



Weekly Headteacher's Blog

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to our weekly blog after another warm and mainly sunny and dry week. As always, any queries and suggestions about anything we should be doing differently are very welcome. This can be done by calling into the office, by email or by using the suggestions box located in the main school entrance.

Kind Regards,
Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

Wildlife Garden.

Our garden was renovated last summer and the children enjoy using it. Our school grounds maintenance contract does not cover weeding or tending to this area without an additional cost so we would greatly appreciate any green fingered families who could spare a little time to keep the area looking it's best.

Remember -

Sports Day Thursday 20th July 1 p.m.
Followed by Ford Castle parents
information meeting at 3.30 p.m.
Plans of the MUGA and proposed
facilities will be on show for you to
comment on throughout the afternoon.

Church Fair is 2p.m. this Saturday.

Fundraising for our specialist provision.

We have been applying for grants for a long jump pit, specialist running track and trim trail for adults and children to use. We would also like to have a path from the classroom door in class 1 to the MUGA. This has been quoted to cost £7000 but we have applied for the Walls pastry Helping Hands campaign. The project could give us £5000 worth of labour and materials to build the path so please nominate us as the more nominations we receive the better!

The link can be found -

<https://www.walls-pastry.co.uk/community/helping-hand/nominate>



Transition Information.

Already there is a section on the Duchess High School website entitled Transition. We will have a group of Y9 pupils visit school in July with their music teacher and perform in front of the school. We also have lots of things planned for the KS 2 children next term.

Transition Day for our school children is Thursday 6th July. Children who are in Reception Class from September will be invited to stay all day and be picked up at 3 p.m.

Coffee and Chat and Cramlington Rockets assembly on Thursday 6th July. Coffee and Chat 2p.m. Followed by assembly at 2.30p.m. The children will have just finished their PE lesson with Cramlington Rockets so please excuse them as they will be wearing their PE kit as getting changed when you are 6 or 7 sometimes takes a while!



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Back packs For KS1.

We have been requested to stock a small backpack in school colours for the younger pupils. Please call into the office if you wish to see a sample.

Online Payment Systems.

A number of schools have started accepting online payments for school trips and dinner money. This was discussed at the last Governors Meeting and we are researching the best company to use as some companies have hidden costs which mean that you pay a fee every time you make a payment to school. We hope to have the best possible solution in place for September.

Reading-

Scholastic Book Club online orders are still open. For full details of books to buy please see the Scholastic website.

We are currently re-stocking our library and will be fundraising for this later in the term. If you have any books, particularly Non Fiction or older Fiction, comics or children's magazines that you wish to donate please contact me.

From September we intend to 'employ' librarians from KS2 classes. This will enable us to open the library before school and during lunchtimes on a daily basis.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the Reading Challenges this year.

School and Class Organisation for the School Year 2017-18.

We have been working with the staff and Governing Body on the class structure for September. As always, you will know of changes (if any) very soon and I hope to share this in my Headteacher's Blog next week prior to the transition day on Thursday 6th July. We are lucky to have such a fantastic staff and group of children as complete our first year as a Primary School and begin a new school year! Thank you for all your support.

The PTA will kindly be selling cream teas to raise funds at our Sports Day. If you can help please contact Julia or Nicola.

We break up at 3.15 p.m. on Friday 21st July and return on Wednesday 6th September. Children will have their Annual Report to Parents to bring home with them in July too.

Facebook

Working with staff, parents and governors I will be creating a school Facebook page. Please drop me a note if there is anything in particular you would like to see. Before the page is opened it is good practice to share with you all a code of conduct of use and membership rules so I will be sending these out before the end of term.