



Consett Junior School

October 2019 Newsletter

We are already, unbelievably, one month into the new school year. We are so pleased with how well our new children have settled into school, forming new relationships and participating in new activities/clubs. The children's behaviour at school is very good, they are showing care, concern, kindness and wonderful manners to all, this is always noted and we commend children for this.

In the month ahead we have several events planned, please ensure you check these events from looking at the website and especially 'OurSchoolApp,' it is very rare we send text messages now regarding school events, as we have more powerful and cost effective ways of informing parents/carers of school matters, but you must assist us with this and ensure you regularly check these sites. If you do not have the App please speak to Mrs Raine. There are many December events dates added and more to add this week.

Our Year 6 pupils are in Ford Castle and from what we have heard they are having an action packed time, can't wait to hear all about their adventures on their return. If your child is currently in Year 5, we will soon be sending out information for their residential, when they are in Year 6.

Coming up we have our new whole school parents/carers 'drop in' evenings, more 'If U Care Share' coffee mornings, the Halloween disco and our spooky themed lunches week....to name a few.

After school clubs have been very well attended so far, just a reminder that the current clubs (not including band, art, cross country or karate) will end before we break up for the half term, but details of the next set of clubs will be circulated shortly.

Attendance Update

The whole school attendance for September was an amazing 97.07%, which is above the governments floor target of 96%.

If your child is absent from school for any reason you MUST inform the school. There were several children absent last week and no reason had been provided. There are several ways you can inform the school office, as it is known that sometimes getting through on busy mornings can be difficult. You can ring 01207 504431, you can text 07537436638 or you can email consettjunior@durhamlearning.net

If your child is poorly and their illness means they need to be absent for 48 hours, you do not need to ring on the second day of absence, however, if this goes into the third day then you must make contact with school. If your child's absences become frequent or pattern based, i.e. off regularly on Mondays or Fridays, then action will be taken to prove your child is off unwell. This may mean letters are requested from their GP, or a home visit from the school or attendance team officer. Further concern will result in a referral to the Local Authority, where warnings, interviews or fines are issued.

If you do not inform the office regarding absence, or we have reason to believe the reason provided for your child's absence is not correct, we will refer. There have been occasions where children have told us they have been on holiday, yet families claim they have been unwell.

It is against the law to keep your child off school if they are well enough to be in.

Please ensure you try to make medical appointments outside of school time, any made during the school day must be supported with a letter detailing the appointment. Although medical appointments are authorised, they do not qualify as an attendance mark.

September attendance overview

Class 8 achieved the highest % class attendance for September and their non-uniform day reward was Friday 4th October.

Year 6 achieved the highest attendance as a year group for September and they will each receive a giant cake/cookie on Friday 4th October. Well done.

Year 5 are below 96%, with high unauthorised absences!

Year Group	% attendance	Unauthorised absences	Lates
3	97.55	2	7
4	97.61	16	13
5	95.40	28	3
6	97.88	2	6

October 2019

5 u n	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	5 +
6	7 - Yr 4 swim Halloween Disco Tickets ON SALE Dinner Money, Band Money and School fund due After school band Year 5 'Drop-in' sessions 3.30 - 6.00 p.m.	8 - After School Karate Club After school Lego and Mindfulness Club	9 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route Year 6 return from Ford Castle	10 - Yr 3 swim No lunch cross country training due to races. After School Dodgeball Club South Stanley Junior cross country (3) Year 6 'Drop-in' sessions 3.30 - 6.00 p.m.	11 - Yr 6 swim Fun Friday Lunch After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3 After School Football Club	1
3	14 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Money and School fund due After school band	15 - No After-School Karate Club After school Lego and Mindfulness Club	16 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route	17 - Yr 3 swim No lunch cross country training due to races. After School Dodgeball Club Greenland's Primary cross country (Final)	18 - Yr 6 swim Fun Friday Lunch After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3 After School Football Club	9
2	21 - Yr 4 swim IF U Care Share - Coffee Morning 9 - 10 Dinner Money, Band Money and School fund due After school band Halloween Themed School Dinners Week	22 - After School Karate Club After school Lego and Mindfulness Club - FINAL	23 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route After school Halloween Disco. See reverse. 3.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. Children need to buy a ticket to attend, £3.	24 - Yr 3 swim 12.10 noon Cross country training Long route After School Dodgeball Club - Final	2 - Yr 6 swim Fun Friday Lunch Last day of term, children can come to school in non - uniform for a £1 school council fine. After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3 After School Football Club Final Day to Order School Photographs with School.	2

