



Consett Junior School

March 2020 Newsletter

Welcome to our March Newsletter, the year is flying along, hopefully we will see an improvement in the weather soon, perhaps a bit of sunshine!

We have another busy month planned; two special person assemblies, a feast of sporting activities, World book Day and Sports Relief to name but a few. These are in addition to our normal curriculum and extra curricular activities which are due to take place.

I cannot write this introduction without mentioning a fantastic opportunity for some of our older children...Our school band is on tour, well at least a tour of our local schools. We have been asked to showcase the amazing talented children, as well as promoting Brass music across our area.

Finally I would like to say a huge well done to Jody in year 6, who has been presented with a special award from the Rotary Club - Jody is an immense ambassador for our school, as well as a hugely hard working girl. The award is well deserved, we are lucky to have her.

If your child is going to secondary school in September then details of their allocated place will be sent out on Monday 2nd March. If you have not yet received any information you will need to contact Durham County Council School Admissions.

As always I hope this newsletter finds you well, if you have any concerns or need to speak with me, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Kindest Regards

Mr P Dixon

Head Teacher

OurSchoolApp

We have been using this App for almost three years now, it is a very good and efficient way of communicating with everyone, it is a very low cost to the school and free for families to download. The App and the school website are the main means of communication. Please download the App, I appreciate that daily 'news' and 'Calendar' notifications can be frustrating, but as we have previously informed you can disable these notifications (App-Settings-Notifications). Please remember, if you do disable notifications then it means you are responsible for opening the App to check for alerts on a daily basis.

February Attendance

The whole school attendance for February was an excellent 96.89% which is a slight drop from January but we are still above our floor target of 96%. Sickness absences are always going to impact, we have 218 pupils on roll therefore completely unavoidable. Unauthorised absences are still evident in all year groups, with year 6 being the highest. If daily reporting to school is in place in year 3, then by year 6 we should have little to none. 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.

All year groups are above the floor target!

As year 6 have once again achieved the best attendance for February each child in year 6 will be given a cake/giant cookie next Friday, 6th March as their reward.

Class 5 (Miss Breheny) have knocked Class 8 off the top spot and achieved the reward for the best class attendance at an outstanding 98.45%, well done! The Class 5 reward for this is a FREE non-uniform day which will also be next Friday. Mind, Class 8 were very close at 98.26!

The spring terms 100% attendance King's Café ice-cream and movie treat is on Thursday 2nd April (p.m.). This for all children who have achieved 100% attendance from the 7th January. If your child had not yet achieved this termly reward they still have the summer term to aim towards.

March 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due After school band Parents/Carers evening appointment letters go home.	3 - After school Karate Club After school Summer Craft making club	4 - 12.15 noon Cross country training - Short route Selected children at a Multi sports event at Consett Academy (a.m. only). After school Chris Shield	5 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training - Long route WORLD BOOK DAY (Swimming is still on). Please see the school app and website for the days activities. After school Nurture Club.	6 - Yr 5 swim Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club After school football training
8 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due After school band Travelling Book Fair in School all week from dinner time. See website and app for details. Sports Relief wristbands on sale from today, £1 each.	10 - After school Karate Club After school Summer Craft making club	11 - 12.15 noon Cross country training - Short route Year 5/6 basketball event (p.m. only) After school Chris Shield (not on next week)	12 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training - Long route Year 3/4 basketball event (p.m. only) After school Nurture Club.	13 - Yr 5 swim Ford Castle deposits due today. If you do not pay the deposit your child will be unable to go. Year 3/4 Cross Country race at Bishop (a.m. - coach leaves at 8.50 a.m.) Year 5 Consett Academy visit packed lunch orders due today. After school Art Club After school football training
1 - 16 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due After school band Class 5 Fitness Event at Consett Academy (a.m. only). Class 6 Parents/Carers consultation evening (in class)	17 - After school Karate Club Tennis Coach in school all day, all children need their P.E. kit. After school Summer Craft making club	18 - 12.15 noon Cross country training - Short route 12.15 Special Person's day lunch for Mothers Day (1 of 2). FULL Year 3 & 4 Parents/Carers consultation evening	19 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training - Long route Sports for Champion GB athlete Matt Lee in school, all children need their P.E. kit. After school Nurture Club. Class 5 Parents/Carers consultation evening (in class)	20 - Yr 5 swim Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club After school football training Sport Relief Day. Street dance activities planned. Please see the school app and website for details.
2 - 23 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band Subs and school fund due Year 6 Mock SATS week. After school band	24 - Final After school Karate Club for this term. After school Summer Craft making club	25 - No Cross Country today After school Chris Shield 12.15 Special Person's day lunch for Mothers Day (2 of 2). FULL Year 5 Taster Day at Consett Academy.	26 - Yr 3 swim 12.15 noon Cross country training - Long route After school Nurture Club.	27 - Yr 5 swim Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). Final day to donate Easter Eggs After school Art Club After school football training

30th March - If U Care Share Coffee Morning 9 - 10.00; 31st March - Karate Grading in school afternoon time. No after school session.

