

Homework:

It is important that children read aloud as often as possible (daily, if possible). When you hear your child read their school reading book, please sign their reading record which is in their school planner, to allow your child to receive their house points. Please try to discuss the text too – there are questions in the reading planners to help.

Your child will also have, in their book bags, a reading for pleasure book for them to read on their own.

Children should bring their book bags, with their reading books and planner in, to school each day.

Support around reading, phonics, age milestones for speaking and listening can be found on the national literacy trust's parent's website: wordsoflife.org.uk (This includes support for early years, primary and secondary). There are some great games and ideas to help your child meet their age-related milestones.

Other homework is set for pupils on a Wednesday and is to be returned to school on a Monday or earlier.

Covid update

Covid is again on the rise. If your child has symptoms of covid and a test shows they do, then they should isolate for 3 days.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2022-23

2022-23	School closes at end of day on:	Re-opens for pupils:
Summer 2022	Thursday 21 st July, 2022	Tuesday 6 th September, 2022
SLP training day	Thursday 29 th September, 2022	Monday 3 rd October, 2022
Autumn half-term 2022	Friday 21 st October, 2022	Monday 31 st October, 2022
Christmas 2022	Tuesday 20 th December, 2022	Wednesday 4 th January, 2023
Spring half-term 2023	Friday 17 th February, 2023	Tuesday 28 th February, 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31 st March, 2023	Monday 17 th April, 2023
May day 2023	Friday 28 th April, 2023	Tuesday 2 nd May, 2023
Summer half-term 2023	Thursday 25 th May, 2023	Monday 5 th June, 2023
Summer 2023	Friday 21 st July, 2023	To be confirmed.

The Gossip

September
2022

From Annfield Plain Junior School Tel: 01207 234531

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

PARENTS' INFORMATION

Some important reminders:

- The office staff are working hard to update phone numbers, forms, school dinners, ping and parent pay. Please let us know of any changes to this information or if you need help, phone the school office on 01207 234531.
- If any parent/carer has had a change of circumstances and think they may now be entitled to Free School Meals contact school with the claimant's date of birth and their national insurance number. School can then undertake a quick check.
- Please put your child's name in all of their school clothes and P.E. kits on the labels (writing it in pen will help). It is then easy to find missing jumpers etc.
- All children need a filled water bottle each day, with their name on.
- Packed lunches should have names on.
- Children are allowed a bag in school to carry their P.E. kit, water bottle, packed lunches, reading book and reading record etc.
- P.E. kits will be transported in bags to and from school every day/week to allow you to wash kit and school to clean porches. Please ensure your child has their kit every day, as at times PE days can be changed if the hall is needed.
- Children are allowed to enter school from 8:30 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. in the morning. School starts at 8:45 a.m. and teachers begin teaching. School day ends at 3 p.m., with children exiting after this time.
- Unless phones are absolutely necessary e.g. for walking home alone, they should not be brought to school. If they are brought into school, they are switched off and handed in to be stored in the school office. Parent/carers must sign an agreement form for their child bringing a phone in to school.
- Fruit and milk money (20p each, per day) are handed to class teacher on entry. Sending a week's money will be helpful. Pupils on FSM are entitled to free milk.
- If your child has school dinner, a meal choice form should have been completed and returned to school.
- Junior pupils are allowed to access wrap around care at the Infant School (breakfast club & after school club 8am to 5pm). Please contact the infant school on 01207 234691 to book.
- A ping has been sent out to ask if pupils do not have a laptop or PC at home to access home-learning programs. A laptop can be loaned from school for this. Pupils can access a range of free home-learning programs such as DB primary, reading plus, gooseberry planet, my maths and times tables rockstars. Pupils receive their passwords and they can be found in their school planner.
- Your child's planner, which they bring home each day with their reading book, is a key source of information for you. Please look through it to find help with reading, grammar terms, school's behaviour rewards and sanctions, school's house point system and useful school information. Please hear your child read daily if possible and record this in your child's planner to receive their house points for reading at home (1 per day).