November dates /events for you to be aware of, please note that they are correct at time of print.

Key events: Wednesday 31st October - Final day to apply for secondary school place; Monday 4th November - school reopens for the 2nd half of the autumn term; Friday 8th November - Year 3, 4 & 5 flu nasal immunisations (If you have given permission); Thursday 14th November - Final day to buy Lions Raffle Tickets; Friday 15th November - 9.15 a.m. Antibullying assembly, parents/carers invited; w/c Monday 26th November - Travelling Book Fair in School all week; Monday 26th November - IF U Care Share' coffee morning 9 – 10.00a.m.; Wednesday 27th November - M & M Productions in school to perform the pantomime 'Snow White'.

Parents/Carers Open Evenings - 'Drop In'

If your child is in Year 5 and you would like to know how they are progressing so far in their academic year, the school will be open on Monday 7th October from 3.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. (last person entry at 5.40 p.m.), for you to come in with your child to visit their classroom. If your child is in Year 3 or 4 and you would like to know how they are progressing so far in their academic year, the school will be open on Wednesday 9th October from 3.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. (last person entry at 5.40 p.m.), for you to come in with your child to visit their classroom. If your child is in Year 6 and you would like to know how they are progressing so far in their academic year, the school will be open on Thursday 19th October from 3.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. (last person entry at 5.40 p.m.), for you to come in with your child to visit their classroom. NO APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED.

You can spend time looking at their work and the teachers will be available should you need to talk.

If you would like to speak with your child's class teacher, and feel this service is not an option for you. Please contact the school office to discuss other arrangements.

School Dinners

Please ensure you follow policy when changing meal arrangements for your child, **we require 2 weeks notice**, but this can sometimes be accommodated sooner if other children are also changing meal arrangements. If you do not inform the office your ParentPay account will be charged.

A note from our cook, Mr Maddison:

"This term we look forward to a very special "Spooky Week" of meals before the half term to celebrate Halloween. This is a themed week with lots of favourites with a ghoulish twist! The deadline to order lunches for this week is Friday 4th October. You do not need to order a lunch if your child is already on school meals. We are also keen for children to access a meal on a Friday, using our Fun Friday system see Mrs Raine if this interests you"

Year 6 residential 2020

If your child is currently in Year 5, we are looking to book a residential for next September/October 2020. Once finalised more details will go home with your child and posted on our app and website.

Halloween Disco

We are holding an after school Halloween Disco on **Wednesday 23rd October**. Tickets are £3 each and go on sale on Monday 7th October. We will provide each child with a party bag to take home after the disco.

The disco starts at 3.30 p.m. and finishes at 5.00 p.m. Children will leave the school premises in the usual way (play yard), so please ensure your child knows where you will be waiting for them as it will be dark.

Children have several options for wearing Halloween costumes during the day:

- 1) Children can come to school in their uniform but bring their costumes to change into at 3.30 p.m.
- 2) Children can come to school wearing their Halloween costumes. If children have masks/hoods they must NOT wear these during the school day so that we can identify who the children are, which is very important at break times.
- 3) Children can come to school in their uniform and not stay for the disco
- 4) Children can come to school in their costume/uniform for £1 and not stay for the disco but will still be given a party bag as part of their £1 charge. You must specify this when paying your £1.

If children lose their ticket, they do not need to worry as Mrs Raine keeps a register of ticket sales.

