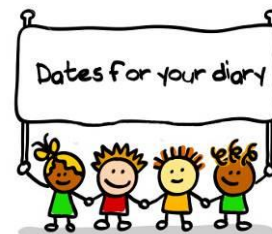




SIMONSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

May Newsletter
2018

www.simonside.newcastle.sch.uk



Dream, Believe and Achieve!

Great Exhibition of the North

Great Exhibition of the North is a free, summer-long celebration of the North of England's pioneering spirit. It will run from 22 June – 9 September 2018.

The country's biggest event in 2018 will pack a programme of amazing exhibits, live performances, displays of innovation, new artworks and unforgettable experiences into 80 days.

Throughout next term, the children at Simonside will be learning about local heroes and deciding 'What makes the North great?' In addition to this, each class will have the amazing opportunity to go on a local trip which could range from a city trail, a tour of Gateshead Quays to one of our local museum experiences.

On **Friday 15th June**, all of the children are invited to dress up as their favourite Geordie/ local hero for a cost of £1. The money raised will go towards the cost of these trips. Local heroes could range from Ant and Dec, Cheryl Cole, Little Mix, Alan Shearer to the likes of George Stevenson or Lord William Armstrong. Special prizes will be given to children who go the extra mile and research their hero! You could produce a fact file or get creative with your costume. Let's all celebrate our wonderful city!

Important Dates!

- All school events are listed on the school website, so if in doubt please check there.
- Monday 4th June – school closed training day.
- Tuesday 5th School re opens at 8:50.
- Monday 11th June Year 1 phonics test this week.
- Friday 15th June – Local hero non- uniform day £1
- Thursday 21st June Sports day – 9:20 EYFS/ KS1
1:20 KS2
- Monday 25th June E safety assembly for KS2 parents and children at 9:10.
- Tuesday 3rd July Year 2 class assembly
- Wed 4th New to Reception parents meeting
- Friday 6th July – School summer fair!
- Tuesday 10th July Reception Graduation assembly
- Wednesday 11th July school summer picnic 12:00
- Friday 13th July Meet your new teacher day
- Monday 16th Annual report to parents
- Tuesday 17th July Year 6 leavers assembly
- Friday 20th July last day – option to collect at 1:30

Simonside is a 'Rights Respecting' School

In January, Simonside received a Bronze award by Unicef UK for our commitment to celebrate and teach our children about their rights, as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are now well on our way towards achieving our silver award. A huge thank you to all parents who donated shoes for our Shoe Share campaign. Almost 200 pairs of shoes were collected, and Clarkes have now donated money to Unicef to provide books and other educational resources for children who's Right to an Education is not always upheld. We are busy working on our next campaign which will focus on the Right to clean water and nutritious food. The children have come up with the idea of a healthy snack shop to encourage healthy eating but also raise money for children who don't have access to food or clean water. What thoughtful, caring, global citizens our children at Simonside are!





Twitter

Please follow us on Twitter! We have 256 pupils but only 128 followers (and not all Simonside Parents). We are often adding quick posts and it is great to get your likes on these, which we share with the children. Simonside Primary School @simonsidep

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for Parent/Carers

Along with other organisations across the UK, we have been busy preparing for the change to the Data Protection Law which is due to take place on 25th May 2018.

Below please find a simple guide which tells you about how we are working to meet this new regulation which will give more control to individuals and more responsibilities to organisations that collect and hold your data.

- Our school already has strict data protection policies, but these will be updated to reflect the changes needed to meet GDPR.
- Our data is already kept secure and used appropriately, but we will be giving you specific information about this through our updated Privacy Notice and Freedom of Information Policy.
- Much of what we do with data will stay the same, but with GDPR there will be more security and transparency.
- For much of the data that we collect from you, we do not need consent. Schools have a duty to keep children safe and to deliver a high standard of education so much of our data is held and processed for the reason of 'carrying out the public task of providing a state-funded education'.
- When we do require your consent, you will be asked for it in a clear and easy to understand way and you will have the right to remove your consent at any time.

Our organisation holds the following data: pupil education records, pupil medical information, parent contact information, parent details which enable us to check for Free School Meal qualification or 30 hours nursery qualification, safeguarding records, special needs records and school meals data. The Governing Body and our Data Protection Officer will be holding the school to account to ensure that we are meeting our GDPR responsibilities. We will keep you informed about GDPR throughout May. If you have any questions, please ask to speak to Mrs Dodds in the School Office.

Attendance

We have seen an improvement to our attendance over the last half term with most weeks being at or over 95%. We are however below the national expectation and lower than other schools in the trust at 94%. We are monitoring closely those families who are not reaching our home school agreement of 97%.

Uniform

Please over the half term make sure that your children return to school in the correct uniform. Shoes must be completely black, without logos or decoration in other colours. Girls should wear either black/grey trousers or skirt and boys should wear black/ grey trouser. Summer dresses in green or red can be worn in the summer term. Tracksuit bottoms will not be allowed. We also insist on no excessive hair colour or style.