

Dear Parents / Carers,

28th September 2023

It was lovely to get to meet so many of you at the New Park Family Breakfast this week. We hope that this is the first of many occasions over the course of the year where we will be able to share time together as a school community. There continues to be lots of exciting things going on in school and I hope your children are just as excited to share these with you.



There is, as ever, lots to update you on so please find below some of the key events coming up...

Clubs

Extra-curricular activities have started, and it is always such a pleasure to see our children enjoying themselves and representing our school so brilliantly. We have some more clubs starting next week (week commencing Monday 2nd October):

- **Wednesday** – Athletics for Reception to Year 6 – no cost
- **Thursday** – KS1 Football (Year 1 & 2) – cost £4 per session
- **Friday** – KS2 Football (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6) – cost £4 per session

Details of how to book a place for your child on one of these clubs will be communicated via ParentMail.

We have a 'Karate Day' run by Premier Martial Arts on **Thursday 5th October**, where all students will get to have a taster session. There will also be a special performance from one of our Year 2 pupils!

We would love to be able to offer even more activities for the children to try so if you are feeling brave and would like to have a go at hosting a club or know anybody in the wider community who would like to run a club at our school, please get in touch with the school office.

Farm Visits

Although the children are currently unable to visit our school goats as we work to ensure that the school field is safe, Year 5/6 KW are looking forward to their visit to Corn Close Care Farm on **Friday 29th October** as part of NSATs Farm Twinning Programme. These trips are covered by the 'Consent for Routine Educational Visits' and are a key part of the New Park curriculum. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to accompany the class during their visit as a parent helper, please contact your child's class teacher.

The classes will also be visiting the farm this half-term on the following dates:

Friday 6th October - Y5/6 EH, **Friday 13th October** - Y3/4 GP, **Friday 20th October** - Y3/4 LP / AS

The children will need to wear appropriate outdoor clothes and shoes (non-school uniform) and bring a suitable coat.

PE

The national curriculum expects all pupils to undertake two hours of Physical Education per week while at school. In order for us to ensure that our delivery of PE lessons are effective and that we get the most out of our learning time, we deliver PE sessions on two separate occasions per class. On these days, we ask that pupils arrive in their PE kit on these days, which includes their school jumper. If you require any assistance with school uniforms, please do get in touch.

Walk to School Day

This term's 'Walk to School Day' will be held on **Friday 20th October**. We recognise that this is simply not possible for some of our families, but as a school we will provide the opportunity to do some additional walking outside on that day, so that all children can take part.

Community Hub & Coffee Mornings

We are delighted that the community grocery continues to run in the New Park Community Hub on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We would also like to welcome parents to our first coffee morning of the school year on **Tuesday 3rd October** in the Community Hub. These coffee mornings will be generously run by parents, for parents. School staff will endeavour to pop in to say hello, answer any queries that parents have about school and to offer any support, if required.

Parent Survey

We have lots of exciting ideas for the school year. We would love to get feedback from parents so we can make sure that we better understand how we can work together as a community to ensure that we are all involved in providing an incredible education for our children. Parent Survey's will be sent out via ParentMail, please do respond to these and we will endeavour to take on the feedback we receive when planning for the future (although, as I often say to my children 'you can always ask, sometimes the answer may be yes and sometimes the answer may be no!')

The first of these parents' surveys will be to gain an understanding of how you would like to be updated about events which are happening in school. This survey will go out this week and we will use the information we gather in this to inform the choices we make regarding communication going forward.

Fundraising

The pupils and staff have some amazing ideas for things they would like to create or do at our school. This term we aim to raise some money to refurbish the Before and After School Club (BASC) room, including sensory areas which can be accessed through the school day. If you are able to offer any time or ideas for how we will be able to raise some money for this project, please let us know.

School Dinners

We have a new chef working in school – Chef Red Beard. All catering is done on-site by our catering providers Aspens, and I have been able to spend some of my lunchtimes enjoying the lunches with the children. Not only does Chef Red Beard cook our delicious food for us but he is also a very busy father and business entrepreneur and understands the importance of eating a well-balance, nutritious meal. If your child would like to give a school lunch a try, please place your order on Aspens Select website.



There have been some changes to the Healthy Eating School Policy which now states that only sweets and chocolate should not be provided in packed lunches or as snacks. It remains incredibly important that we do not allow nuts on the school site (this includes in products such as Chocolate & Hazelnut Spread), so please ensure that you are checking what is going into your child's packed lunches.

Music Lessons

We are all very excited about our new music curriculum at New Park Primary Academy. This will involve teaching music using a fantastic new scheme called 'Charanga'. There will also be a weekly whole school music assembly and music linked to the curriculum playing during lunchtimes; all culminating in musical performances at the end of each term (watch this space!)

North Yorkshire Music Hub have also contacted the school to offer music lessons which can be accessed by pupils during the school day. These need to be arranged via the Hub website and further details about how to register can be found on the link below.

<https://www.northyorkshiremusicclub.co.uk/instrumental-tuition/fees/#content-content-inner>

Arriving and Departing

Please note that there have also been some changes to the Arriving and Departing School Policy, as part of our safeguarding review. School starts promptly at 8:50am when the bell is rung on the playground.

From Monday 2nd October no adults (other than school staff) will be allowed to go on to the school playground after the bell has rung, so please ensure that you are at school by 8:45am. If your child arrives between 8:50am and 9:00am, they will be able to go on to the school playground and walk to their classroom. If your child arrives after 9:00am, they must sign in via the front office.

Policies will be updated on the website this week to allow you to read these changes in full.

As always, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance if you have any questions or queries about what is happening in school or any aspect of their education.

Thanks

Thank you for all your help and support with ensuring that your children are always respectful, responsible and ready to learn.

Yours faithfully



Sasha Bune
Headteacher