



Consett Junior School

March 2024 Newsletter

Another short but busy term ahead, please take a moment to make a note of anything that is applicable to your child.

Attendance

Amazing news! For the first time this academic year we have smashed the government's 96% attendance target. Our whole school attendance for February was 96.05%, we have finally rid many of the coughs, colds, viruses and other niggly things that have been impacting on our children over the last 6 weeks. Our current attendance is 95.2% which is data from the start of September until now, we need to get that above 96% to be in line with the government's expectations. We are still doing well at 95.2% as National is lower than us at 94.3%.

Thank you to all the families that have been into school for autumn term attendance meetings, we hope as we progress through the spring and into the summer their attendance will improve. These meetings are help with school initially to try and support families where it is needed as we would prefer for our families not to be referred to the LEA. There are still some families that need to work with us a little more than they have been.

Can families also look at the data below regarding late arriving children. Children do get very embarrassed walking into a classroom full of children who are already completing their work.

February attendance results...

The results have been exceptionally close this month, it has been the closest I have seen for some time. Year 3 have one the treats in class tomorrow, Friday 1st March, they managed to overtake Year 6 at the last register taken, well done Year 3!

The best attending registration group was CLASS 5! They managed a staggering 96.98% attendance and 0 lates for the entire month. They are a such an amazing class, and it really shows month by month. They get a free non-uniform day tomorrow; I am sure Mr Meadows will be pleased too!

Year Group	% Attendance	Unauthorised absences (marks)	Lates (marks)
3	96.37	0.63%	12
4	95.44	0.13%	15
5	96.15	0.47%	9
6	96.26	0.95%	11

School Fund – February

Thank you to the families who have contributed towards school fund on ParentPay this month. We received £108.34 in February which helps to make additional purchases to support our children in school. There is no expectation for families to pay school fund, it is completely voluntary.

Dogs on the school premises

It seems that families are not aware that dogs on school premises are not permitted, this has been shared on the school app since September. There are also signs at the entrance to school by the parent shelter. We ask that you please take note of these and do not bring dogs onto our premises.

Comic Relief 2024

The school council had a meeting with Miss Oselton and Mrs Gilray this morning and discussed ideas for Comic Relief on Friday 15th March

Here is what they have agreed:

1. Sweet raffle - we have done this in previous years, we ask for donations of sweets of any kind and size, and they go into a raffle, all children get a raffle ticket on the day. **We do need your help with donations for this to work.**
2. Run funny for money - there is no cost or sponsorship to be raised for this as we are already raising funds in other ways. Children will run 1k around the yard with their class on the day
3. Non-uniform on the day
4. Design a red nose character in class during the day - the best one from each class will win a prize
5. As already informed, we have 200 red noses for sale via ParentPay, they are £2 but you can donate more at checkout if you wish. So far 50 have been sold which leaves 150 still available. The red noses have arrived and will be handed out to children nearer the day.
6. Finally, individual classes will choose their own activities to do on the day
7. It is the County Race on this day so the children going can do their activities on return - they can bring non-uniform to change into (these families know if this applies to them).

As always, The School Council want to thank you all for your support.

Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings

Reminder of our parent/carers' evenings:

Year 3 - Wednesday 6th March

Year 4 - Wednesday 6th March

Class 5 - Wednesday 6th March AND Thursday 7th March

Class 6 (Mr Moore) - Thursday 7th March

Year 6 - Thursday 7th March

Letters to book your appointment times were handed out on Monday 15th January. Appointments were given on a first come basis and teachers have endeavoured to give you an appointment as close to your selected time. Children should have brought home your allocated appointment time, however, to **help you in remembering your time I will also add it to this app calendar. So, if your child is in Class 1 find Wednesday 6th March on the app calendar and you will see a schedule of times - your child's initials will be added to your appointment time**

School Dinners

As the children are going to be going to so much effort for World Book Day on Thursday 7th March, the catering team also want to join in with the theme. Our creative cooks will no doubt put on a story and make the hatch and food so lovely and inviting 🍷 🍷 📖 📖

If your child is on school meals and would like a school dinner on this day, then please complete this form before Friday 1st March.

