



## Newsletter: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Everyone Smiles Here

### School Contact Information

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### Headteacher's News

As we head towards a weekend of increased restrictions, it is very apparent that the current situation is not going away anytime soon. Despite this, I am so pleased with the attitude and positivity shown by staff, pupils, and all members of the school community. More than ever, school is a central focus for the community and, besides a place of learning, a safe space for children to socialise with their peers. We need to do all we can to hold this together.

Along with other head teacher colleagues, I have expressed my frustrations at the current Covid-testing system and lack of availability, to our local member of parliament. I only hope that this will be resolved as quickly as possible so we can keep everyone in school and avoid parents having to take more time of work.

We are still getting to grips with the new restrictions, with the main concern for parents being childcare at the moment. I am awaiting some further guidance and clarity on this, and will pass on any information as soon as I can. Capacity is still available for Breakfast and Tea Club most nights, so please get in touch if you need to access either of these. Mr Park - Headteacher

### School Updates

#### Behaviour Policy

In the previous newsletter, I sent out some additional rules we have introduced to keep everyone safe. We have also updated our school behaviour policy. This has not changed much from the previous policy, but we are trying to give children more opportunity to receive bronze, silver, and gold badges. Instead of a chart with different colours that children can go up and down on, over the course of a day, classes will have a new star chart in class. Extra house points can be earned for 'going above and beyond' or completing exceptional work. We will also be operating a 'three strikes' rule for occasions where a child chooses not to follow school rules. After two initial warnings, being spoken to a third time will mean the child is kept inside at breaktime to discuss their behaviour. Serious incidents will still receive red cards, and we will work together with parents to address any behavioural concerns. We also recognise in the policy that children with special educational needs may not always be in control of their behaviour, and staff will apply the policy appropriately in this respect.

You can read the full policy here:

<http://www.esh.durham.sch.uk/about-us/school-policies/>

*We have had our first sporting events for the term this week. Here is what the children thought:*

#### Zumba Dance Workshops for Year 1 and Class 4

It was really fun and energetic! We learnt lots of different routines including salsa and hip hop. *Evie – Class 4*

#### Tri-Golf for Class 2 and Class 3

There were lots of different challenges like how far you could hit the ball, or hitting it off a cone and into a hoop. *Caleb – Class 3*

#### European Languages Day

Miss House has organised some activities for European Day of Languages, next Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The children will be completing competitions, games and challenges throughout the day. Please ask them what they have been up to in class.

## Class Teacher Meetings

Thank you to everyone who attended these meetings. Teachers have made the information available on E-schools for anyone who was not able to attend the event. They will also be placed on the class web pages. Class teachers can be contacted through Class emails if you have any further queries:

[Class1@esh.durham.sch.uk](mailto:Class1@esh.durham.sch.uk) [Class2@esh.durham.sch.uk](mailto:Class2@esh.durham.sch.uk) [Class3@esh.durham.sch.uk](mailto:Class3@esh.durham.sch.uk)

[Class4@esh.durham.sch.uk](mailto:Class4@esh.durham.sch.uk)

## E-Schools

You should all have received parent and pupil logins for E-schools last week. If you need these again, just ask and we will send them out. From now on, class teachers will be uploading work that children can access where they are absent from school, but still well enough to work. We will also be using this platform for homework, spellings and times tables. Over time we hope to develop its use a little more. As it is a new platform in school, we are all still getting to grips with it, but all classes have work uploaded now. Let us know if you have any problems logging in, or finding the information you need, and someone will contact you to talk you through it.

## Dates for Academic Year 2020/21

Please note, events are limited at the moment due to the uncertainty around restrictions, and everything will be subject to change.

Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Sports Leaders Training – Year 6
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Break up for half-term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Children return to school
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for half term
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Children return to school
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Break up for Easter
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 SATS begin
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for half term
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Inset Day for Staff – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Children return to school
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Break up for Summer
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Inset Day for staff
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Inset Day for staff