



West Park Academy

Date: Sept 2017

Autumn Term 1



Welcome back to school. We hope everyone enjoyed the summer break and are ready to start a new term. Welcome to all pupils, new staff members: teachers, teaching assistants and lunchtime supervisors. We are sure you are looking forward to the new school year.

Building Work: Over the summer we have had the builders in. We have installed new doors to improve the light and the air flow in some classrooms. We have also turned some unused shower rooms into a community room that we use for our wrap around care, coffee mornings and small group work. This is hopefully the first stage of our school improvements and both the children and staff are really pleased with the results so far.



Meadow: We are developing a new Meadow around the Willow Circle. This will be a wonderful place for the children to experience wild flowers and 'inhabitants', as well as planting seeds and watching new plant life grow.

Marvellous Me: Marvellous Me is an exciting light touch app that our teachers will use to share wonderful news about your child's learning and development skills. Each child will receive a letter with details of how to sign up complete with a special code. Visit the parents section of our website with information on how to download the app.

MARVELLOUS ME



Robinwood: There are still places available for Year 5 & 6 residential visit to Robinwood, 6th December - 8th December 2017, the total cost is £143.00 which is payable by 29th September 2017. If you wish your child to go or require further information please contact the school office before 29th September 2017.

We will be holding the following meetings for advice on how you can best support your child in their learning. If there are two meetings per session you only need to attend one.

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| Tues 19th Sept | 2:45 PM - 3.30 PM | Early Maths & Phonics - Reception Parents |
| Tues 19th Sept | 5:30 PM - 6.15 PM | Early Maths & Phonics - Reception Parents |
| Tues 3rd Oct | 3:00 PM & 5:00 PM | Lower KS2 Parents English & Maths Yrs 3 & 4 Classes 5,6,7 & 8 |
| Thurs 5th Oct | 3:00 PM & 5:00 PM | Upper KS2 Parents English & Maths Yrs 5 & 6 Classes 9,10,11& 12 |
| Thurs 12th Oct | 3:00 PM & 5:00 PM | KS1 Parents English/Maths & SATs Yrs 1 & 2, Classes 1,2,3 & 4 |
| Tues 10th Oct | 3:00 PM & 5:00 PM | KS2 SATs Meeting Yr 6 Classes 11 & 12 |

Forthcoming Events:

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|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Fri 29th Sept | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Coffee Morning – chat with coffee and a biscuit |
| Mon 9th Oct | 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM | C8 Educational Visit - Teesmouth Field Centre |
| Tues 10th Oct | 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM | C7 Educational Visit - Teesmouth Field Centre |
| Wed 11th Oct | All Day | Individual Photographs |
| Wed 18th Oct | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Yr6 Educational Visit - Forbidden Corner. Return 4:00 PM approx |
| Fri 20th Oct | All Day | Training Day—School Closed |
| Mon 23rd Oct | All Week | School Closed for Half Term |
| Mon 30th Oct | 8:45 AM | School Re-opens |
| Wed 29th Nov | 9:30 AM | Yr 1 Performance to Parents |

Breakfast Club: Breakfast Club runs each morning starting at 8:15am, £1.25 per session. Your child can enjoy toast, cereals, fruit and a drink. No need to book just come along to the main entrance.



SEND: All Darlington schools both maintained and academies have a similar approach to meeting the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and are supported by the local authority (LA) to be as inclusive as possible with children's needs being met in a mainstream school wherever possible. We are committed to working with parents and carers to identify a child's needs and provide appropriate support. Parents are provided with a leaflet explaining SEND provision and practice within our school which can be requested from main reception, however should you have further questions or concerns please arrange an appointment with our Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator, Mrs Dummett.

West Park Academy Coffee Morning: Every Friday morning 9:00am—10:00am, starting 29th September 2017, there will be a coffee morning in the Family Support Hub. Parents are welcome to call in and have a chat with Mrs Graham or Mrs Dummett and other parents. We will be having regular visits from the school nurse and other family services so if any parents want to find out information or ask questions come along. All welcome.



School Meals: If you would like to make a change to your child's current meal pattern: ie changing from Packed Lunch to School Meal or vice versa then please inform the school office, giving two weeks notice.

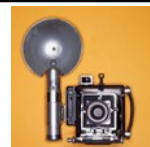
Nut Allergy: Just to make you aware that we do have children with nut allergies in school. Please be mindful when sending food into school.

Healthy Eating: At West Park Academy we encourage healthy eating and want lunchtime to provide a nourishing break within school, therefore can we remind parents that sweets and chocolate bars are not allowed in children's packed lunch. Such things as Mars Bars, animal chocolate, Crunchie bars and fruity sweets.



Primary School Applications: If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 they will be starting school in the academic year which begins September 2018. You will need to apply online via Darlington Borough Council School Admissions, telephone number is 01325 406333.

Individual School Photographs will be taken on Wednesday 11th October 2017. If your child has siblings, who **do not** attend West Park Academy, they may come into school from 8.30am onwards, a ticket will be given on arrival for a place in the queue. **All** children who attend West Park Academy will have their photographs taken throughout the school day.



Bikes and Scooters: Could children and parents please dismount from bicycles and scooters at the entrance gates to school. For health and safety reasons bicycles and scooters are not permitted on the playground. Could you also ensure that you stay on the paved areas and not use the grass.



Dogs: Please ensure all dogs are tied up at a clear distance from the school entrance - not all children are confident or happy around dogs.

PE Kits: Please ensure your child has their indoor and outdoor PE Kit in school each Monday for the whole week. PE days can change, therefore your child should always have a PE kit in school.



Lost Property: We are trying to reduce the amount of lost clothing in school, please help us by **clearly labelling** all clothing. Children are responsible for their coats etc. When an item of clothing has been found it will go into one of the lost property boxes (large red boxes) which are situated outside the school's main entrance. All unclaimed items will be disposed of at the end of the **first week** upon classes return, following a school holiday. Name Labels can be purchased from Elizabeth's Embroidery.



Contact Details: If you have moved address, had a change of telephone number or need to update emergency contact details we ask that you inform the school office immediately. This is to enable the school to contact you in an emergency should one occur.



You can also look on the school website: www.westparkacademy.org.uk and click on 'School Life' for events throughout the school year as well as individual class newsletters. Our website is regularly updated, why not have a look. We are also on 'Facebook and Twitter.'