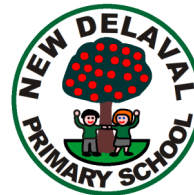


New Delaval Primary School Newsletter - February 2025

www.newdelavalprimary.sch.uk



Resilience Empathy Self-Awareness Positivity Excellence Communication Teamwork

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back Mrs Sawyer

As some of you may be aware Mrs Sawyer has returned from her maternity leave and will be sharing Year 6 teaching responsibilities with Mr Hutton.

New Parent Governor

I'm delighted to tell you that Mr Pooley has joined our Governing Body as a Parent Governor in addition to Father James who replaces Father Sion who has recently left the parish. I'm sure they will make a great contribution to the team.

Pupil Leave of Absence

Following on from recent Statutory guidance issued to schools I would like to bring the following information to your attention. When we receive a Leave of Absence request for a pupil of 5 days or more we will issue a letter to parents advising if the absence has been authorised.

Please note absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, the majority of absences for family holidays will be unauthorised. The completed leave of absence form should be returned to the school office at least 2 weeks before the requested dates.

If the unauthorised absence is taken we will request a penalty notice to be issued to the parent/parents on the pupil's return to school following the absence. I appreciate this may be unpopular however we have to adhere to the guidance issued.

Parents Evening

You should have received your letter informing parents and carers of our Parents/Carers evenings. We have two sessions on **Tuesday 11th March** and **Wednesday 12th March** with appointments from **3:30pm-7:00pm**. For those parents and carers who can't attend these dates staff will be contacting you to make an alternative Appointment.

Mid Year Reports

Mid Year Reports Mid year reports will be issued on Friday 7th March.

Attendance

This month's newsletter highlights the importance of attendance and attending school regularly. Please take time to read through the information provided. If you are experiencing difficulties in getting your child to school please contact the school and we will do our very best to support you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mr Struthers'.

Mr P Struthers
Headteacher

For lots more information!
Visit our website: www.newdelavalprimary.sch.uk

Word Book Day

New Delaval Primary will be celebrating World book day on **Friday 7th March.**

Children can come into school dressed as their favourite character from a book. Please note no Football Tops/Strips to be worn



Offers Day 2025

Secondary Places will be offered on 3rd March 2025

Reception places will be offered on 16th April 2025

Huggg Vouchers

Vouchers will be issued this week to those parents that are eligible for support over the half term break

Please make sure the office have an up to date telephone number

School Lunches and Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free lunch under the Universal Offer provided by the government.

EVEN if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or 2 and you are in receipt of benefits and entitled to Free School Meals it is very important that you apply (please call into the school office to complete a form or apply online via the Northumberland County Council website.)

Thank You

Residential Trips Wooler (Y4) and High Borrans (Y6)

Can we ask that any parents using the weekly payment system maintain their payments and advise us of any issues. If you have not yet made any payment please contact Mrs Henderson to advise when payment can be expected. Thank You



A massive thank you to parents, carers and grandparents who nominated New Delaval Primary for the ASDA cash pot rewards we will receive

£621.59

Attendance for January 2025

Class	Authorised	Unauthorised	% Attend
Reception	3.8	4.1	92.1%
Year 1	3.9	2.2	93.8%
Year 2	3.2	1.4	95.5%
Year 3	0.7	3.6	95.7%
Year 4 PM	2.0	2.6	95.4%
Year 4 DW/SK	3.5	4.6	92.0%
Year 5	1.6	0.9	97.5%
Year 6	3.4	5.5	91.1%

Attendance & Punctuality

As you will be aware attendance is a major concern within schools, we still have a number of pupils who are consistently late for school and are missing out on their learning. Children should be in school for 8:45am. (Doors are open from 8:30am).

Can I also remind parents/carers that if your child is ill and not attending school you should contact school BEFORE 9:00am. We have an answer machine and text messaging service that are available 24 hours every day.

Can we please ask that children do not gather outside School or the Pavilion before 8.30am as some unsupervised children are having issues at the start of the school day that is then impacting on their learning and in them having a positive start to their day.

Holiday	Date on which school will close	Date on which school will reassemble
Spring Mid-term 2025	Friday 21st February 2025	Monday 3rd March 2025
Easter 2025	Friday 11th April 2025	Tuesday 29th April 2025
Summer Mid-Term 2025	Friday 23rd May 2025	Monday 2nd June 2025
Summer 2025	Friday 18th July 2025	Monday 3rd September 2025

For lots more information!
Visit our website: www.newdelavalprimary.sch.uk

New Delaval Primary School Attendance Update



Our attendance since we returned from the Christmas break has been **disappointing with an overall school attendance figure of 93.8% school target is 96%**.

