

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2020-2022

	School closes at end of	Re-opens
Easter 2021	Friday 26 th March, 2021	Monday 12 th April, 2021
May day 2021	Friday 30 th April, 2021	Tuesday 4 th May, 2021
Summer half term 2021	Wednesday 26 th May, 2021	Monday 7 th June, 2021
Summer 2021	Tuesday 20 th July, 2021	Thursday 2 nd September, 2021
Autumn half-term 2021	Thursday 21 st October, 2021	Tuesday 2 nd November, 2021
Christmas 2021	Friday 17 th December, 2021	Tuesday 4 th January, 2022
Spring half-term 2022	Friday 18 th February, 2022	Monday 28 th February, 2022
Easter 2022	Friday 8 th April, 2022	Monday 25 th April, 2022
May day 2022	Friday 29 th April, 2022	Tuesday 3 rd May, 2022
Summer half-term 2022	Thursday 26 th May, 2022	Tuesday 7 th June, 2022
Summer 2022	Thursday 21 st July, 2022	To be confirmed.

School pick-up

We ask parents to socially distance when waiting to pick up children from school, on an evening. Please remind children walking home alone, to walk only with their siblings, not in large groups and to socially distance.

School lunches

Please note that due to the difficulty in ordering groceries, children can not swap from packed lunches to school dinners during a week. A week's notice to the school office needs to be given of a change.

Please ensure that school packed lunches do not have chocolate or chocolate covered product in them. Children will be asked not to eat them but to return them home – this is our healthy packed lunch policy. Fizzy drinks/pop and sweets are also not allowed.

Easter holiday

Monday 12th April is the first day back after Easter. Enjoy the holiday.

The Gossip

March 2021

From Annfield Plain Junior School

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.annfieldplain-jun.durham.sch.uk

Thank you

Thank you to all parents/carers for adhering to coronavirus regulations. Updated information on symptoms, how to order a test and when to isolate are available on the right-hand side of the front page, on our school website, in the news items. **Parents can now order lateral flow test home kits for families at www.gov.uk**

Thank you for supporting Comic Relief fundraising; we raised £109.30 in donations, as well as the sale of the red noses.

Thank you to all parents/carers for working with us, to ensure a positive return to school. All children have settled well and are enjoying the school day, especially socialising with their friends in their class. If any parent/carer needs additional support for their child's wellbeing, our school website and DB primary have resources, useful numbers/sites on them for you to access. If you need any additional support, please contact school or alternatively, Mrs West on the number below.

Additional Parental Support

As many of you may know, Mrs West is pregnant and will be working from home (due to covid restrictions) for the next two months. She therefore will be undertaking a slightly different role. Mrs West is available for parent/carers to receive additional support, if needed, around their child's wellbeing, their academic needs and any other issues relating to school, after the Easter holiday.

Mrs West will make an appointment with you to offer support and will liaise with school.

Mrs West is available on this telephone number between 9am and 3pm, Monday to Thursday, during term time: 07720267559

Curriculum Update for Parents

This term, we have limited activities in school. Any visitors we have in school adhere to a strict hygiene routine and our coronavirus risk assessments, as well as their own.

Reading

This term, all pupils have now been asked to choose a reading for pleasure book. This is for children to enjoy, on their own, at home.

Children will continue to have a levelled reading book for daily practise to read aloud to parents/carers, to improve fluency. Most children now use Reading Plus at school in all year groups They can also use this at home too. You can record the session your child reads at home, on Reading Plus in their home planner, to receive their daily house point.

Pupils have all been given a blue wallet, to put their reading books and homework in.

Online Learning

Thank you for your feedback to staff, about our remote learning offer – it was overwhelmingly positive. DB Primary has proven to be a successful one-stop platform for home-learning and will continue to be used for work set if a pupil is isolating, ill or to access homework set. Children and parents can continue to use the site for communication, if required. The combination of DB Primary, workbooks and some live lessons together with the weekly zoom meetings, flexible timetable and weekly calls to support parents were highlighted by parents and carers as working for them during the lockdown remote learning period.

Curriculum overview

Since returning to school at the beginning of March, our focus has been on pupil wellbeing, socialising activities and re-introducing Maths and English. Next term, our curriculum will continue to focus on English and Maths to support missing learning. Some foundation subjects have been taught-PSHCE, Art, Music, P.E and I.C.T.

To ensure all children have access to a balanced curriculum, we will towards the end of next term deliver afternoons focussing on other subjects. Children are receiving music lessons but swimming has not re-started.

School laptops

Pupils who have a school laptop can continue to loan them for home-learning. All sites are still available directly from DB primary. If anyone is having a problem with their school laptop, please return it to school and we will swap it for another.

FSM food voucher

Parents/carers of FSM pupils will receive another winter food voucher from the County, distributed by school as they have been before.

Uniform Grant

School still has funding for a P.E. kit, a school coat and a school jumper for families who are experiencing financial hardship. Please contact the School Office on 01207 234531, or email: annfieldplainjuniors@durhamlearning.net.

Welcome to new staff

Miss Hurley is our new teacher, replacing Mrs West as class teacher for Class 5/6.

Mrs Blacklock and Miss Smailes are new teaching assistants in school.

Mrs Howe is school's new administration officer.

Stanley Learning Partnership

On 1st April, 2021 we officially convert to an academy with Stanley Learning Partnership. You will notice only a few differences such as signage and messages from the partnership. Everything else remains the same.

School Ping

We are in the process of changing our messaging service to school ping. This will support us in becoming paperless, as all messages, letter, newsletters, surveys will be sent through this. Please contact us if you have changed your phone number or e-mail, or if you are a parent/carer with joint care of your child and want to be added to this service. After Easter we will start to use the service.

Breakfast club at the infant school

Breakfast club, from 8am, has re-started at the infant school. Junior pupils are allowed to attend and will be picked up at 8:30 am by junior staff, to walk to the juniors. This is a paid provision. If you want to book a place, please contact the infant school on 01207 234691.