King Street Primary & Pre - School

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County Durham

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 6th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure you will agree that our children performed beautifully this week at our Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew’s Church. It takes a huge amount of bravery to stand in front of other children and adults and speak as clearly and eloquently as they did. The singing was wonderful and I saw many of our families joining in too. The children loved it and are already volunteering to be readers at our Christmas Service. Thank you for making their experience so positive. It was also lovely to meet Father Gareth who is currently working alongside Father John.

Our next event is our Halloween Disco. Information on how to request tickets will be sent out next week so please look out for this. This is always a very popular event and tickets must be pre-booked so we can order enough hot dogs and sweets!

If you have any difficulties accessing the link we send, please contact the school office.

Halloween themed school meal

Please also look out for a request to book our Halloween themed school meal on Friday 27th October. This link will be sent out next week. Please ensure you complete the request before the deadline as food needs to be ordered in advance of the event and we are unable to take requests after this date.

Flu immunisations

Once again, the NHS are offering school age children a nasal flu vaccination. This is an optional vaccination that requires parental consent. The NHS will provide us with a school link in due course and they highly recommend that families take up the offer. They will be in school on 14th November to vaccinate any children who have been given parental consent. Please look out for the link being sent out.

Online safety

Staying safe online has become a huge priority for schools and as part of our duty to keep children safe we would like to offer parents an opportunity to improve their own knowledge of online safety at home. We know that children very quickly learn about different platforms and these have become an integral part of their lives but it can be very difficult for parents to keep up with the ever-changing technology. We have, therefore, invested in a training platform for families which should help you feel more informed about the benefits and dangers of online technology. Please sign up to this brilliant platform using the link below. Once you have created yourself an account, you will have access to webinars that will give you the latest information to keep your child safe. I hope this is really helpful as online safety is often something that parents often ask us for advice around. If you have any difficulties accessing the site, please speak to the school office and we help you out.

[https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/king-street-primary-school](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnationalcollege.com%2Fenrol%2Fking-street-primary-school&data=05%7C01%7Cj.bromley200%40kingstreet.durham.sch.uk%7C9baf9d6f01b948fa841008db8242f2b7%7C45dfff5283644d73bf3a8f98bdf10d87%7C0%7C0%7C638246996266904261%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JqyCm%2FRESOTD3UXXuGbltQF16YoKlfprzovZtFTHXYE%3D&reserved=0)

Please also remember that we issue an informative poster each week on our Facebook page. These are also very useful.

If you are ever concerned that your child is in danger online and maybe at risk of harm or abuse, you must report this.

Keeping children safe from harm is our number one priority. We will always act upon any concerns individuals have, or any disclosures from children. However, if you have any concerns outside of school, or if you have a concern about a child or young person’s welfare you can call First contact on 03000267979.

Family support

As we head towards the colder months and with Christmas looming, we appreciate that life can become more difficult for families. There are now a number of schemes available through Durham County Council that may be able to help. From support with the cost of baby milk to heating costs and school uniform. Please look on their website for more information or contact Mrs Livesley who can signpost you to further support. All requests are treated with the strictest of confidence.

Water bottles

I would like to remind families that children are encouraged to bring a bottle of water to school each day. Learning can be thirsty work and children learn best when hydrated. Please note that bottles should only contain water for during the school day as, whilst we wish to promote hydration, we also like to promote good dental health and high consumption of juice can cause tooth decay.

Reception Intake – September 2024

We are holding an Open Evening for families to look around our EYFS on 25th October at 5pm. This information can be shared with friends or family within the community who may have a child of Nursery or school age.

Applications are now open for school places for next academic year, starting in September 2024. These must be applied for through the online portal: <https://durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. The deadline for applications is Monday 15th January 2024. For enquiries about Nursery places, please contact the school office.

Volunteer readers

As we continue our focus upon reading, we would love to hear from anyone who would like to be part of the King Street community and become a volunteer reader. We are looking for people who would like to read stories to children and hear children read. If you are interested, please contact the school office for a volunteer pack. Our children love reading and it is a pleasure to share this with them.

Upcoming diary dates

Monday 23rd October – School photo day.

Monday 23rd October to Thursday 26th October – SEND children parents’ evenings (letters will be sent to arrange).

Thursday 26th October – Halloween disco in school. (More information to follow)

Wednesday 25th October- Open Evening for children eligible for Reception or Nursery places.

Friday 27th October- Halloween school themed meal day

Friday 27th October – School closes for half term

Monday 6th November - School reopens for Autumn term 2

Monday 13th to Friday 17th November – Parents’ evening Y1-6 (more information on booking will follow in due course)

Monday 13th November -Reception class stay and play

Wednesday 15th November – Nursery Class stay and play

Friday 17th November – Children in Need, dress down day.

Additional dates are available in the Key Diary Dates on the school website.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns please speak to, or email, the school office. Teachers can also be contacted directly by email. If you require a teacher’s email, please speak to the school office.

Yours Sincerely

J Bromley

Head Teacher