

## Update 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Hi all,

I have been wondering where the sun has disappeared to this week! Now that the weather is becoming colder please can we make sure children come to school with suitable footwear, jumpers / cardigans and coats.

I have spent time this afternoon working on our Risk Assessment due to an update from Durham County. From Monday it will not be possible to speak with me or any member of staff first thing on a morning without prior arrangement. I am sure you will all understand this. I will continue to speak with parents on the phone in urgent situations but appointments must be made to see me or any member of staff via the office. The updated risk assessment is available on our website should you want to read it.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Ferguson

## Attendance for 2020 - 2021

**OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET FOR THIS YEAR IS 96%.**

Every day counts, missing school can damage a child's achievements and disrupts theirs and others learning. Above all, missing out on the opportunities provided in school can have a long term effect on children's chances in life.

**Well done to The Trailblazers for achieving 96% attendance this week!!!**

Weekly Attendance	
The Trailblazers	96.3%
The Pathfinders	95.3%
The Pioneers	94.7%
The Explorers	94.1%
The Adventurers	94%

## Attendance

We are doing a big push on attendance as it is a key priority for us as a school. We have high expectations that our children will be in school, on time every day. Currently our whole school attendance is only 93% and our target is 96%. We will be monitoring children's attendance closely over the coming months and providing you with regular updates regarding your child's attendance. We ask you to support us in this by:

- Ensuring that your child attends, on time every day.
- That you contact school on the first day of unavoidable absence and notify us of the reasons for that absence and an expected return date.
- If at all possible try to make doctors, eye appointments, hearing appointments and dental appointments outside of school hours. If your child is well enough to come to school before or after an appointment then please bring them in.

## Lateness

It is important that your child arrives in school, on time. The doors in EYFS close at 9am, the doors in KS1 and KS2 will close at 9:10am. Children who repeatedly arrive late for school miss considerable amounts of learning time. Arriving 5 mins late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year!



## Parent Governor

We are advertising for 2 Parent Governors. A Parent Governor does not have to be an expert or have experience in Education; what they need is to have an interest in the school and in the achievement and welfare of our children along with time and the commitment to get involved. All Governors are required to have an enhanced DBS check. For further information, please contact the school office on 01740 620 162.

## Durham Music Service

Durham Music Service offers fantastic and exciting music lessons to children in our school. They currently have availability for lessons within school and are keen to recruit as soon as possible. Please sign up at [www.durhammusic.org.uk/sign-up](http://www.durhammusic.org.uk/sign-up)



## Cauliflower Christmas Cards

As a school we will once again be participating in the Cauliflower Christmas Card Project. Over the next week children will be producing some Christmas artwork in class. Once the artwork is complete your child will be bringing this home along with an order form, should you wish to order any Christmas cards, Christmas mugs, gift tags or wrapping paper with your child's artwork on.

## Flu Vaccine Forms Reminder

Completed Flu Vaccine forms should be returned to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Thank you

## Collection / Dropping Off Arrangements

If you have not yet completed and returned your collection / dropping off proforma, can you please return it to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.



## Key Dates

Autumn Half Term 2020	Thursday 22nd October 2020	Monday 2nd November 2020
Christmas 2020	Friday 18th December 2020	Monday 4th January 2021

**Teacher Training Days — Friday 23rd October 2020.**