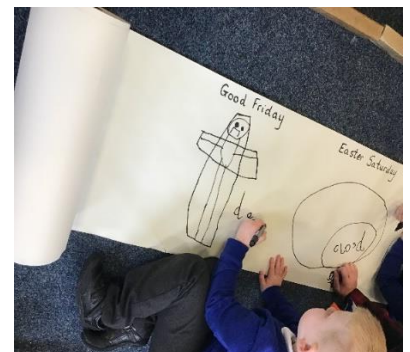


Early Years Update

CRC Article 31: All children have the right to rest and play.

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to develop their skills, talents and abilities.

What a wonderful year we have had in Early Years! It has been fantastic to see our little ones grow and develop into such confident learners. We have had many amazing experiences from forest school, snow days, Christmas performances, visits to see The Flying Scotsman and much more! Nursery and Reception classes have enjoyed taking part in the Ready, Steady, Go Sports Programme. The children had fun learning new fundamental movement skills and performing their skills to parents and carers. Our whole team are so proud of the resilience and determination that your children have shown this year and we can't wait to see how they take on their next steps in their learning as we move into a new academic year. Thank you to our parents and carers who have been supportive throughout the year. We are sad to say goodbye to our current classes and wish them all the very best as they move into their new year group. We are excited to welcome our new starters in September for 2's, Nursery and Reception. We wish everyone a wonderful, and safe summer holiday.



RRS Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.



Place2Be



Place2Be has had the pleasure of another great year within Timothy Hackworth Primary School! The service continues to support children, families and staff, with a wide range of interventions that meet the needs of the individuals within our school community.

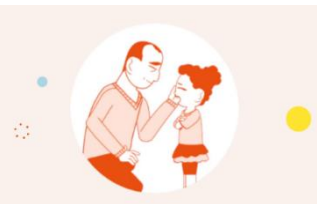
The project offers a variety of safe and appropriate interventions throughout the school year, these include one-to-one support, Place2Talk, parent partnerships and Place2Think. We are happy to say that Place2Be will continue to provide a safe and supportive environment for everyone to talk about their worries and concerns as we head into a new year in September.

Spotlight on Place2Be Interventions

New section in Parenting Smart



We regularly highlight our Parenting Smart offer to members of the school community and this year we are pleased to announce that there has been an additional section added to the online resource that offers information and guidance on 'Helping your child prepare for Secondary or High School'. The online Parenting Smart website is a hub of short, useful articles written by Place2Be's parenting experts. Each article, aimed at parents of children aged 4 to 11 years, shares practical advice on several different topics. In addition to the new section, there are other useful topics covered, such as sibling rivalry, peer pressure, safe social media use, co-parenting following a separation or divorce, and arguments and conflicts.



Please have a look at the articles or find further details at: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk>.

There is also an **online Parenting Smart course**, which is a **free** course that runs for **four weeks**. The course is a flexible access intervention that is open to all parents and carers of 4–11-year-olds exclusively at Place2Be schools. Parents and carers interested in this course need to follow the link below and **join the course by 17th September and will start on 24th September 2024**.

If you are interested in this course and would like more information, please go to <https://www.place2be.org.uk/family> or contact Marnie on the details below.

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health.

Our Place2Be School Project Manager/Counsellor is Marnie. During term time Place2Be is in school every Tuesday and Wednesday. If you have any questions or queries about Place2Be, you can contact Marnie by ringing the office on 01388 772 959. More information on all the Place2Be services can be found on the Place2Be website at: www.place2be.org.uk.

Have a safe, restful summer and we look forward to seeing you in September.