Donations *PLEASE HELP*

A huge thank you to everyone who has been so kind to donate food for the Harvest collections, all items are going to our local food bank. PLEASE continue to send in items until the end of half term, details can be found on our app or website .

As the colder weather closes in our children are going through many tissues! Please can you send in donations of boxed tissues to help keep all germs at bay.

M & M Productions 'Snow White' (Wednesday 27th November - In school)

Although the shows are amazing and the actors are phenomenal and they engage brilliantly with the children. There can be loud bangs and loud music. If you think your child will struggle with this, please contact Mrs Raine.

September Voluntary School Fund

Just a quick thank you to all families that have sent in school fund for September, we have banked £98. School Fund is used for the benefit of all pupils at the school. Examples include: Hire of recreational facilities; Prize expenses i.e. Head Teacher, Reading Race; Subsidising travel expenses of pupils e.g.: field trips, sports fixtures; Improvement of the school environment; Class resources; Some After school clubs; Individual and Class rewards; Special events; Supplementing library stock an additional teaching resources

Often, these things cannot be purchased through our school budget.

Whole School Christmas Show

We have been making links with Consett Academy and as a trial this year, Years 3 & 4 will perform their Christmas Show at Consett Academy (instead of the Empire Theatre) on the afternoon of Tuesday 17th December. Years 5 & 6 will perform theirs on the afternoon of Wednesday 18th December. Details regarding the show and ticket sales will follow.

Clubs

Swimming - **Year 4 swim last lesson on a Monday; Year 3 swim last lesson on a Thursday; Year 6 swim last lesson on a Friday.**

Cross Country Training

Cross country training is going from strength to strength, with 25 of our amazing children representing our school at the county races. Our first race was last Thursday and so far the CJS girls are ranked 3rd in the county, with Abigail and Teagan storming through in the top ten.

After school karate club

This club is every Tuesday from 3.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. The last session for the end of the autumn term is Tuesday 3rd December and the grading is 10th December but during the afternoon. **There is no after school karate session on Tuesday 15th October.**

Band

Band rehearsals for all children are after school each Monday until 4.30 p.m. Band is £1.50 each week, if you think you are behind with payments please ask your child to ask Miss Waters about how much is owed. Letters for children who have not yet paid, or are significantly behind have gone out to parents/carers. The Consett Lions club are once again selling raffle tickets, 70% commission from each ticket sold will go towards the brass band. These can be purchased from school and are £1 each.

After schools clubs ending before Friday 25th October

Lego and Mindfulness Club - Ends Tuesday 22nd October

Dodgeball Club - Ends Thursday 24th October

After schools clubs continuing from Monday 4th November

Year 3 Art Club - Fridays (Full)

Football, Band, Cross Country and karate are all on-going clubs.

If U Care Share

Thank you to the parents/carers who were able to come to our first coffee morning on 23rd September. It was very relaxed and a good time for people to catch up/meet new people. This is the first of 10 monthly coffee mornings we are hosting for 'If U Care Share', all donations gratefully received. The staff have created a rota and will take turns to bake treats for you to enjoy with your cuppa!

Why not pop along to our next one on Monday 21st October and try Miss Atkinson's Mars Bar or Malteaser cake...

Tesco's carrier bag tokens - we have recently been made aware that 'If U Care Share' is one of the charities/businesses requesting your carrier bag tokens at the moment. Please consider them when you shop in Tesco, Consett

'Save The Date' - on Friday 10th July we will be spending the afternoon at Consett Rugby Club as part of a sponsored event to raise money for this charity. The event will open up to family and friends from 3.30 p.m. with more fun, stalls and events. Please save the date and support us in attending, we have the venue till 8.00 p.m. Details to follow next year, there is also a parent and child race from Rowley to the Rugby Club!

Mrs Raine is also once again taking on The Wall, hoping to beat last years time in running 69 miles of Hadrian's Wall in one day. She will be grateful of sponsorship nearer the event.

Our online page for all donations is <https://www.wonderful.org/fundraiser/consettjuniorschoolfundraising201920-d6627b25>