



Consett Junior School September 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new year 3 pupils and families to Consett Junior School, I would also like to welcome the other new pupils who have joined us in years 4, 5 and 6. You are all very welcome and we look forward to sharing the next few years of your educational experience with us. This is my 20th year as a Teacher and my enthusiasm for my job has continued to grow. Despite the many changes in education and the pressures on budgets, I am amazed at how our teachers and their pupils continue to cope with the changes that have to be made. I assure you, at Consett the pupils are our first priority, we are striving to make this the best school it can be academically, whilst not losing sight that children need the opportunity to pursue other endeavours such as music, drama, PE and Outdoor learning. Our school band continues to go from strength to strength, led admirably by Mr Jackson and Miss Waters. We are increasing the number of after school clubs so that children can access a range of activities. We will be increasing the number of sporting events we enter, giving more children a chance to represent the school.

We aim to work closely with each and every one of you, therefore should you have any worries please do not hesitate to contact the school. Mrs Raine or myself are around most mornings, or if you would rather arrange an appointment please contact the school office.

I look forward to seeing you all at some point throughout the school year.

Kindest regards

Paul Dixon (Head Teacher)

July Attendance

The whole school attendance for July was a staggering 97.79%, a good increase on the previous months attendance of 96.52%, which means we are still above the governments floor target of 96% .

Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life. Most children are normally educated at school and regular attendance is vitally important. Poor school attendance damages educational achievement and the future progress of young people. Promoting and supporting good attendance at school is essential to learning and attainment. We understand that children are sometimes too unwell to come to school, and this is recognised by the % being set to allow for children time off due to illness, without it compromising their education.

At Consett Junior school we take pride in helping children achieve their best and strive to support families that are facing difficulties in bringing their children to school. We have many incentives in place to recognise and reward children who have excellent attendance, which range from academic year individual rewards, monthly class and year group rewards and also termly rewards. It is very difficult to achieve 100% attendance, and we have found that in the past children who are absent at the start of the year miss out on opportunities to receive further rewards, even when they go on to have excellent attendance for the remainder of the year.....cont

		September 2017				
su n	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	4 - 11 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Money and school fund due After school band After school Football Club (Full) - Year 5 & 6 Consett Academy's Mr Sommerville to visit Year 6 pupils to talk about Academy life - in school time	5 - 12 - After school Karate Club Year 4 Road Safety Training - Week 1 Year 6 Parents Evening - 6 p.m. In school.	6 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route 13 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route After school Rugby Club (Spaces) - Year 5 & 6	7 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route 14 - Yr 3 swim 12.00 noon Cross country training Long route After school Multi - Skills Club (Full) - Year 3 & 4	8 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). 15 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3	9
	18 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Money and school fund due After school Football Club (Full) - Year 5 & 6	19 - After school Karate Club Year 4 Road Safety Training - Week 2	20 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route After school Rugby Club (Spaces) - Year 5 & 6	21 - Yr 3 swim 12.00 noon Cross country training Long route After school Multi - Skills Club (Full) - Year 3 & 4	22 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3 NSPCC workshops during school day	23
2	25 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Money and school fund due After school Football Club (Full) - Year 5 & 6 Tempest photographer in school this morning - letters for sibling photo's to be sent home.	26 - After school Karate Club Year 3 Road Safety Training - Week 1	27 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route After school Rugby Club (Spaces) - Year 5 & 6 Year 6 transition day to Consett Academy - letters to follow Year 6 Parents Evening - 6 p.m. At the Consett Academy	28 - Yr 3 swim 12.00 noon Cross country training Long route After school Multi - Skills Club (Full) - Year 3 & 4	29 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3	30

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

Key events: Tuesday 3rd October - Year 3 Road Safety Training - week 2; Friday 6th October - Year 6 children go to Robinwood; Tuesday 17th October - Year 3 & 4 parent consultation evening; Wednesday 18th October - Year 5 & 6 parent consultation evening; Friday 20th October - Last day of this half term, non-uniform day £1 school council fine; Monday 30th October - School re-opens for the next half term; Tuesday 31st October - After School Halloween Disco, tickets on sale soon £3 (includes food).

Attendance.....cont.

For families new to our school we would like you to know that:

- * 100% termly attendance allows those successful to be out of lessons for an afternoon to watch a movie and enjoy ice-cream
- * The class with the best attendance each month have a free ‘non-uniform’ day
- * The year group with the best attendance each month are rewarded with cakes and treats!
- * Children who achieve 100% attendance in their academic year are rewarded with a special assembly and an evening meal

It is hard to achieve 100%, so we have introduced other incentives to show children how brilliant and committed they are. If we can support you in any way, please ask. As a school, we are responsible for monitoring our own attendance, therefore, like other schools, we do keep you informed of your child’s attendance.

School Dinners

School dinners remain at £2.00 a day, and we encourage this to be paid every Monday. The menus are available on the website but can be sent home, if requested. As the weather gets colder, we do see a rise in the number of children accessing a school dinner and Mrs Raine will shortly be working with our cook Mr Maddison on a themed school dinners week, possibly for Halloween . Our themed weeks are always popular, allowing children to access school meals for a ‘one off’ period.