After school clubs this term.

After school clubs up to half-term 3:10-4:10pm:

Monday: NUFC football, art club, bingo club

Wednesday: shikkari karate

Thursday: book club, board games club

After school clubs after October half-term 3:10-4:10pm:

Monday: NUFC basketball club, singing club

Wednesday: shikari karate

Monday 26th September: The Grammar Show for all classes.

OCTOBER

Friday 21st October: Hallowe'en Dress-up & Year 5/6 Hallowe'en Enterprise Day. Pupils can dress up in Hallowe'en outfits and donate £1 to the school fund. Mrs Dorward's and Mrs Buckton's class will be completing their annual fundraising enterprise on this day – holding a Hallowe'en fayre, for all pupils, with games, activities and competitions.

NOVEMBER

Friday 4th November: non-uniform day. We ask that pupils bring a donation for the chocolate raffle for the following week's parent/carer coffee afternoon.

Monday 14th – Friday 18th November, Life Skills Week: Staying Safe.

Monday 28th November – Friday 2nd December: "Enjoy and Achieve Week: Our Amazing Planet –protecting Earth's animals." To include an author visit.

DECEMBER

Wednesday 14th December: Christmas jumper/hat/clothes day – wear any Christmas clothes and donate £1 to Metro Radio cash for kids. This is also Christmas lunch day and enterprise fundraising day for Miss Angus', Mrs Taylor's and Mrs Marley's classes. They will be holding their annual fundraising Christmas fayre with games, activities and competitions for all pupils.

Thursday 15th December: 1:30pm in the school yard- Christmas nativity performance.

Friday 16th December: end of term treat for all pupils not in detention this term.

Monday 19th December: Christmas party day for all pupils. Pupils may dress in their party clothes. They will have a day of Christmas activities: a party with games, Christmas activities and school will provide a drink, snack and party bag.

Tuesday 20th December: last day of term – a Christmas film with hot chocolate and snacks.

Dates for Parents

Friday 30th September: school is closed due to a staff training day.

Monday 17th October or Wednesday 19th October: Parents' Evenings – to be booked on school ping.

If you are unable to attend on one of these evenings, you may prefer a phone call or an alternative time and date. Please contact your child's class teacher to arrange this, at a time that suits both yourself and the teacher.

Friday 4th November: non-uniform day. We ask that pupils bring a donation for the chocolate raffle for the following week's parent/carer coffee afternoon.

Friday 4th November: Stanley Learning Partnership Fireworks display at Greenland Primary School (more information to follow)

Friday 11th November, 1:30pm: Parent/Carers coffee afternoon and information carousel

Parents are invited to join school staff for both a fundraising coffee afternoon (chocolate raffle, NUFC shirt to raffle) and an information carousel for e-safety, SEND, tables games, Karbon homes homework apps, wellbeing support and reading time in library with your child.

Thursday 15th December: 1:30pm in the school yard- Christmas nativity performance.

Other information:

Howtown Outward Bound Residential 23rd-27th January, 2023 – there are currently two Year 5/6 places for Howtown available. If there are no more pupils interested in the spare places in Year 5 and Year 6, we will ask any Year 4 pupils if they want to attend in a few weeks time.

If you have any unused or no longer needed children's comics or annuals which are in good condition, school would appreciate donations to school, to be used in the school library or our reading for pleasure boxes.

Thankyou to parents/carers for supporting school with fundraising events. Funds raised support school in partly funding Christmas parties, end of term treats, visitors in school. All classes raise money for playtime equipment by completing an enterprise project: Hallowe'en fayre and Christmas fayre for all pupils.

Thankyou to parents/carers who have sent school uniform into school which is no longer used. If any parents are struggling to manage to buy new school uniform, we do have second-hand uniform spare and we can also put in a referral to the Salvation Army (ping sent out for this).