The main menu is shown on the photo attached but there will also be two other choices on the day, such as tomato pasta and a jacket potato/sandwich. The dessert menu will also have a little more selection 🍰 🍰

<https://forms.office.com/e/HPYVGNahn2>

School Meal Arrangements

Please can families not change meal arrangements for their children without letting me know. It is causing a lot of problems each morning when this happens, as well as time trying to work out who is changing, it is also difficult for the catering team. When children start with us, we ask what their meal arrangements will be and request you give notice to change, we can often change asap for you, we just need to know. The system we have works extremely well, if followed.

Year 6 trip to Robinwood 2024 – Monday 20th – Wednesday 22nd May 2024

It is hard to believe that it was a year ago you signed your child up to go to Robinwood, the deadline to pay in full is **Friday 26th April** to ensure your child can go. **FAILURE TO PAY IN FULL WILL RESULT IN YOUR CHILD LOSING THEIR PLACE.** Please log in and check your child's balance, there are still families that have only paid their deposit, so it is imperative to check.

Year 6 trip to Robinwood 2025 – Monday 19th – Wednesday 21st May 2025

We have had an amazing response to the 2025 residential, reading the post above you will see how fast this comes around. Deposits are due on or before 26th April and the final balance is to be paid by Friday 25th April 2025.

Reminder of school term dates and staff training days

Reminder that you can see our school term dates on the app calendar/website and our app 'notice' section or request a copy from school.

<https://www.consett-jun.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/>

Enrichment Club w/c Monday 26th February 2024 (all clubs finish at 4.30 p.m.)

Below are the current clubs available, as this is a short term the Summer 1 clubs will be shared in the coming weeks. This helps working families plan childcare as far in advance as possible.

Monday – SATS Booster club

Monday – After school Band

Monday – After school Quiz club

Tuesday – After school Karate

Tuesday – After school Cross-country

Tuesday – After school Art club

Tuesday – After school Crochet club

Wednesday – After school Nerf battle club

Wednesday – After school 'Joe Wicks Sessions'

Wednesday – After school French club

Thursday – After school Maths fun colouring club

Thursday – After school Lego club

Thursday – After school multi-skills club

Friday – After school Computing club

Friday – After school Dodgeball

Swimming reminder

Tuesday - all of Class 3 will swim last lesson.

Thursday - all of Class 4 will swim last lesson.

Children will need to be collected from the swimming baths on these days if they have clubs or Infant school childcare they will be walked back to school. These swimming sessions will continue in summer term 1.

CJS FAM FEST FRIDAY 24TH MAY 2024

To allow us to have an idea of the number of adults attending, please can you complete this form on or before Friday 26th April.

<https://forms.office.com/e/JA2dLBxpji>

Payment is also due for this event on ParentPay on or before Friday 26th April

World Book Day 2024

The Vocabulary Parade! 📖🎨 On Thursday 7th March 2024, we are super excited to celebrate World Book Day! This year, our theme is 'The Vocabulary Parade.' We believe that building a strong vocabulary is essential for developing reading comprehension skills, improving spelling, and enhancing writing abilities. So, we invite every student to dress up as their favourite word – the more creative and unique, the better! 💡🌟 Children should also research the meaning of their chosen word to share with their classmates throughout the day. If you are stuck for ideas, Google has some suggestions under 'vocabulary parade ideas'. You will find plenty of fantastic words to bring to life in the most imaginative ways! For those who prefer not to participate in The Vocabulary Parade, you can still join the celebration by dressing up as your favourite book character or simply wear normal school uniform. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this day! 🎨📖

Easter Egg Competition

On Thursday 28th March, children can bring in a decorated egg from home to enter our Easter egg competition. The children need to bring their egg to the school hall and place it on the allocated table for their class. The egg must have your child's name on. The eggs will be judged by Lieutenant Wendy and Major Barbara from Consett Salvation Army. The winners from each class will receive a prize! Happy egg decorating!

Year 3 trip to the Hancock Museum

On Friday 8th March, Year 3 will be visiting the Great North Museum (Hancock). They will be focusing on the Ancient Egyptians, The Stone Age to Iron Age and the Rocks and fossils section of the museum. They will also get the chance to look at the other exhibits too. The children will get a chance to visit the gift shop. They will be responsible for their own money so if you are sending your child money, please put up to £5 in a named purse/wallet/money bag so any that is lost can be returned! Children must be in school uniform so that we can easily identify them. They will need a packed lunch- Mrs Raine has already shared messages regarding this so if you have ordered one you will have been notified.