A few words from Mr Maddison...

“A big welcome back from Taylor Shaw to all those on school lunches. We have our new winter menu and as it gets cooler, some winter warmers for those nippy days such as, Mince Pie, Cornish Pasty, Roast Dinners, Mince & Dumplings & Spaghetti Bolognaise. Some new puddings include Coconut Jam Sponge & Chocolate Muffins, Jacket Potatoes & Sandwiches are also available everyday. We have just had our annual Performance Assessment by Durham County Council, I am pleased to say we achieved 100%. A big thank you to all staff & students for making this possible for us.

Robinwood 2017 and 2018

We have 41 year 6 children attending this trip on 6th October, if you require a new clothing list please see Mrs Raine. Luggage labels will be sent home during the week of the trip and in the coming weeks the activity and dormitory groups will be arranged. Mr Dixon is currently arranging the 2018 residential trip for next years year 6 children, and information about this will be sent home shortly.

Children with Cancer UK

By way of a change, we have decided to raise money for one charity all year round. We will certainly continue to support local charities as well as 'Children in Need' and 'Red Nose Day', but we will also aim to raise money for our chosen charity and will inform families monthly on how much we raise. We believe that all charities need support, but if we can focus all efforts on one particular charity then they will benefit significantly from the amount of money we raise.

The chosen charity is 'Children with Cancer UK', <https://www.childrenwithcancer.org.uk/>. This charities aim is to fight childhood cancer and save young lives.

Families can help to support this chosen charity by sending small change to school over the course of the year, and label it 'Children with Cancer UK' and through the participation in sponsored events/themed days.

Mrs Raine is competing in the 2018 'Rat Race' to take on the Wall, running 69 miles in one day along the Hadrian's Wall route to raise money for this charity. To incorporate the children in this theme Mrs Raine will organise a whole school sponsored event next year, which will be known as 'The Walk', details will follow nearer the time.

Information Home

If your family circumstances mean that parental responsibility is shared, and both sets of parents/guardians require school reports, newsletter and photographs sent home, please provide this information to Mrs Raine. We understand how important it is for all parents/cares to be involved in the education and school life of their child.

Year 3 & 4 Pedestrian Training

Your child has been offered an opportunity to take part in this training scheme, designed to teach pedestrian skills. The training involves training at the roadside in small groups under the supervision of an adult. In order for your child to take part, please sign and return the slip that will be sent home on Friday 8th September. This slip must be returned by Monday 11th September to allow your child to take part. Dates of the training can be found on the school app.

School Fund

School Fund is used for the benefit of **all pupils** at the school. Examples include: Supplementing library stock; Additional teaching resources; Hire of recreational facilities; Prize Day expenses; Subsidising travel expenses of pupils e.g.: field trips, sports fixtures; providing refreshments at parents evenings & open nights; Improvement of the school environment.

You can pay school fund weekly or termly and hope for £1 per child per week, however, any small change is very beneficial. Last year we purchased a ‘Money Spinner’ to make paying school fund fun for the children. They thoroughly enjoy popping along to reception to pay their fund into the spinner. You can also pop it in with dinner money. We are very grateful and enjoy using this to benefit your children.

Clubs

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

Cross Country Training

Cross country training will continue throughout this year, we don’t mind the colder weather and a little rain! This training is only for years 4, 5 and 6 and we have just completed the selection process of our new year 4 trainers this week. We now have 20 new and very keen runners, and look forward to seeing them work together each week to improve their stamina and style. We hope for big things this year with our brilliant team. New runners will run on a Wednesday lunchtime only (until after the half term), existing trainers will run on a Wednesday & Thursday. We have some fantastic year 4 children joining the team, Alfie, both Jacks, Shawn and Paige really stood out at the trials.

After school karate club

There are 3 spaces available for children in all years. This club is ran by Kensho Karate club, and all payments are requested and made to them. This club is every Tuesday from 3.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m. and commences on Tuesday 12th September

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.

Year 5 & 6 After School Football Club - Monday till 4.30 p.m.

This club is now full. Sessions are £1.50 each. Children need appropriate P.E./football kit.

Year 5 & 6 After School Rugby Club - Wednesday till 4.30 p.m.

There are still places available for this club. Sessions are £2 each. Children need appropriate clothes and shoes as sessions are outdoors.

Year 3 & 4 After School Multi - Skills Club - Thursday till 4.30 p.m.

This club is full, all children on the waiting list will have first refusal next half term. Year 3 children who have been offered a place will be brought back to school for this club after swimming. Sessions are £1.50 each.

OurSchoolsApp

Please remember to download this App to your devices, we very rarely send school texts, so you are at risk of missing valuable information that is shared on this App. It can be downloaded on any Iphone or android device. [Please be aware that you can You can turn notifications off in the ‘settings’ of this app, and still receive them to your device, just remember to check daily for new alerts.](#)