



Consett Junior School

February 2020 Newsletter

Welcome to our February Newsletter, hopefully the month ahead brings us lighter mornings, brighter weather and no snow!

January as always has been a busy month, albeit really long – last week we welcomed Crazy Creatures into school to work with Year 4, the children and staff were very brave, especially handling the snakes and spiders...I kept my distance!

Good luck to our Year 3 and 4 Cross Country team, who will be competing in the first race of 2020 next week.

If any parent is interested and has time, we have a vacancy on our Governing body, this involves commitment of time, but is of huge benefit and supports the school in their endeavours of moving forward. Should you be interested and would like some further information, please feel free to contact me at school.

As you know, we are raising awareness and support for the suicide charity, 'IF U Care Share'. Mrs Raine is very busy organising a Charity Fun Day on Friday 10th July. Please save this date and join us in an afternoon/evening of fun to raise as much as we can for such an amazing supportive charity. Friday 10th July...Details will be circulated over the coming months, if you can display a poster of the event in your place of work, please contact Mrs Raine, I am told it is going to be an action packed day.

Take care,

Mr Dixon

Head Teacher

January Attendance

The whole school attendance for January was 97.45% which is an excellent improvement on December (93.91%) and pushes us above our floor target of 96%. Sickness absences are improving and there have been no term time holidays. Most parents/carers are very good at informing us of the reason for their child's absence, which can be done via calling, texting or emailing the school. Failure to inform us does result in an unauthorised absence which may then instigate further action and monitoring. If your child has been off several ad-hoc times, with the same thing, this is recorded. Mr Dixon will be contacting some families this week to offer further support to help improve their child's attendance.

Year 6 achieved the best attendance for January and each child in year 6 were given a cake/giant cookie as their reward.

Class 8 (Miss Waters) achieved the reward for the best class attendance at an OUTSTANDING 99.19%, well done! The Class 8 reward for this was a FREE non-uniform day .

February 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
3 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due After school band Year 6 Heights and Weights.	4 - Remember - Valentines Disco tickets on sale - £3 per ticket Children must have a ticket to stay for this event. 3.30 - 4.30 After school Karate Club 3.30 - 4.30 After School Recycling Club	5 - 12.15 noon Cross country training (short) 3.30 - 4.30 Year 6 After school Club with Chris Shield	6 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training (Long) 3.30 - 4.30 After school Basketball Club Falconry 'Birds of Prey' class displays in the hall.	7 - Yr 5 swim Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). 3.30 - 4.30 Year 3 Free Art Club 3.30 - 4.45 Football Training Year 6 leavers hoodies orders due back today.	8
9 - 10 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due After school band Sports Champion sponsorship money due to be handed into school today. KS2 swimming gala - children must arrive at school for 8.20 a.m. for the 8.30 a.m. coach. They will be back for lunch.	11 - 3.30 - 4.30 After school Karate Club 3.30 - 4.30 After School Recycling Club - Final	12 - 12.15 noon Cross country training (short) Year 3/4 cross country event at Catchgate school. During the school day. Valentines Disco 3.30 - 5.00 p.m.	13 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training (Long) 3.30 - 4.30 After school Basketball Club - Final	14 - Yr 5 swim Ethan and Emily Ring the Bell lunch. Non-uniform day for a £1 fine, this will be donated to Ward 14 who have cared for Ethan and Emily during their treatment. Last day of the spring half term. 3.30 - 4.30 Year 3 Free Art Club 3.30 - 4.45 Football Training	1
17 - HALF TERM	18 - HALF TERM	19 - HALF TERM	20 - HALF TERM	21 - HALF TERM	2
24 - School re-opens Free Breakfast club starts for families who meet criteria. Balances must be cleared to access this. Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due Sports Champion in school - Sponsored event. After school band	25 - 3.30 - 4.30 After school Karate Club *NEW* 3.30 - 4.30 After school Craft making Club	26 - 12.15 noon Cross country training (short) 3.30 - 4.30 Year 6 After school Club with Chris Shield	27 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training (Long) *NEW* 3.30 - 4.30 After school Nurture Club	28 - Yr 5 swim 9.00 - 10.00 IF U Care Share Coffee Morning Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). 3.30 - 4.30 Year 3 Free Art Club 3.30 - 4.45 Football Training	2
					9

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

Key events: - 5th March - World Book Day; 6th March - Last day to email Mothers Day photograph; 9th March - Travelling Book Fair in school all week; 11th March - Year 5 Basketball Event at NDA; 12th March - Year 3/4 Basketball Event at NDA; 13th March - Ford Castle 2021 Deposits due; 16th March - Mr Moore's Parent/Carer consultation evening; 18th March - Special Person's Day lunch (1); 18th March - Year 3/4 Parent/Carer consultation evening; 19th March - Miss Breheny's Parent/Carer consultation evening; 20th March - Sport Relief in school; 24th March - Last after school karate session for this term; 25th March - Year 5 'taster' day at Consett Academy; 25th March - Special Person's Day lunch (2); 30th March - IF U Care Share Coffee Morning; 31st March - Karate grading during school day.

January Attendance.....cont.

The overall % attendance for January was 97.45 a brilliant increase following on from December.

Year 3 to aim for 100%! Well done Year 6, back on top!