Whole school attendance since September is now **93.5%**. This is **positive**, but our target for attendance is **96%** and we are still a long way from that target. National average attendance is **94.6%**.

Every day we share our attendance information with the Department for Education. We can compare our attendance to other schools in Northumberland and nationally. Compared to other Northumberland schools, we are ranked 107 out of 126. Compared to other schools nationally, we are ranked in the 8th decile, which is the bottom 20 to 30%.

Children who have attendance lower than 90% are known as **persistent absentees**. Having 90% attendance is the equivalent of missing one afternoon a week every week. Currently we have 20% of our children with less than 90% attendance. That means that 36 children have missed the equivalent of one afternoon a week every week. Compared to other schools nationally, we are ranked in the 8th decile, which is the bottom 20 to 30%. **This is really worrying.**

We know that children can be genuinely unwell and therefore should not be at school. If you're not sure about whether to send your child in to school or not, the NHS website is usually a good source of information. If your child is brought to school and we feel they need to go home, we will ring you. Medicine can be administered by staff. Please call into the school office to complete a medical form. Regular school attendance is so very important.

It is no coincidence that children who miss school often do not go on to achieve their potential.

Please see the graphic below.

175 days to spend on family time, go on holiday, visit special places, do shopping and carry out jobs, have appointments						
3 6 5 d a y s p e r y e a r	190 school days 0 school days missed 100%					
	180 school days 10 school days missed 95%		171 school days 19 school days missed 90%	161 school days 29 school days missed 85%	152 school days 38 school days missed 80%	143 school days 47 school days missed 75%
	GOOD Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		WORRYING Less chance of success. Harder for your child to make progress.		SERIOUS CONCERN Very little chance of success. You child is being massively disadvantaged.	
	100% 38 children	95% - 100% 83 children	90% - 95% 43 children	85% - 90% 14 children	80% - 85% 8 children	Less than 80% 11 children
	121 children		57 children		19 children	



New Delaval Primary Information on Penalty Notices for Non-Attendance

10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absences in a 10 week period. Unauthorised absence includes term time holidays and absences where there is no valid reason (including failure to contact school) on the first day of absence. This includes children who arrive at school after the register closes (9:15am) without justifiable cause.

1. FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice (fine) is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance (see above) the amount will be :
£160 per parent per child if paid within 28 days . This will be reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

For example: 2 siblings absent for Term Time Leave, would result in each parent receiving 2 separate fines. Where parents do not live together, cases will be considered on a case by case basis by the EWO

2. SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days.

No reduced rate will be offered.

3. THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES WITHIN 3 YEARS

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's Court. Magistrate's fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrate's court can show on a parents future DBS certificate, due to "failure to safeguard a child's education"



Date & Time	Event	Who?
Friday 7th March	World Book Day	All pupils
Friday 7th March	Mid Year Reports sent out	All pupils
Tuesday 11th March 3:30pm-7:00pm	Parent Evenings	All parent/carers
Wednesday 12th March 3:30pm-7:00pm	Parent Evenings	All parent/carers
Wednesday 19th March All Day	Whitehouse Farm Visit	Reception Class
Thursday 20th March All Day	Year 5 Hoops 4 Health Tournament Vertu Arena	Year 5
Friday 21st March All Day	Red Nose Day	All pupils
Monday 24th March - Friday 28th March	Full Attendance week	All pupils
Thursday 10th April 2:00pm-3:15pm	Easter Crafts Afternoon	All welcome!
Friday 11th April 2:00pm	School Closes at 2:00pm for Easter break	All pupils
Monday 28th April	School INSET Day School closed to pupils	All pupils
Tuesday 29th April 8:30am	School reopens to pupils for the Summer Term	All pupils
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday - school closed to pupils	All pupils
Wednesday 7th May-Friday 9th May	Wooler Residential Trip	Y4 pupils
Monday 12th May-Friday 16th May	KS2 SATs week	Year 6 pupils
Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd May	KS1 SATs week	Year 2 pupils
Friday 23rd May All Day	Year 6 Goblin Car Event	Year 6
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May	May Half term Break	All pupils
Monday 2nd June - Friday 6th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tests	Year 4
Monday 9th June - Friday 13th June	KS1 Phonics Screening	Year 1
Wednesday 11th June All Day	Cullercoats Kayaking Trip	Year 5
Saturday 21st June - Monday 23rd June	High Borrans Residential Trip	Year 6

Please check the calendar on the school website for additional information and any changes.