

8.4.22

Dear Parents,

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Donna Boxshall. Donna Boxshall has worked at Northburn for eighteen years and for a number of those years, I worked alongside her in Reception. She is taking up a new position working with secondary-aged children and their families. It is an exciting opportunity and I know she will be excellent in the role. I'd like to thank her for her many years of work with the Northburn community and wish her all the best in her new role. I know we will stay in touch as I will be asking for regular updates from Mr Boxshall!

Sadly, we are also saying goodbye to Emma McLelland. Emma McLelland has worked with us for nearly a year as a lunchtime supervisor. She has secured a fantastic job at Cragside House. We wish her all the best and will look out for her, if we plan any trips there.

### **Covid-19 update**

The Government has issued guidance for:

*Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19.* Please see the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19#:~:text=If%20you%20have%20symptoms%20of,avoid%20contact%20with%20other%20people.>

We continue to ventilate the school and practise good hygiene as our main defence.

There is also guidance on steps you can take to protect other people if you are unwell with symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19#:~:text=If%20you%20have%20symptoms%20of,avoid%20contact%20with%20other%20people.>

### **People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19**

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for **3 days** after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

# NORTHBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

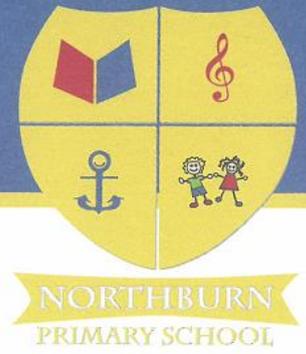
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Headteacher: Mrs Clare Scott



Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

If your child is ill, please contact the office to let us know as you would with any illness.

Each term, we feel as though we are getting back to where we were before the pandemic and we continue to reintroduce those things which the pandemic interrupted. We returned to whole school assemblies, until cases rose again! After Easter, we plan to try again. I really missed their singing and the feeling of the school community being together. I know the children have really missed OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning), and that some children have never experienced it. Mrs Harrison is planning to relaunch it after Easter. She will be sending out more information about OPAL next term as well as a survey to find out your views, so don't worry if you aren't familiar with it.

We hope that children will soon be able to return to the various jobs that were on offer: Reading Buddies, Librarians, Opal Rangers, Sports Leaders etc.

We are looking to have a renewed focus on the *School Challenge Award*. We intend for it to recognise the skills and knowledge children are acquiring during their forest school sessions and encourage our core values. We would like it to better support your child's wellbeing as they readjust to 'normal' school life. Now that we are a whole community again, we are focusing on our core values which underpin the culture we aim to instil at Northburn. We encourage everyone (including staff) to be ambitious, inquisitive, resilient and respectful.

Some of our Year 6 Digital Leaders have been working on a new and improved website design. Hopefully, we will be able to move to the improved platform soon and you will find it a much more useful resource.

## **Maths resource for parents**

Nicola Hurst (Maths Lead) has asked that I forward this link to you:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/maths-with-michael#watch>

*White Rose Maths* is the scheme of learning we use in school to teach maths. They have produced some videos to demonstrate how methods are used in maths which may be of interest to you.

## **Blue Books**

We will be updating our Blue Books soon. I would be interested in your views as to whether there is any further information you would like to have in the books. We are going to include Nursery this year and to have a copy of each book on the website. If you have the time and a suggestion as to how they can be improved, please email [admin@northburn.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northburn.northumberland.sch.uk) and include Blue

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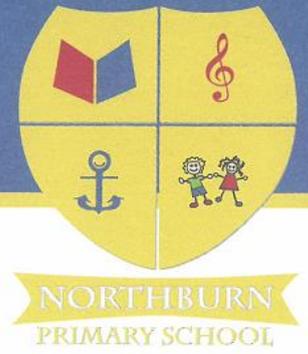
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Book in the subject line so they are forwarded to me. Thank you. Your ideas will be much appreciated as the books are really designed to be useful to parents.

## Parent Surveys via Forms

In addition to ideas as to how to improve our Blue Books, over the coming weeks, Mrs Davison will be emailing some questions that I would really appreciate a response to.

As an example, I am interested as to whether you would be interested in participating in some e-safety sessions for parents and, if so, would prefer a face-to-face session in school or a virtual session.

Also, we are reviewing our uniform policy to ensure it is affordable and practical and would welcome your views.

## P.T.A

Thank you very much to all in our PTA for the work that they have done to raise much appreciated funds for the school. The Easter raffle raised £478.00. Thank you to all who participated.

The PTA were also successful in securing a bid for £500 for resources to help us celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. We have already bought some bunting and balloons and plans to make our celebration a fun day that our children will remember are underway.

Further, they are also planning our summer fair. It will be lovely to be able to have this event after two years of it having to be cancelled. It is a lovely opportunity for the whole-school community to get together. I know the PTA are still short of helpers and would really appreciate any help that can be offered either to plan or at the event itself. Please let us know if you are interested.

## House winners

**Red House** have won the cup this half-term and will have a non-uniform day on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

Next term, children will be able to earn double house points, if they are seen to be trying hard to be ambitious, inquisitive, resilient and respectful.

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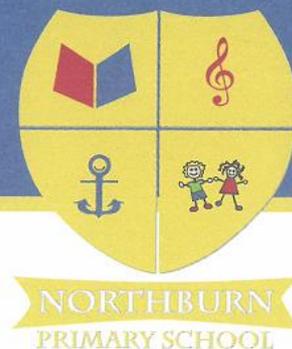
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## Planned Events Summer Term

We still have some dates to confirm and will notify you of these as soon as possible. Further information about each event will be sent out closer to the times that they are planned.

<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Return to school
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Red House Non-Uniform Day
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	Bank Holiday - school closed
<b>Week Commencing 9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	KS2 SATs
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>	School Jubilee Celebration Day Last day of half term
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Y6 Bikeability
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Y6 JLV science
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Super Stan performances (evening)
<b>Week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Money Sense workshops KS1, LKS2 and UKS2
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Big Gig
<b>Week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Money Sense workshops UKS2
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	School closed (Bank Holiday in lieu of national Jubilee Day)
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Y4 Activity Day
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	Summer Fair
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	End of Year Reports sent out
<b>Date/s to be confirmed</b>	Sports Day Transition days Y6 Day House Year Winner Treat

Thank you all for your continued support. Have a lovely Easter break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Best wishes,

Clare Scott