



PARKHEAD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends

DATE: 30th September 2011

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Parkhead hosted the first match of the season this Wednesday. St Joseph's , Rowlands Gill, Whickham Parochial and Parkhead played matches. We made an excellent start to the season with victories over Whickham Parochial and Rowlands Gill that take us to a grand finals night. Congratulations to all the players and thanks to all parents who attended to come to support the team.



YEAR 6 PARENTS

There is an open evening at Charles Thorpe Comprehensive school for all current year 6 and their parents on the 6th of October starting at 6pm.



Achiever Awards for writing were presented today to the following children:

Year 1EM: Erin Welsh

Year 2T: Leah Kelso

Year 3AG: Lonnie Beattie

Year 4S: Lee Robson

Year 5B: Ryan Bolton

Year 6RS: Ruzwan Chaudry

Year 1HM: Jessica Pentland

Year 2H: Thomas Toward

Year 3S: John Jones

Year 4M: Ben Watson

Year 5j: Levi Baille

Year 6NS: Ethan Taylor Foley

Well done! We are very proud of you all!



GETTING TO SCHOOL AND ON TIME

Why is it so important to arrive on time?

We would like to remind all of our parents how important it is for your children to attend school regularly and avoid any unnecessary absence in order for them to reach their full potential. During the mornings all children across the school focus on numeracy and literacy and this is an essential part of their learning. Arriving at school late can often mean they miss an important session and it then becomes difficult for them to catch up on some of the essential instructions. Please make an effort to ensure your child arrives promptly at 8.55am each morning.

What does 95% attendance mean?

The government target that we need to reach to be a good school is 95%. So for example if your child is off **9 days** during the academic year this would be the equivalent of a 95% attendance, so please try and minimise the time off ill and for holidays. We had a lot of queries from parents last year about holidays and medical appointments unfortunately this does contribute towards the % attendance, so if you did decide to take 2 weeks off to go on holiday during term time this would lower your child's attendance below 95%. If your child has a medical appointment try and get this for the afternoon and they then can get both morning and afternoon marks in the register.

What do I do if my child is absent?

Sickness

If your child is unavoidably ill please remember to telephone school to report the absence before 9.30am. You can telephone the school on 0191 433 4144 and leave a message, or if you prefer you can use our new text service if this is easier. Our text number is **07797885351**. It is important that we know your child is absent so we can ensure their safety on site at school as well as supporting you, should you have any problems. If you do not report the absence then we have to record it as unauthorised absence with no reason and if this continues we have to report it to the educational welfare officer who would contact you to discuss further.

Ongoing issues/medical problems

If your child has an ongoing issue or medical problem please make sure you have filled in a health care plan with Mrs Hunter in the office so we are aware of the issues and ensure care at school if needed. If your child has a dentist/doctor/optician appointment you will need to ensure you bring in the appointment card if your child needs to leave school early or late. The school nurses are always available if you need advice and can be contacted **on 01914455247**.

CLUBS

Thursday after school club

We are now running 2 films on a Thursday after school. Children can choose between an animated or Disney type film or another film with a more complex plot. Film club is £3 until 5pm and children get hot dogs and popcorn served during the film!

NUFC at half term

NUFC are running a football club at Parkhead during half term from Monday 24th to Thursday 27th. This is between 10am and 3pm but they are offering 9am—4pm for just £5 extra. The charge for the weeks football course is £30 and can be booked direct with Newcastle United.

ZUMBA

We are still looking for interest in a Zumba class on a Wednesday for children. This would be between 3.20pm and 5pm. Children would get a light snack and 40 minutes of Zumba class with a trained instructor!

Register interest on **0191 433 4145**

BOOK SWAP

Mrs McDermid has organised a book swap club for parents and children to use all year round. There is a bookshelf in the school reception area in the KS2 building. The idea is you bring in a book you no longer want and swap for anything on the shelves! The shelves are starting to fill up so please come and use the book swap service asap!

We are very grateful for any donations or swaps that you may have!

Thank you!



Please remember persistent or regular absence can only be authorised if medical evidence is provided by a G.P. or Consultant. Failure to provide this evidence may result in the absence being recorded as unauthorised and again a referral to the Education Welfare officer.

Holiday

Wherever possible we ask that you do not take holidays during term time. We do understand that sometimes this is unavoidable. You will need to fill in a holiday form and submit this to the school office. If your child's attendance is already below 90% this cannot be authorised and will be recorded as unauthorised absence. In most circumstances holidays are authorised to a maximum of ten days but please try and minimise this.

Thank you