

Head Teacher:
Mr J.P.Gargan B.A (Hons)
Deputy Head Teacher:
Mrs A. Brown B.Ed.,N.P.Q.H
School no: 2411
Tel: 01325 300227
aycliffevillage@durhamlearning.net

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL
Aycliffe Village Primary
School
Aycliffe Village
Newton Aycliffe
Co. Durham
DL5 6LG



18th July 2017

Dear Parent/Carers,

The school year comes to an end we all look forward to six weeks of summer sunshine and hopefully a holiday somewhere relaxing or just some time away from work spent at home!

I have had the most wonderful welcome during my first eight weeks as acting Head Teacher of Aycliffe Village Primary School. The staff and governors have been most supportive and the children have been absolutely delightful. Aycliffe Village Primary School is a lovely school!

Thanks and Goodbyes

On behalf of the staff, governors and children I would like to thank Miss Lindsey, Mrs Hedley, Mrs Charlton and Mrs Wright for their commitment to the school during their time at Aycliffe Village Primary School covering for staff absence. We wish them the very best of luck for the future.

Absence and Punctuality

During the autumn term we will be having a visit from our Education Development Partner who works for the local authority supporting schools across Durham. He will set Aycliffe Village Primary School a target for attendance against which we will be measured by the authority and OFSTED. The average attendance nationally last year was 95.4% and so our target will be in the region of 96%.

I will share attendance information with you during the autumn term so you are fully informed of our progress against this target. Firstly we will check attendance just before half term and should your child be below 92% you will receive a letter from me alerting you to this and offering you support to increase the percentage before the end of the term. If your child's attendance dips below 90% then you will receive a letter requesting you attend a meeting at school to discuss the figures and agree an action plan to support an improved attendance for your child.

Neither of these letters are to be unduly concerned about in the first instance. They are a means of sharing information with you and are an offer of help from the school and outside agencies to improve and support an improved attendance at school for all our children.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that the bell rings for the start of the school day at 8.55am. We are having several children arrive late every morning and this causes some disruption to start of the school day for the children and staff. We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter. Thank you.

Diary Dates 2017-2018

Please find attached to this letter a copy of the diary dates for the coming year. We have included as many dates as possible so that those of you who may need to make arrangements with work or child care to attend have plenty of notice. This diary sheet is for you to keep as a reminder of the dates but we will also put a copy on the school website for your reference.

You will notice that on Thursday 14th September we have an event from 3.15pm until 5.15pm called Meet the Teacher. This is an opportunity for you to call into school and to look at your child's learning environment and meet the class teacher. Although this is not a parents' evening, you may wish to take the opportunity to share any information with the teacher that you feel that they should be aware of regarding your child. There will be some information for you to collect regarding arrangements for the particular class: PE days, homework arrangements etc. We hope this letter gives you plenty of notice of these dates so that as many of you as possible can call into school.

Can I also draw your attention to Wednesday 13th September : our Roald Dahl Day. To celebrate this author we would like to invite the children to dress up as a character from one of his books! We thought you might appreciate notice of this event! There is a wealth of characters to choose from and there are lots of cheap, quick ideas on sites like Pinterest. Good luck.....the staff will be joining in too so look out for photographic evidence!

Goodbye and Good Luck

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to our Year 6 children who are leaving us to embark on the next step of their educational journey. The staff speak highly of every single one of them and appreciate their contribution to the life of Aycliffe Village Primary School. We wish you the very best of luck Year 6! We know that you will ALL be successful in whatever you decide to do.....follow your dreams and ambitions!

"We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already: we have the power to imagine better." - JK Rowling

Finally....

Have a lovely summer holiday and enjoy the promised sunshine. We will see you all back at school on Monday 4th September at 8.55am!

Kind regards

Cathy Lee
Acting Head Teacher
July 2017

