

# **NCEA Warkworth Primary School**

# Spring Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

Following the Dojo we sent out in relation to the staffing challenges we've been facing at NCEA Warkworth Primary, things have started to improve in school. We wanted to thank you all for your ongoing support and all the lovely messages that we received and offers of help too! They were all really appreciated. We hope as the academic year now continues, we'll be able to start planning more and more opportunities for celebrations together. As part of this newsletter we have included all the provisional plans and further information will be added to Dojo pages.

# Social action in the community

As you know social action is at the heart of our vision # Strive Together as one! Pupils have been asking when we can restart lots of the community events and so this is the term we hope to achieve it.

'Acts of love and good works' Hebrews 10 24:25. What can we do to inspire others into social action?

#### **Street Friends**

Due to Covid restrictions we've been unable to work with Destiny Streetworx handing out parcels to the homeless in Newcastle. We have now got the go ahead for Saturday 26th March at 9.30 am. It usually lasts a couple of hours. Meeting point to be confirmed but it's usually around Newcastle train station. Pupils in Year 3 and above can attend with parents. # Strive together as one.

Easter knitting - do you know anyone that can help?

'Let us not neglect meeting together' Hebrews 10 24:25. How can we continue to meet with others and lead social action?

We can't believe it's been nearly three years since pupils led the Easter knitting hunt around the community! We'd love to do it again this year. Do you know someone who likes to knit? We have lots of patterns at the school office ready to collect or choose your own. Y5/6 will then distribute around the community for everyone to find. Closing date for knitted items will be: 28th March but please feel free to drop them off sooner. We can't wait to spread some joy around the community.

#### Your views matter!

We'd like to set up a regular drop in for parents as we know it's been challenging with all the Covid restrictions to just pop into school etc. Please continue to contact us via Dojo, phone and dropping in but we'd also like to set aside designated time to discuss anything you like. It will be lead by Mrs Ritson initially and will be fortnightly on a Friday am from 8.00 -9.30 am. Could you just let Mrs Gibson know if you'd like to attend in advance. Dates are included in a table at the back of this newsletter.











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#### **Eco Club**

Don't forget Eco Club lead recycling in school and currently we collect: crisp packets, bread packets, ink cartridges, batteries and now all school uniform and other clothes can be donated via the clothing bank in the car park.

#### **Foodbank**

We are also now a drop off point for the community for Amble Foodbank so feel free to drop items with us and we will arrange collection/ drop off!

### **School Action Squad**

In our new campaign WE Read Together we are going to look at the impact of reading and literacy skills. Literacy skills are empowering because they have a huge impact on our everyday experiences. Reading a bus timetable, making sense of instructions, or filling out a form are all everyday actions that require literacy. When we are able to read, write, and interpret information, we can move through life with confidence!

The SAS will become Literacy advocates and encourage their peers within school and the people of the wider community to become readers and experience the joy of books. We will make links with the 'Little Warkworth Library' and the library in Amble. Watch out on Dojo for updates and announcements.

#### Residentials

Due to the uncertainty with Covid, we hadn't arranged residentials for Year 4, 5 and 6. However, we are now in the process of confirming arrangements for this summer for Year 4 to go to Robin Wood and Year 5/6 to go to Kielder. Further details will follow. Due to the short notice, we will be offering flexible payment plans so you can spread the cost as we understand trips can be expensive. We will also subsidise buses, pay for insurance and any other staff related costs.

### **Forest School**

Due to the high winds recently, we've unfortunately had to postpone forest school sessions as we need to have further ground checks and tree surveys. The plan is first week back forest school sessions will commence for all year groups!

## **Internet Safety Day**

All classes joined in with Internet Safety Day last week where the focus was 'All fun and games, respect and relationships online'. Pupils talked about the # in the school vision and the reason this was there: to remind everyone to behave online as they would in real life with respect and love. As part of class discussions it was highlighted that some pupils were unaware of age limits on games, we have reinforced these with pupils and we've linked an online document for parents so you can support discussions at home too.







