



## MARYPORT COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018.

Welcome to the start of another new school year! I hope you all had a pleasant and enjoyable summer break. Hopefully your child will settle happily into their new class. However, if at any time you have any concerns do not hesitate to approach me and I will try to help. I am around most mornings and afternoons and will try to solve any school related issues you may have as quickly as I can. If I am not in school, please direct any questions to Mrs Davidson, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Brown or Miss Pape. Unfortunately, Mrs Brinicombe is still unable to work full time, so Miss Harrison will be teaching the Y2 class.

Tina Beddoe

### Attendance Policy

A reminder of our attendance policy:

1. Assembly takes place every morning at 9.05am, in the Junior School Hall. The school doors open at 8.45am and close at 9am prompt so that we can get children to assembly on time. If you arrive after the doors have closed, Mrs Davidson will be able to let you in, but you will have to wait with your child, until their class comes from the Junior School Hall and back to their classroom at the end of assembly.
2. If your child arrives after 9.15am they will be classed as unauthorised late. If your child arrives after 10am this will be classed as an unauthorised absence with a note saying what time your child arrived in school. If for any reason you know your child is going to be late into school please inform the school so that their absence can be authorised.
3. If your child is going to be absent from school please inform us by telephone or in person by 9.15am. If we do not hear from you by this time we will initiate first day calling procedures.

A copy of our attendance policy is attached to this newsletter and we ask that you take time to read it.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

### Collecting money.

Just a reminder that **all money sent into school, (including dinner money), should be given to Mrs Davidson, school secretary and be sent IN AN ENVELOPE with the following details written upon it:**

- Child's name
- Class
- Amount of money
- What the money is for

We appreciate your help in this matter. In keeping with our ethos as an Eco - School recycled envelopes are available in a box outside Mrs Davidson's office.

### Consent Forms.

If you are new to the school we will send home consent forms and accompanying explanatory letter. We would appreciate it if you could please complete, sign and return this form as soon as possible to Mrs Davidson.

### Parents Consultations.

Next half term you will have the chance to meet with the teachers to discuss your child's progress. Meetings will take place during the week beginning Monday 5th November.

## KS1 Milk

If your child is in class 3 or 4 and would like milk, it is £3.50 for this half term. If your child is entitled to a free school meal you do not have to pay for milk.

## School Improvement Plan

This year we are focusing on further developing a high quality curriculum that will:

- Provide a wider range of training opportunities for parents to enable them to more effectively practise sounds and early reading skills with their children.
- Enable children in the Early Years Foundation Stage to achieve a good level of development.
- Develop everyone's writing skills using "Talk for Writing" as a basis.
- Increase physical activity for all pupils
- Ensure consistent progress in Key Stage One
- Encourage ALL children to read regularly, both at home and at school.

## Parent Questionnaires

Thank you to all those parents who completed questionnaires at the end of last term and the very positive comments we received. I have detailed below both the positive comments and the issues raised and how we intend to address those issues:

34 questionnaires were returned. Collated responses are as follows:

	Agree	Disagree	N/A
1. My child is happy in school.	34	0	0
2. My child is learning as well as they can.	34	0	0
3. My child is well cared for at school.	34	0	0
4. My child receives good guidance regarding their behaviour.	34	0	0
5. The school works well with parents.	34	0	0
6. My child receives enough homework.	29	1	4
7. I am well informed about what happens in school.	34	0	0
8. I think the school is well managed.	34	0	0
9. I know who the governors are.	29	5	0
10. I know what the governors do.	31	3	0

## **Positives**

- They care for the children and how well they do at school matters. I feel the teachers have great bonds/connections with every child.
- Teamworking of the staff to promote great learning environment for the children.
- Staff-pupil-parent relationships are excellent. Communication is superb. Welcoming caring environment. Children feel comfortable in terms of academic and social learning/development.
- Supportive and friendly staff

- Fantastic, caring teachers, that go above and beyond for my children. Text service is brilliant and keeps us well informed.
- Staff all friendly and approachable. Always include parents as best as they can. Love the book challenges - makes it so much easier to read at home when there is an incentive.
- Both of my children are extremely happy in school and I know they are both well cared for.
- All the staff are very approachable and supportive.
- Communication. Text messages are really useful.
- Very approachable staff. Extremely friendly and helpful.
- Maryport Infant School really knows their children which helps them in all aspects of their learning and development. The relationship between pupil and adult is fantastic!
- The teachers have looked after the needs of my son, helped with all aspects of his needs and I am very grateful for that. They have accepted my children for who they are. Keep doing and going as they are now, as it is a great little school.

## Issues.

*"More physical activity."*

We agree and this is why it is a priority on our school improvement plan this year.

*"It would be great to see the electronic homework come into play in Year 1 or even be made aware of good apps on ipads etc to enable development in terms of literacy/numeracy."*

Electronic or web based homework has proven to be expensive, but we will try and promote good apps though our facebook page!

*"Allow students to read more than once a week. "*

Again this is a priority on our school improvement plan, but we need your help to make it happen. If you can be a reading parent, please sign up to one of our introductory sessions coming up in September.

*"PE uniform."*

Governors did look at the idea of a PE kit. It will be raised again at the next governors meeting.

*"A covered shelter over the main entrance for wet mornings would be great or open the doors sooner on these mornings if possible so children can get out of the bad weather- if parents stay with the children until 8.45am. Parents do notice that staff children are already in school before 8.45am and not breakfast club - not really an issue on dry days, but on cold wet mornings I think if parents are able to stay with their child until 8.45am then they should be allowed in instead of being made to stand outside."*

The doors to school open at 8.45am, but school does not start until 9am, so we are already opening the doors 15 minutes early to allow children to get to class etc. Teachers are very often busy until this time so we cannot open them any earlier.

If it is raining, there is the large canopy over the terrace, where people can stand. I cannot guarantee it will be dry, because of the wind, but school cannot afford another shelter when it has a big one a few metres away. We allow the children of staff members into school in the morning (and after school) as many members of staff come in before their working hours to ensure the school is ready and prepared for the day ahead. In the interests of a happy staff it would seem churlish not to allow their children into school with them, before 8.45am. However we will encourage them to stay out of sight on wet mornings.

*"Communication."*

We do try our very best with communication - we have newsletters, text service, facebook and staff are available every morning. However if you can think of ways we can improve our communication please let us know and we will try our very best!