

24.5.24

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a busy and enjoyable half term at Northburn. Our first assembly, after the Easter holidays, was themed around the Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) and the first haptic football shirt, proudly worn by Newcastle United. Since then, we have enjoyed coming together as a school on a Friday morning assembly and using some Makaton signing in our singing. Key stage one has enthused us all with their signs for 'I'm Still Standing' from their Makaton sessions. We are hoping to learn another song after half term and share it with you. Watch this space.

The nursery children have loved our work around mini beasts, and the introduction of our bug hotel has proved to be a favourite with bugs, children and a toad! The children are becoming very confident using our balance bikes, and we have some great skills emerging. We now have a stop station which the children helped to organise and the new role of the crossing patrol officer is a firm favourite.

A visit from the fire service proved to be a highlight for lots of our children in nursery and reception with an opportunity to climb inside the vehicle and squirt lots of water! We now have an outdoor water station in our garden which the children have used as a wheel washing station, for water painting, plant watering in our garden centre and window washing!

Reception children have enjoyed the challenge of the Golden Mile which involves walking or running for a mile to promote a healthy lifestyle; this will support the walk to school initiative. We have enjoyed the opportunity to cook each week, trying new foods and textures.

Year 3 and 4 are well underway with Lego League. I know many of you visited school to see Class 8 and Class 10 present their 'Masterpiece' projects and were impressed with their Lego creations and innovative coding. Class 9 are working in teams to produce their own designs and we plan to invite these parents next half term.

**Ofsted Report (2022):**

*"The school offers a diverse, rich and well sequenced curriculum. This ensures that pupils have every chance of success."*

# NORTHBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

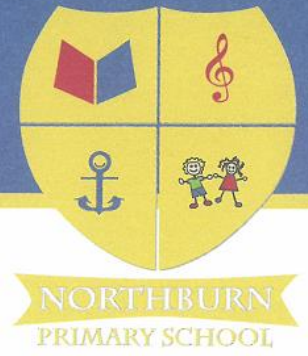
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Headteacher: Mrs Clare Scott



Year 5 took part in 'National Life' as part of Primary Enterprise this week. Children looked at Our Nation by identifying various items and landmarks throughout the UK. Typical UK families were introduced, and jobs of the family members were discussed which then led to identifying which skills are required in those job roles. Next, children completed an exercise in budgeting for a community event using UK sourced products. Ways of looking after the environment were examined and children considered how businesses have a responsibility towards looking after the environment. The day culminated in children working in teams to produce bracelets; each team had a buyer, a seller and a production line. They had to work together to produce bracelets to sell at a profit. It was a fantastic day that we all enjoyed! Year 6 have now completed their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) and we are incredibly proud of the effort and attitude shown throughout the week of assessments and beyond. We see all of the important qualities on a daily basis that these tests don't measure and continue to value our Year 6 pupils at Northburn as the incredible role models that they are.

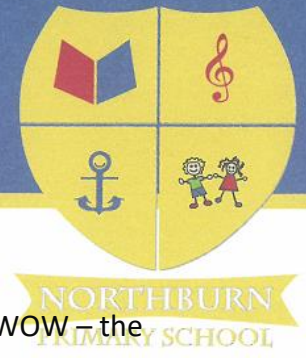
## **Uniform reminders**

A reminder that our school P.E kit is a pair of plain black joggers and a plain white tee-shirt (without logos). No football kits please.

In preparation for September, our uniform supplier is Cloud 9 Leisure (59F South Nelson Industrial Estate, 01670 739370, [www.cloud9leisure.co.uk](http://www.cloud9leisure.co.uk)) and many items can be purchased from regular retailers.

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## **WOW – the walk to school challenge**

I am pleased to announce that Northburn are now part of the WOW initiative. WOW – the walk to school challenge - is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school.

If your child manages to walk, cycle or scoot to school at least one day a week for a month then they will be awarded with a monthly WOW badge. Children who are not able to walk all of the way from their front door have the option to park and stride from Northburn Community Centre. In other instances, children will have the opportunity to do the equivalent exercise within the school day and it will still count towards a badge.

## **Parking**

Please remember that you can park at the sports centre and walk to school along the cycle path. It only takes about 5 minutes and helps to ease congestion at dropping off and picking up times.

## **Summer weather and sun protection**

We have already enjoyed short bursts of sunshine and have been able to enjoy the school field on occasions! We hope that this continues to be the case during June and July. Thank you for continuing to apply a long-lasting sun cream before your child comes in to school. We also recommend that they wear a named sun hat and remember to bring a named water bottle to school. Please don't send your child in with an expensive and/or breakable water bottle. It is completely unnecessary and often causes upset when they are lost or broken. We sell plastic water bottles for £1.00. Please ask at the office.



## Medicines in school

I know a number of children suffer from hay fever and may get more headaches in the summer months. In some cases, school can administer over the counter medication for self-limiting conditions, which do not require any medical advice or treatment. The usual agreement forms would need to be completed as is the case for the administration of prescribed medication.

Any medication must be in its original packaging from the manufacturer and include the name of the medicine and the recommended dosage range. It must be in date and the agreed dosage on the agreement form must match that on the packaging.

If required, we are able to administer Calpol in school. We would always call you to discuss. Please remember to let us know if your contact details change.

## Summer trips and events

This half term our PTA tasked us to pot some plants in school. Each class is responsible for watering and caring for their plants. We have had some great success already, and have many budding gardeners. These plants will be available to buy at our Northburn summer fair. We also have children in Year 3 and 4 making a fantastic array of loom bands ready to sell at the fair. **The summer fair is on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 11am – 2pm.**

We have many school trips to look forward to after half term. Nursery are going to Blyth beach, Reception to Whitehouse Farm, Year 3 and 4 are going to the Great North Museum and Year 6 have career workshops planned as well as a final treat in July. These trips are made possible thanks to the PTA's contributions to pay for transport costs. Key Stage 1 and Upper Key Stage 2 have already had contributions to trips earlier in the school year. There are a range of other curriculum and sporting events on offer and we look forward to seeing you at our annual sports days (dates available on

<http://www.northburn.northumberland.sch.uk/web/calendar>).

Everyone returns to school on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Best wishes,

*Natalie Harrison*

Acting Headteacher