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

Key events: - Thursday 2nd April - Spring term 100% attendance afternoon; Thursday 2nd April - Year 6 parent/carers evening; Friday 3rd April - Final day for Year 6 Hoodies to be paid; Thursday 2nd April - Decorated Eggs brought into school; Friday 3rd April - Final day to register for the 5k charity run on 10th July (Rowley to Consett); Friday 3rd April - Final day of this half term, non-uniform for £1 school council fine; Monday 20th April - School reopens for the start of the Summer Term; Monday 27th April - If U Care Share Coffee Morning 9.00 - 10.00 a.m..

Please **start thinking** about placing your September school uniform order as we approach the end of **May**, you can find a link to the Tots 2 Teams website on our CJS website and the school app. May onwards is a very busy time for all uniform suppliers.

SAVE THE DATE - Friday 10th July 2020 - HUGE charity event at Consett Rugby Club, wristbands on sale at the door £5 EACH, entertainment from 3.30 p.m. till 8(ish), all friends and family welcome. IF U CARE SHARE!

February Attendance.....cont

The overall % attendance for February was 96.89%

It is amazing to see year 6 have the highest attendance again!

Year Group	% attendance	Unauthorised absences	Lates
3	96.18	2	14
4	95.65	6	12
5	96.74	1	18
6	98.00	12	16

School Dinners

We continue to have almost half the school children accessing dinners. The menu will be changing soon. A few words from the catering team.....

"This half term we were delighted to welcome the families of Ethan and Emily into school for such an amazing cause, we are so proud to have been part of this day. In March we will be celebrating two Mothers Day events with a lovely meal for Specials per sons and children, we are looking forward to meeting everyone and providing you with the opportunity to try some of our lovely food."

Special Person's Day Lunch for Mothers Day - Wednesday 18th March and Wednesday 25th March

If you have booked a place to have lunch with your child on this day you will have already received text confirmation. You will also receive a reminder text a few days prior to your allocated date. Please, please remember to let us know if you can no longer attend, there is a small waiting list, and your child will need to attend a different lunch sitting on that day. There is opportunity for you to go outdoors or pop into your child's classroom with your child straight after lunch, but for parents who need to get back to work, you can also leave straight after the meal. If you have not been allocated a place, please do not just turn up as we will not be able to accommodate you and your child will already have had their lunch.

You need to arrive at school for 12.15 p.m., if you arrive too early you will need to wait in reception/queue until the hall is open to you. Your child will be waiting for you in the hall (siblings will be grouped together). If you have not already done so, please email your special photo to consettjunior@durhamlearning.net photos must be emailed before Friday 6th March if they are to be used on the day.

Some families still need to pay for their lunch, this is through ParentPay and the cost is £2.05 per child and £2.46 for the adult.

Ford Castle 2021

Remember that Ford Castle payments can be made and recorded on your child's card weekly/monthly. The final balance is not due until March 2021. If your child would like to go, please remember to pay your deposit of £25 before Friday 13th March 2020.

Sport Relief 2020 - Friday 20th March

As March is so busy with sports event we are unable to support this cause on the actual day (13th), instead children can come to school wearing sports clothes on Friday 20th March to take part in a one hour street dance session. There is no cost to you this day as we are conscious that families have recently asked for sponsor money and will be again in the summer term for our 'If U Care Share' charity event. Instead we are selling Sport Relief wristbands in school from Monday 9th March, and 50p from every band sold goes direct to Sport Relief. However, we only have 160 bands to sell.

School Uniform

There are more and more children coming to school wearing incorrect uniform. Our website details our expectations on uniform and we ask that you follow this. There is a significant rise in the number of children wearing trainers for school. We ask that black shoes are worn, trainers are only acceptable if they are all black with no sports logos visible.

