



### **Spring term outdoors** - The Right to Play ~ Article 31; The Right to be Safe ~ Article 19

Please make sure that your children are coming to school in **warm coats and sensible shoes** or boots. Wellies will be needed to play on the field (and out in any snow that might arrive). Quite a lot of our outdoor play equipment is accessible during all weathers on the field so *it would be great if children could always have a pair of wellies in school* (these will be needed for Forest Schools). We will gratefully take any old/spare wellies you might have to make sure all children can access the outdoor areas.

Our new gazebo is being installed this week – from our Lottery grant received in September. This will give more outdoor learning space and somewhere extra for children to sit during break times.

### **Health & Safety** - The Right to be Safe ~ Article 19

Just a gentle reminder of our guidelines and expectations...

All children with **long hair** should try to keep their hair tied up – this is essential for PE and children will be given a bobble to do so.

**Jewellery** is not allowed in school (happily, no-one has returned after Christmas with new earrings – thank you!) and children should only wear inexpensive **watches** if they choose to do so – please do not let children wear expensive new Christmas presents! Again, however, for PE, watches will need to be removed – including ‘fitbit’ type watches.

**PE kits** should now be back in school – this must include a **change of shoes/trainers**, regardless of whether your child wears trainer-like shoes for school. Thank you for helping us with this.

### **Reception Class Applications for Sept 2020** - The Right to an Education ~ Article 28

Parents who have children in Nursery, and who were born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 must apply for a place in a Reception class so that they can start school in September 2020. **The deadline for this application is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**. If you have not yet made your application, or are unsure how, please speak to Mrs Allen or Mrs Medcalf and they will help. If you need access to the internet, we can help with that too. <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2189/Apply-for-a-primary-place-deadline-15-January>

### **Attendance and Punctuality** - The Right to an Education ~ Article 28

All children received a letter about attendance during the last half-term. Towards the spring break we will be repeating the attendance checking exercise and resending letters home. Hopefully all of the nasty winter coughs, colds and bugs are now out of the system and our attendance levels will return to their normal high rate.

### **Contacting school**

During the last half term, we received a number of nuisance calls to school – occasionally during the day, but mostly after school. We will make every effort to answer the phone, however if you need to speak to us and we do not, please leave a message. The answer machine is checked regularly throughout the day and someone will call you back if needed.

We apologise if this causes any inconvenience to you, but the matter has been referred to the police.

### **Vacancy: Lunchtime Supervisor**

From February 2020 we will need a new Lunchtime Supervisor.

We are looking for a new enthusiastic, motivated and committed individual to take on the role.

*The purpose of the job is to be responsible for the care and supervision of the children, before and after meals, covering the full interval between the end of the morning session and the beginning of the afternoon session.*

Any successful applicant would be expected to work within the School's and Local Authority's Policies and Procedures.

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in the post, application packs and further information can be collected from Mrs Medcalf in the School Office.

**The closing date for the receipt of applications is noon on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**