



Durham County Council  
**Chilton Primary School**

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Dear Parents

5<sup>th</sup> September 2014

On behalf of the Governors and staff, I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to you all! We hope that you have had a wonderful Summer break - enjoying the (mainly) good weather - and that the children are all feeling rested and ready for the new term, excitement and challenges that lie ahead.... A lot of important items in this first newsletter of the year!

**New School Contact / Term Dates Cards**

Every family has been sent a school 'contact' card (bank debit card in style). This card also has the school holiday list for 2014-15 printed on the reverse for your convenience. We hope that you will find this a useful item to keep in your purse or wallet.

**Data Collection / Family Contact Details**

It is **vitaly important** that up to date contacts and indemnities are signed and returned to school as soon as possible. These were distributed on Tuesday - **please return as a matter of urgency**.

Following very positive feedback from parents, we are continuing to use our texting service to contact families this year and it is therefore **essential** that we have correct up-to-date mobile telephone numbers. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Class Newsletters**

All class newsletters have been sent home with the children today; we hope that you find them useful. Please do not hesitate to contact staff should you have any questions or suggestions.

**New Curriculum**

You may be aware that a New National Curriculum has been introduced by the Department for Education from 1<sup>st</sup> September across all schools in England and Wales (NB - Primary Academies are exempt from this legislation).

The New Curriculum is more challenging in many aspects - particularly in the basic skills of Speaking, Reading, Writing, Grammar, Spelling, Punctuation and Mathematical skills.

Our new curriculum is available on the school website and can be downloaded; in addition, we will be sharing an information pack on the 'Meet the Teacher' Evening. Packs will be sent home to any families unable to attend on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September

**Lunch Time School Crossing Patrol - A167 outside Town Council Offices**

I am aware that we currently have no pupils who go home from lunch unaccompanied, however the Local Authority has asked me to inform all families that - following a survey of frequency of use and a consultation period - the patrol will no longer be operating during the lunch-time period from this September.

**After School Clubs**

A leaflet will be distributed, outlining the after-school clubs that will be available from this half-term.

Please note that Rock Band is unfortunately not currently available due to Music Service staff leaving local authority employ. Any future additional clubs will be notified through a flyer later in the term.

**'Meet the Teacher' Sessions**

In order to get the year off to the best start possible, we have a '**Meet the Teacher**' session planned for this half-term:-

**On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 3:30 - 6pm, teachers from Nursery to Year 6** will be available in the classrooms to share Reading records, Maths expectations sheets and Class timetable / Homework information. They will answer any questions that you may have about the year ahead. Parents who are unable to attend will have the information sent home with their child later in the week.

In addition, Nursery will also be open (as is our usual practice) for parents to drop-in and discuss their children 10:45 - 11:45am and 2:30 - 3:30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

All parents will be issued with an appointment, however, if would like a specific time slot then please complete the form below and return to school by Wednesday 10 September.

Name of child: ..... Class: .....

I would like an appointment - if possible - during the following times:

3.30pm to 4.30pm        4.35pm to 5.30pm        5.35pm to 6.00pm

## Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in supporting our Leadership Team in making our school the very best that it can be. Please contact the main school office in the first instance for details.

## Dates for your Diary

Monday afternoons - drumming for Year 6 with Mr. I. Halford.

Tuesday mornings - 'Little Fingers' for Reception (Durham Music Service).

Tuesday afternoons - 'Movement Skills' for Year 2 with Sedgefield Sports Partnership Sports Coach

Wednesday mornings - violin/viola lessons for all peripatetic students (Durham Music Service).

Wednesday afternoons - UCreate / Mr. B. Wise Steel Pans for Reception / Year 3

Wednesday afternoons - swimming for Year 4

Thursday afternoons - Ukuleles for Year 5 (Durham Music Service)

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September - International Literacy Day

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September - 'Greek visitor' for Year 4

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September - 'Meet the Teacher' Evening (Nursery through to Y6) 3:30 - 6pm

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September - Greenfield College Assembly

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September - Y3 trip to Bowes Museum - Stone Age Exhibition

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - School closes at 3:15pm for Autumn Half-Term Holiday

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - School re-opens for teaching purposes at 8:50am

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## School Fund

Don't forget to take advantage of our educational visit/school fund savings scheme; a flyer will be distributed next week giving further details. However - don't hesitate to give Christine or Carolyn a ring in the office if you require any further information.

## Free School Meals for Children in Reception / Year 1 and Year 2

A reminder that due to Government legislation, all children in these year groups are entitled to a free school lunch. If your child qualifies - and you would like to take advantage of this scheme - please contact the main school office to make arrangements.

## Dinner Money (KS2 students only)

Dinner money should be paid weekly - or monthly in advance if you have arranged this with the office. A full week is £9.75 - which can be paid by cash or cheques made payable to Durham County Council. Please ensure money is sent into school in an envelope with your child's name and class clearly marked on the front.

## Dinner menus

Pre-order forms covering the period 29 September until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October will be distributed on Monday - this will take us up to the October half-term holidays. Menus should be returned by **FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**. Please remember to put your child's name at the top.

## Adult Learning English

Reach your potential! Durham County Council Adult Learning are providing free courses to help you gain qualifications from entry Level 1 through to Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE) in English. The English course commences Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September from 6pm to 8pm at Chilton Community College. If you would like further details then please contact 03000266206.

Awards	Mathematician	Spelling Bee	Star of the Week	Citizen of the week
Morning nursery			Leon	Jessica
Afternoon nursery			Rafe	Layla
Class 1			Ava	Kori
Class 2			Mia	Melissa
Class 3	Ruby	Portia		
Class 4	Alexis	Freya		
Class 5	Clayton	Jack		
Class 6	Katie	Ryan		
Class 7	Harvey	Caleb		
Class 8	Ella	Hannah		
Class 9	Harvey	Megan		
Class 10	Tom	Hollie		
Class 11	Robert	Dylan		
Class 12	Jackson	Reiss		
Class 13	Sophie	Abigail		