Letters have also recently been sent out with the expectations on P.E. kits, children not wearing the correct P.E. kit will be given a school P.E. kit to wear for their lesson.

Mrs Raine's sponsorship plea!

There are 16 weeks until I complete the Hadrian's Wall run in June. Please sponsor me to run 69 miles in one day for 'If You Care Share'. Having done this before, I know how gruelling, lonely and mentally challenging this race is, however, it is only a 24 hour battle for me (well 16 hours, 33 minutes and 9 seconds if I beat my previous time), nothing compared to those suffering with mental illness or receiving support for losing someone to suicide. I am using the same fundraising link as the school are for this charity, so everything raised will go towards our school target. If you would prefer to send sponsor money into school, I have a form in the office. Thank you VERY much in advance, I really do appreciate it!

<https://www.wonderful.org/fundraiser/consettjuniorschoolfundraising201920-d6627b25>

Friday 10th July - 5K charity run

There has been a great response from families who have volunteered to participate in this run, it is overwhelming! There are still a few families Mrs Raine has her 'beady eye on' and have heard she going to sweet talk them into getting on board. Children not competing in this race will still complete a sponsored run at the Rugby Club on the same afternoon. If you are a keen runner and your child is not, please volunteer as some children would like to do it but they need an adult. Applications for this run are open until 3rd April.

School Fund

Please remember to send this in with your child every week to put in the 'Money Spinner'. We heavily rely on this fund as we purchase things for school and the children that we cannot buy through our school budget, thank you.

Parents/Carers Consultation Evenings

Letters to make an appointment to see your child's teacher will be sent home on Monday 2nd March. Please remember to make an appointment with your class teacher to discuss your child's progress. Class 6 is Monday 16th March; Year 3 & 4 is Wednesday 18th March; Class 5 is Thursday 19th March and Year 6 is Thursday 2nd April.

Easter Egg Competition

As you are aware Easter is fast approaching and we are looking forward to our egg decorating competition. This year we are asking that the eggs are decorated at home and brought into school on **Thursday 2nd April**. The eggs will then be judged by Major Ian McCredie, who is coming into school that day to lead our Easter assembly. The eggs will be returned home that evening.

Breakfast Club

As previously informed, we now offer free breakfast club to all children on Free School Meals and also other children who meet criteria (Pupil Premium). This started on Monday 24th February, providing the child's balance was zero. We are pleased to see many new children using this service.

There is no need to pre-book a place, but please remember that this service does not open until 7.45 a.m., you will be contacted if your child arrives before this time. If you pay for the service it is £2.50 per day.

Donations of Easter Eggs

We have decided to help former pupil, Charli Hopper, again this year with her latest mission and we are collecting Easter eggs to contribute to people in the local community who are less fortunate than us. If you would like to make a donation, please send an Easter egg in to school with your child up until **Friday 27th March**.

Clubs (remain as February)

Swimming - Year 4 swim last lesson on a Monday; Year 3 swim last lesson on a Thursday; Year 5 swim last lesson on a Friday;

Cross Country Training

This training is for year 4, 5 & 6 children and is very well attended, some children don't miss a single weeks training! Children must bring their kits to school and be prepared to train hard! Year 3 cross country weekly training trials will be held w/c 30th March. Class 1 will be given one date and Class 2 will be given another date, but in the same week. Ten children from each class will be selected. A text will be sent to each class group with details nearer the time.

After School Karate Club

Kensho Karate club is for children in all years every Tuesday from 3.30 - 4.30, we do have spaces available so please speak to Mrs Raine if your child is interested in taking part. This terms grading is during school time on Tuesday 31st March, letters will go home with children from the instructor. The final after school karate session for this term will be Tuesday 24th March. So to clarify, there is NO after school session on Tuesday 24th March but children do need their karate suits for the afternoon grading.

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

Summer Fair Craft Making Club

Every Tuesday until 31st March.

Nurture Club

Every Thursday until May half term.

Year 6 Before school SATS booster classes—Free

Every Thursday until the May SATS all year 6 children are encouraged to come to school at 8.00 a.m. to work through their SATS books in preparation for the May SATS. SATS week is w/c Monday 11th May. ALL YEAR 6 CHILDREN MUST BE IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK.

Art club

Will continue on a Friday until the end of June but after the Easter holidays this is for Year 6 only

Football Training

Every Friday until the end of the summer term.

Year 6 After School Club with Chris Shield

This will continue every Wednesday until Easter.