



Newsletter April 2016

Welcome back to the start of our summer term when we have lots of interesting events happening! Our topics this term are focused on our local area, including Anglo-Saxons and Castles! Our younger children will be looking at castles, fairy tales and fantasy, while our older children will be looking at castles as parts of settlements and why they were built.

We are also approaching the main assessment period in the school year and so attendance, always important, is particularly so in May, to avoid children missing activities and so having to catch up later.



Forest School

Now we are into the warmer weather (hopefully!), we are going to make the most of our outdoor learning areas. From Tuesday 19th April we will be Forest Schooling each Tuesday afternoon, with the younger children in Class 1 also working outside in our Forest School on a Thursday morning, beginning on Thursday 14th April. We would ask that all children have additional clothing in school that they can change into for working outside on those days. We hope that the need for hats and gloves will be replaced by the need for sunhats and sun cream, although as always our weather is unpredictable, so please make sure children are prepared for all weathers!

Film Club

Our Intu Film Club will take place on Thursday 28th April, and Thursday 12th May. Films and pick up times to be confirmed. Please indicate on the attached slip if you would like your child/children to attend.



Violins and Music event



Our violin lessons will restart this Friday, 15th April. Please make sure all children have their violins in school. As part of this music project we are to take part in an all day music event to be held at the Alnwick Gardens on 28th June. We will have the opportunity to perform for other schools in our partnership and also watch other schools perform. A fantastic opportunity for all of our children to take part in a larger event with several other schools and also have a day out in the gardens!



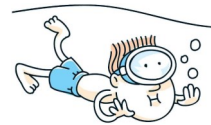
Friends of Branton First School



Our PTA 'pop up' shop will take place in a couple of weeks time, so please save any items for the shop and let our PTA members know or send them into school. The shop will be open on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th April. This will be followed by a collection for the Air Ambulance, please ask if you need any more bags or use black bin liners for donated items. Our PTA committee are holding a meeting at 3.30pm on Monday 9th May in school to discuss our summer fete which will take place on Saturday 25th June.

Swimming!

Our swimming lessons restart on Wednesday 13th April, with our children travelling to Willowburn for their lesson from 1.15pm to 1.45 pm. They then return to school for further activities. Nursery parents and children are welcome to join us at Willowburn for these sessions, it is excellent preparation from when our new reception children will swim with school in September!



Tennis

Grant Watson from the Alnwick Lawn Tennis Club will be back with us this Thursday, 14th April, to begin our summer term tennis lessons. Children need navy blue shorts, white t-shirts and trainers, and are welcome to wear a fleece or sweatshirt while the weather is cool. Even at this time of year there is heat in the sun, and so we ask that **all children have a sunhat and sun cream in school for protection at all times.**

Uniform and PE kits

The uniform orders have arrived in school and will be sent home today. Please remember that the First School uniform can be worn for as long as it still fits your child, we are not asking everyone to have the new primary logo on their clothing for September. And likewise, any new uniform that is ordered will have the 'Primary' logo, and so can be worn while we are still officially a First School, in the lead up to the age range change in September.

Breamish Valley Nursery Consultation

The outcome of our nursery consultation was shared with parents via email over the Easter break. The outcome is that Breamish Valley Nursery will now be the maintained nursery for Branton Community First School, and we have retained our Community Powers so that we can continue to offer up to 30 hours of Early Year provision for rising 3s, 3 and 4 year olds. We also offer a 2 Year Old session on a Wednesday afternoon so that children can come and socialise in our setting once they are 2 years old. If you are interested in your child attending our nursery please contact school by telephone, email or letter.

tel. 01665 578225

email : admin@branton.northumberland.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 13th April - Swimming lessons restart at Willowburn

Thursday 14th April - Tennis lessons with Grant begin

Friday 29th and Saturday 30th April PTA Pop Up Shop!

Monday 2nd May - School closed, May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 9th May - PTA meeting re school Summer Fete and Open Day

Friday 27th May - Sharing assembly and violin performance, refreshments, then school closes at 3.15 pm for half term break.

Monday 6th June—School reopens at 9am

Tuesday 19th July - Last day of the school year, School closes for Summer Holiday at 2 pm.

Wednesday 20th July - Training day.

The Branton and Breamish Team

Find us at www.branton.northumberland.sch.uk