September 5th 2024



**Welcome back!**

The children have returned to school and settled quickly in their new classes well. I’d like to welcome families and children that are new to our school; new to Nursery, new to Reception and also any other families that have joined us. We hope that you will enjoy being part of our school community.

I’d also like to welcome two new members of staff to our tem; Miss Coats is our newly appointed Year 2 class teacher, and Mrs Bowman is our new Teaching Assistant.

**School lunches**

At the beginning of the week, the office sent out a text about Hutchison’s appetite school meal ordering via the app. Hutchison’s have informed us that there must be credit on an account in order to book school lunches, and reminded us that there is no debt facility on the system. Thank you for your support.

**Ford Castle residential**

If your child is in Year 4, you will shortly be receiving a google form to help us to decide if the residential will go ahead this year. Last year there were 7 children who didn’t wish to attend, and if numbers this year were to be as low, we would unfortunately not be able to go ahead with the residential, due to having to staff the residential at Ford Castle but also staff the children back at school. I ask that you please return the google form with your response as soon as possible thank you, and we will update Year 4 parents as to whether the residential will go ahead.

**SRE (Sex Relationships Education) meeting**

We would like to invite all Year 5 & 6 parents & carers to a meeting on Wednesday 11th September at 4pm, with Mr Russell-Thompson and Mr Szymanski. The meeting will be held in the hall, and we look forward to seeing as many families as possible there.

**Jewellery**

Our uniform policy is that there is to be **no** jewellery or earrings worn in school **at any time**. This is to avoid any unpleasant accidents occurring, as earrings can easily be caught on other children’s jumper/coats. We have however noticed children wearing earrings (and retainers) at the start of term, and ask that these are all completely removed, thank you for your support with this matter.

For health and safety reasons, children with earrings or retainers are **not** allowed to take part in any organised physical activity but will be given an alternative PE related activity in which to participate. If your child has their ears pierced, they must remove their earrings independently before they come to school.

**Statutory assessment academic year 2025**

Please find below, the dates when statutory assessments will be carried out in 2025 with different year groups across school. ***We ask that during these dates that children are not taken out of school as these are statutory tests, thank you.***

**Reception baseline assessment**

School will complete the reception baseline assessment for each child in the first 6 weeks after they enter Reception.

**Key stage 2 tests-** The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled for Monday 12 May to Thursday 15 May 2025.

**Multiplication tables check** - School must administer the multiplication tables check within the 2-week period from Monday 2 June 2025.

**Phonics screening check** -This will take place within the week beginning Monday 9 June 2025.

**PE kits**

Children need to be in full school PE kit for PE lessons. Your child’s PE kit should include a school PE T-shirt, red shorts and sand shoes or trainers. PE kits will remain at school all half term and children will bring them home at the end of each half term to be washed. If your child does not have a PE kit or is missing items of clothing, they will be unable to participate in the active part of the lesson and will be given a supporting role.

**Ofsted Report**

With the paper copy of the newsletter today, your child will also be bringing home a copy of our latest Ofsted report from our inspection at the end of June.

**After school clubs**

We have put together a range of after school clubs for this half term, and this information has been already sent out, with the booking system remaining open until Monday 9th at 9am.

**School term dates**

The school term and holiday dates including Teacher Training Days for this academic year, may be found on our school website (www.pgps.co.uk) under ‘information for parents.’

**Dates for your diary**

Fri 13th Sept – Year 6 swimming starts

Wed 11th Sept – SRE meeting for parents of 5&6

Mon 16th Sept – Year 6 trip to the Discovery Museum

Mon 16th Sept – Newcastle Eagles team in school (pm) with Y5&6

Wed 18th Sept – Pedestrian training for each class

Fri 25th Oct – Break up for half term

Tracey Taylor

Headteacher

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