# **Internet Safety Day**

Links:

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/video-game s-age-ratings-explained/

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/

# **Progress Meetings with Parents**

Two's Provision	28th March - phone call with Miss Sharp
Nursery	Miss Fife to confirm details of phone calls
Reception	28th March 1.30pm - 4.00pm or 30th March 3.30pm - 5.00pm
Year 1	28th March 3.10pm - 5.30pm or 30th March 3.10pm - 5.30pm
Year 2	30th March 3.10pm - 6.30pm
Years 3 & 4	30th March 3.10pm - 5.30pm or 31st March 3.10pm - 5.30pm
Years 5 & 6	29th March 1.00pm - 3.00pm or 30th March 3.00pm - 5.00pm



Outdoor Easter crafts (Two's Room & Nursery children)	Tuesday, 29th March 1.30pm - 3.00pm or Thursday, 31st March 1.30pm - 3.00pm  Parents: Please choose a day when your child is already in Nursery. Two's Room parents can choose from either day.  Please let Miss Fife know.
Outdoor Easter crafts (Reception class)	Friday, 1st April Times to be confirmed
Eco Club	First meeting: Tuesday, 15th March, 3.00 - 4.00pm
SAS Club Meetings	Weekly each Monday starting 7th March, 3.00 - 4.00pm
Y6 SATs Classes (maths focus)	Thursday after school 3pm - 4pm
Forest School	Year 1: 1st March Year 2: 4th March Years 3 & 4: 4th March Years 5 & 6: 4th March







EYFS Forest School sessions	Two's & Nursery children will be using the forest area on a Wednesday each week.  Reception class will do forest school sessions each Friday afternoon.  Children will need waterproofs & wellies in school please.
Head Teacher - Drop in sessions	4th March 18th March 1st April  If you would like to call in and have a chat with Mrs Ritson between 8.00 - 9.30am please let Mrs Gibson know in advance.
2nd March Ash Wednesday KS1 & KS2	Rev. O'Sullivan will be in school and there will be activities around the fire for all children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.
3rd March World Book Day Whole School  The theme this year is "You are a reader". We are planning lots of exciting activities for the day.	Pupils are welcome to come in fancy dress linked to a book; however don't feel that you need to go out and buy a costume!  We would encourage you to be creative with items of clothing you already have. Any children who don't want to dress up can wear normal school uniform.

23rd March Hot Cross Bun Event Whole School	After school on Wednesday, 23rd March we will be working with Rev. O'Sullivan to run a scavenger hunt around the village with prizes! Pupils will then be invited to share a hot cross bun and some craft activities will be available to do at the St. Lawrence's Church. More information on timings coming soon.
6th April Easter Service - Timings to be confirmed	Morning: Years 1 & 2 Children to meet at the church at 9.00am. Parents welcome. We will walk the children back to school ready for lunch.  Afternoon: Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Service from 2.00pm. Children will be waked to the Church by school staff. Parents can then collect children from church after the service or we will walk them back to school.
8th April Coffee Morning in school	All welcome - in aid of MacMillan Cancer. Further details to follow.
8th April	Break up for Easter Holidays. School will re-open for the Summer term on 25th April.











In March 2019 we established our **Acorn to Oak Savings Bank** which was open each week for children to deposit their savings/pocket money. Unfortunately, the bank has been closed temporarily due to covid-19, however, we are delighted to announce that it will re-open again soon!

We shall be recruiting cashiers from Year 4, 5 & 6 to work in the bank and they will receive full training to enable them to carry out their duties professionally.

Some of the duties that cashiers will be involved with are:

- Setting up the room and clearing away
- Welcoming savers and directing them to the next available savings teller/desk
- Taking money from savers
- Completing savings books/ paying in slips
- Entering data onto online teller platform
- Checking balances
- Liaising with the school office to return money and sheets, under supervision
- Marketing and communications about the savings club, encouraging more savers
- At the end of each year, helping train a new cohort of pupil volunteers, if possible

If your child is interested in volunteering in the Savings Bank - please let Mrs Gibson know.

# **School Organisation - September 2022**

Due to the increasing number of children currently on our school roll we anticipate that from September 2022 we will be able to split our cohort of Year 3 and 4 children so that both year groups are completely separate.

Hopefully, from September 2023 we will be able to do the same with our mixed Year 5 & 6 class.

As always, if you have any questions please get in touch.

#### **LIGHThouse Newsletters**

NCEA are currently looking into the effectiveness of LIGHThouse newsletters and we would really value your input.

Historically, LIGHThouse was always a monthly publication, however this was upped to weekly during the height of the pandemic and we're now considering whether to change its frequency again.

Follow the link to complete the survey: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZCZ562X

The survey should take no longer than 2 minutes to complete and your responses will help to shape their communications strategy moving forward.