Key Dates and events for you to be aware of, please note that they are correct at time of print. More will be added when arranged and some may be subject to change. Please also refer to the calendar on the school app.

Friday 1st March – Secondary school places are announced.

Friday 1st March – Mr Meadows class won the best class attendance for February and can enjoy a free non-uniform day tomorrow

Friday 1st March - Final day for children on packed lunches to have a meal ordered for World Book Day on Thursday 7th

Monday 4th March - No after school band

Tuesday 5th March - All Year 5 in PE kit for a basketball event in school

Wednesday 6th March - All Year 3 in PE kit for a basketball event in school

Wednesday 6th March – Parent/Carer consultation evening for Year 3, Year 4, and some of Class 5

Wednesday 6th March – No Nerf club today

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day in school

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day themed meals for those on school meals and those who completed the form.

Thursday 7th March - Parent/Carer consultation evening for Year 6, Class 6, and some of Class 5

Thursday 7th March – No Multi-skill club today

Friday 8th March – Year 3 will spend the day at the Hancock Museum, the coach leaves prompt at 9.10 a.m. and they will be back for their usual finish time

Monday 11th March - For families who purchased Red Noses on ParentPay, these will be given out to qualifying children today

Friday 15th March – Selected qualifying children to participate on the County Cross Country finals. Messages already sent to applicable children. These children must come to breakfast club for 8.30 a.m. unless they already go, Mrs Raine will meet them in this club at 8.30 a.m.

Friday 15th March - Final day for chocolate/sweet donations

Friday 15th March – Comic Relief in school, do not forget to purchase your child's red nose on ParentPay before they all sell out

Tuesday 19th March – Final after-school karate session, grading during after school time next week.

Wednesday 20th March – Year 5 Viking workshop day in school, details to follow

Wednesday 20th March - Selected Year 6 children will attend a Basketball event at North Durham Academy during the afternoon. Details to these families to follow.

Thursday 21st March - Selected Year 3 children will attend a Basketball event at North Durham Academy during the afternoon. Details to these families to follow.

Tuesday 26th March – Karate grading.

Thursday 28th March - Easter egg competition

Thursday 28th March - Easter school themed meal - details to follow

Thursday 28th March – Last day of term, Happy Easter. Children can come to school in non-uniform for a £1 school council fine – Payment option on ParentPay to do this.

Monday 15th April – School reopens for the second half of the Spring term at 7.45 a.m. for breakfast club.

Monday 15th April – Around the World in Sporty days...details to follow but an active day to 'kick off' the summer term.

Friday 26th April – Last day to pay for Robinwood 2024 – current Year 6

Friday 26th April – Last day to pay for Year 6 Leavers Hoodies.

Friday 26th April – Last day to pay for your CJS Fam Fest tickets on ParentPay

Friday 26th April – Last day to pay the deposit for Robinwood 2025 – current Year 5

Monday 6th May – School closed for one day (Bank holiday).

The 2024 KS2 SATs will take place in the week commencing 13th May 2024. The tests will take place over four days.

Monday 20th – Wednesday 22nd May – Year 6 residential to Robinwood

Friday 24th May – Last day of Spring Term 2. Children can come to school in non-uniform for a £1 school council fine – Payment option on ParentPay to do this.

Friday 24th May – CJS Fam Fest 2024

Monday 3rd June – School reopens for the first half of the summer term at 7.45 a.m. for breakfast club.

Tuesday 11th June - Consett Academy are holding TWO parent information evenings sessions for current Year 6, the two times available are 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. or 5.00 - 6.00 p.m. These are just drop-in sessions so no need to book a place

Thursday 13th June - Consett Academy are hosting two parent/carer coffee mornings for current Year 6, the first is 13th June between 9.00-10.00 at the Academy. The second is next week, 20th June.

Thursday 20th June - Consett Academy are hosting their second parent/carer coffee morning between 9.00-10.00 at the Academy.

Tuesday 2nd July - Consett Academy uniform session for current Year 6. This is at the Academy between 4.00 - 6.00 p.m.

Friday 12th July – End of year school reports out today

Friday 19th July – Last day of term

Thursday 5th September - School reopens to all students today (Thursday 5th September). Breakfast club starts at 7.45 a.m. and there is no need to pre-book a place.

*Wednesday 4th September is a staff training day and closed to pupils.

Please ensure children return on the same school meal arrangements to prevent charges on ParentPay. Contact Mrs Raine if you would like to change.