



22nd September 2022

Newsletter Autumn 2

Dear Families,

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in school with Year 4 starting swimming lessons (Panthers class this half term), Forest School sessions now underway (thank you for being so wonderful and sending in appropriate clothes for the children to wear!), and Commando Joe's sessions beginning for some year groups, which we teach using a series of 'top secret missions' to enhance our Character Curriculum.



Governor update

There have been some changes to our governing body over the summer. As a school community, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul Lawrence (Vice Chair) and Jacqui Molloy (Community Co-opted Governor) for their years of service as governors, as they retire from their positions.

We would also like to thank David Comb for his 5 years of service as a Parent Governor, and then the Chair of Governors, and for the positive impact he has had on the staff and children in school.

We welcome Mike Finlay (Local Authority Governor) and Claire Dumbleton (Staff Governor) to our governing body.

The Chair of Governors role is being shared between Craig Appleby and Mike Finlay this year, and Nicola Darrington has taken up the position of Vice Chair.

If any parents need to contact the Chairs, their contact details are below. Full information about our governors can be found on the school website.

craig.appleby@wra.tynecoast.academy

mike.finlay@northumberland.gov.uk

School photographs

The photographer will be in school on **Monday 3rd October** to take children's individual photographs. These are a lovely keepsake, and make great Christmas presents for friends and family, so please make sure your child is wearing their full uniform on that day, and we will try to keep them as clean as possible before it is their turn to have their photo taken!



Uniform policy

We have recently updated our school uniform policy, which can be found on our website. Can I politely remind parents that jewellery is not allowed to be worn at school. This includes earrings, unless it is during the period following a child just having their ears pierced, when they are not allowed to remove them for health reasons. Once the child can remove their earrings, they should not be worn for school. Children who get their ears pierced, and who need to keep the studs in for the recommended period following the piercing, need to have their earrings safely covered by parents on days that they do PE. It can be potentially dangerous for the children who do not have them covered, and could result in accident or injury. Thank you for your support with this.

Reminders

There appears to be a number of rather spectacular (and large!) keyrings attached to bags and reading folders which are causing some upset if they become lost or damaged, so please ask your child to keep those things safe at home.

We also have a number of children bringing in large rucksacks, which we simply do not have space for in our cloakroom areas...and some appear to contain everything but the kitchen sink! A reading folder/book bag is all they need, as their PE kit can come in a named bag and be left in school.

School starts at 8.45am and once the children are in their classroom and settled, learning begins then. Children will not be marked as late unless they arrive after 8.55, but the closer to 8.45 they can arrive the better for them. I am aware the car park and overflow car parks are very busy, but returning to staggered start and finish times is not an option in order to comply with the extended school day recommendation, which becomes statutory from September 2023.

If you have arranged for another parent to collect your child, then please remember to inform the school office, so the member of staff dismissing that class is aware of who is collecting them. Thank you.

Friday Achievement Assemblies

Starting from tomorrow, the children from Year 1 to Year 4 (Early Years will join us later in the term) will attend a special weekly achievement assembly, celebrating the learning from that week.

Teachers from every class will choose children to receive a certificate and a prize for;

- Reader of the Week
- Writer of the Week
- Mathematician of the Week
- Scientist of the Week



We will also choose one child per year group to come and sit in 'the best seats in the house' (think Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway) where they will experience VIP treatment and receive a medal. This is for demonstrating our character values that week in school.

The children in the special seats will then play a fun game, competing against each other, to win the trophy (the one pictured above on the left). That child will be allowed to bring the trophy home for a week and then return it. The children already refer to this event as "the most fun you can have in 15 minutes" and their enthusiasm for learning and celebrating their own, and each other's achievements is infectious! We will post a whole school notification on See-Saw each week with the winners on, so you can share in their excitement.

A weekly attendance trophy (the one on the right) will be awarded to the class with the highest attendance from the previous week and displayed in their classroom. Again...another work of art that I hope will be in every class over the course of the year.

Nadine Fielding
Head teacher