

# Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

*Caring, Sharing, Learning Together*

**Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

## **This day in history**

**1963** American Express opened a credit card service in Britain



## **Welcome Back**

We are delighted to see all of our children back in school looking extremely smart and settling into their new class. We are especially pleased to welcome all our new families including those starting school for the first time. Children have started the new academic year with lots of enthusiasm and have quickly adapted to their new class. It is lovely to see the school full of happy, smiling children!

## **School Shoes**

It has been lovely to see children back in their school uniform this week. Throughout the school day children may need to remove or change their shoes for a number of different reasons including: soft play, wet/snow play (wellies), parachute games etc. This week children have had the opportunity to use our soft play to help develop gross motor skills this is something we hope to timetable weekly.

It is important that children can independently take off and put on their own shoes, which is why we recommend velcro fastening shoes. We know tying shoelaces is quite a difficult skill and is something we would be very grateful if you could practice at home in preparation for when children are ready to use lace up shoes

## **PE Kits**

PE kits should worn to school on the days the children have PE. Children should not be doing PE in school uniform.

Year 5 have swimming on a Thursday afternoon. Please ensure your child bring their swimming kit on the day.

## **School Uniform**

Should you wish to purchase school uniform, School Uniform is available online from Tots to Teams.

[www.totstoteams.com](http://www.totstoteams.com)

There is also a link to follow on our school website in the Parent's Section.

## **A Star Attendance**

I am pleased to say that we are continuing to work with A Star Attendance to monitor and support our families. This is a first step approach and is there to support Parents with any issues that they have with their child's attendance. By starting conversations early we can support families with a range of needs from how to engage poor attenders, how to support families to access school nursing should their child be suffering from the same medical / illness absence. If you receive a card though your door - please don't worry. This is simply to offer you the opportunity to access support should you want or need it.

If you have any further queries please don't hesitate to contact Jill on 07387371915 or Speak to Leanne who is available to offer support via telephone and socially distant home visits.

## **Water Bottles**

Can we remind parents the children should only have water or sugar free water based drinks in school. No fizzy drinks, energy drinks or milk shakes are allowed. If you are unable to provide a water bottle please contact the office as we have a limited number of water bottles which can be sent home for home to school use.

## **School Meals**

School meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided under the Universal free school meals, however the costs for Upper school pupils is £2.15 per day payable on Monday. **Please note the increase in price. Meals for a week will now be £10.75.**

If your circumstances change and you think may be eligible for free school meals please contact the school office.

## **Contact Details**

If you have a new telephone number or email address please contact the office as soon as possible to update our records. Can we remind Nursery and Reception

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## Secondary School Places for September 2022

If your child is in Year 6 and will be transferring to secondary school in September 2022, you must apply for their school place before October 31<sup>st</sup> 2021. This is done through Durham County Council. Please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) for further information.

When you apply on-line you will receive an acknowledgement and you will be offered a school place for your child by email on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Late applications may not receive their first choice school. As Consett Academy was oversubscribed last year we would advise you to apply as soon as possible, if this is your first choice.

## Reception Places for September 2022

If your child turns 5 between 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2022 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2022. This is done through Durham County Council. Please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) for further information. Applications are now open.

**You still need to apply for a Reception place even if your child already attends our Nursery.**

## Contact Details

If you have a new telephone number or email address please contact the office as soon as possible to update our records.  
Can we remind Nursery and Reception parents to return their contact packs as soon as possible.

## Class Dojo

We would like to remind all families to sign up for a parent account on ClassDojo. It is a quick and easy way to communicate with your child's teacher.

You can use it on any device. It's a simple, free mobile app for iOS and Android, and can also be accessed from your computer at [classdojo.com](http://classdojo.com).



## Bags and Additional Equipment

Please do not send your child to school with bags unless necessary. Additional equipment such as pencil cases should also not be sent in. Everything required is provided for the children in school.

## Our Reading Dog

We are delighted to welcome Brodie and Janet to the team, as our very first reading dog. Brodie settled into her role extremely well and showed impeccable behaviour whilst listening to children read. Children loved sitting next to her and reading their book. Brodie will be in school every Tuesday morning listening to children read.

