



Newsletter September 2014

A big welcome to our new starters and a big welcome back to everyone returning after the summer holiday. We have been lucky this year to have had a summer we could all enjoy. Our children have all grown and look so smart in their new uniforms, ready to start the new school year!

School lunches

All parents received a letter with regard to school lunches in July, which included information on costs and also on the new Universal Infant Free School Meals that all our Reception, Year One and Year Two children are now entitled to. As we mentioned in that letter, we would encourage all parents either currently in receipt of, or those who think they may be eligible for, Free School Meals (FSM) to still apply. Their children will also be eligible to receive free school milk and the school benefits from an additional payment called 'Pupil Premium' to help meet your child's needs in school. So it continues to be of importance to continue to claim your child's Free School Meal entitlement.

Swimming

Swimming will restart next Wednesday, 10th September for our Reception to Year Four children. This term we will be swimming at Rothbury Pool, so a new adventure for us all! Swimming costs are now £3.50 per week.



Football

We will be starting our football sessions next Thursday afternoon with Ryan Jobson and Trident Soccer. We know that Ryan is really looking forward to working with our children and he hopes it will also encourage them to feel able to join in with the soccer camps he holds in Wooler during the school holidays if they are interested.



School Brochure

Our new school brochure for the academic year 2014 - 15 is available on our school website. It contains lots of information about our school including our daily routines, our links with other schools and our curriculum. Please download a copy, or if you would prefer a paper copy, please let us know.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

A huge 'Thank you' to everyone who collected the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers earlier in the year. We have exchanged our vouchers for some spades, forks, trowels, hoes and brushes for working outside.

Dates for your diary

Friday 19th September Jeans for genes day, make a donation to wear jeans or come as you please!

Thursday 25th September Harvest Festival at Ingram Church, a traditional harvest service at 10 am, everyone welcome!

Friday 26th September -The Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning!

Come and join us for the Macmillan Coffee morning in school 10 am, please donate cakes for a cake stall with proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Thursday 9th October Earth Magic for our older children with Netherton and Harbottle First schools at Branton, a learning experience lead by Bruce Ferguson.

Monday 13th October Whole school visit to Amble First School. Nursery will be closed on that day, with alternate sessions available on the Tuesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon the same week, please let us know your choice of afternoon.

Thursday 23rd October Sharing assembly and coffee morning, everyone welcome! 10 am start. School will close at 3.30 pm for half term and reopen on Monday 3rd November.

Friday 24th October Alnwick Partnership Training Day so school will be closed to all children.



Friends of Branton First School

We are so lucky to have a very active PTA, who have done some fabulous fundraising in support of our school and nursery. Their fundraising this year has enabled us to buy mini ipads for our children to use, a fabulous resource! A letter will come home shortly with information about the Annual General Meeting of our PTA, and we would encourage as many of you as possible to become involved. Mrs Sarah Nelson has been a very active member of our PTA for many, many years during her three sons journey's at our school, and we are so very grateful for her efforts. As her youngest son is in his final year at our school, we are looking for someone who is able to take over Sarah's role and let her relax and enjoy her final year as a parent! So please, please, if you are able to contribute in any way, speak to a member of staff or Abi Wilson, our PTA Chair-

Ingram Show

Our children have made a good start today on their entries to the classes at Ingram Show which is on Saturday 13th September, starting at 10.30 am. Several of our children were successful at the Powburn and Whittingham Shows over the summer.

The Branton First School team

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