Year Group	% attendance	Unauthorised absences	Lates
3	96.21	14	21
4	97.47	0	21
5	98.00	4	10
6	98.19	2	22

School Dinners

We currently have almost 90 children accessing school dinners, last seasons menu will continue for the next few weeks. A few words from Mr Maddison.....

"It is good to see the children so excited on a lunchtime for their favourite meals and it is great to see so many nice manners from the children. A hot lunch at this cold time of year seems to set them up for their busy afternoons.

This term we will be welcoming Mothers/Special Persons as part of our special lunch days for Mothers Day, we look forward to seeing some new and familiar faces. We hope you enjoy the event and of course, the Chocolate Cake for pudding!!

We have a very special lunch on Friday 14th February to celebrate Ethan and Emily ringing the end of treatment bell.

Please don't forget about our on-going Fun Fridays, its nice to see new faces enjoying a hot lunch at this cold time of year"

Special Lunch Days for Mothers Day

On Wednesday 18th March and Wednesday 25th March, we will once again be holding our special lunch for Mothers/Special Persons. The demand for this event was so high it is almost full, there are no spaces left for Wednesday 18th March. If you know you are not going to make the event, and have booked a place, please inform us so we can offer your place to someone else. If you discover you are unable to come on the day please ring as soon as possible as your child will be looking for you.

If you have received a place a text confirmation has been sent. For those families with a place please email your unique photo to Mrs Raine at consettjunior@durhamlearning.net by Friday 6th March, and ensure you pay on ParentPay.

SAVE THE DATE - Friday 10th July

Please save the date and support us by coming to our 'IF U Care Share' charity event at Consett Rugby Club on Friday 10th July. The children will be participating in a sponsored event during the school day. Then at 3.30 p.m. the event will officially start, we have the venue until 8/9.00 p.m. There will be many, many activities and entertainers for the children as well as stalls, singers and a band. Posters will be circulated after Easter so please spread the word. Entry is by wristband only which are £5 each at the door, for children and adults. Wristbands allow children to access all the entertainment once inside at no other cost. We have secured lots of entertainment and are very busy organising!

School Fund

It has been wonderful to hear the children laughing at the 'whirling/swirling' sound they hear as they race their coins in the school fund money spinner. Please remember that school fund is to benefit your children. If all families contribute towards this each week it provides more rewards and treats for the children and we won't need to rely on contributions on other occasions as we can use this to fund trips and coach costs. In January we received £92.00 in school fund.

School Uniform

Please can we remind families about wearing the correct school uniform, while you do not need to purchase from our school uniform providers, the colours must still be the same. Royal blue jumper/cardigan, yellow/gold polo shirt, black/grey trouser/skirts, **not skinny jeans or leggings** and plain black school shows/boots. Many children are wearing tracksuit bottoms and coloured trainers, this is not school uniform and is not permitted.

Valentines Disco

Tickets are on sale now for our Valentines disco. Please buy these from Mrs Raine for £3. The disco is on Wednesday 12th February from 3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Children will be given a snack bag to bring home. Children can come to school wearing their disco clothes for no extra charge and children NOT attending the disco can also come in party clothes so they are not left out, they can even pay £1 to take a party bag home. After the disco children will leave school in the usual way, via the yard.

Ford Castle 2021

Don't forget, if your child is booked to go to Ford Castle (current Year 5) you can pay little and often by sending money to school with your payment card. The final balance is due to be paid by 26th March 2021. If you have not yet paid your deposit. This must be paid by Friday 13th March 2020.

Clubs and ongoing activities

Swimming

Year 3 will swim last lesson on a Thursday; Year 4 will swim last lesson on a Monday; Year 5 will swim last lesson on a Friday.

Please can we remind parents that children who are NOT swimming should remain at school. This is the rules of the leisure centre. This may be unavoidable, at times, if children only realise they have forgot their kit once they arrive at the baths.

Cross Country Training

This training is for year 4, 5 & 6 children and has been very well attended this last few weeks. Some children don't miss a single weeks training! There is a recent burst in the number of year 6 children running each week, which is phenomenal.

We currently run 2.2 miles on our short route and for children who are able to run further we have been seen to run 3.5 miles. Children must bring their kits to school and be prepared to train hard! Miss Oselton and Mrs Raine also take selected runners out after school on a Tuesday to push them that little further, and do around 4 miles on these nights.

We have a year 3/4 race coming up during the school day on Wednesday 12th February, so we are very excited about this.

After school karate clubs

Kensho Karate club is for all years every Tuesday from 3.30 - 4.30, we do have some spaces available so please speak to Mrs Raine if your child is interested in taking part. The grading date for this term is during the afternoon of Tuesday 31st March. The final after school session is the week before, on Tuesday 24th March.

Band

Band rehearsals continue each Monday until 4.30 p.m., for members only. Don't forget your subs are £1.50 each week.

Year 6 Before School SATS booster classes - Free

Letters have already been sent home about the free before-school SATS booster classes, these are open to all year 6 children and they are encouraged to arrive at school for 8.00 a.m. every Thursday to work through their SATS books in preparation for the May SATS. This is every Thursday until SATS week in May.

Clubs after half term

Information has already been shared on our website and school App about the next set of after school clubs. Basketball and Recycling club end before half term. After half term we will begin Nurture club and a club to make crafts to sell at our Charity event on 10th July.