



15.7.21

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe we have reached the end of another year: on one hand, the year has flown by; and on the other, it has felt like the longest in my career. I know that we are all hoping next year will be less disrupted and that children can move more freely around school and can access all the extra-curricular opportunities we offer. Nevertheless, despite the unprecedented times there have been some highlights and lovely moments to remember at Northburn. Sadly, it is also a time to say some goodbyes.

Year 6 Pupils

I would like to wish you all the best as you embark upon the next stage of your educational journey. You have been a truly remarkable year group, demonstrating great resilience and maturity over the last few months. I know you have been disappointed that you could not celebrate your achievements and time at Northburn as you have seen previous years do. However, staff worked relentlessly to ensure your pivotal moment did not pass unrecognised and were determined to plan something special.

I hope you had a fabulous outdoor activity week and one you will remember. I thoroughly enjoyed my trip out with you to *Kielder Water, Birds of Prey Centre* and was also lucky enough to join you on your trip to the cinema. I was thrilled that you were able to visit *Cramlington Learning Village (CLV)*. Staff at the CLV were blown away by how well behaved, mature and enthusiastic you all were. I received a lovely email stating you were, "... an absolute delight from start to finish."



Staff

Sadly, I need to say goodbye to some staff.

- Mrs Garcia is taking early retirement. I know that she is looking forward to travelling in term time when restrictions lift;
- Mr Smith is returning to the *Army* and is relocating back to the south;
- Mrs Beattie is taking some time to be with her young family; and
- Mrs Clattenburg is retiring from her post as school cook and looking forward to others cooking for her.

I would like to wish them all well in their new ventures and thank them for their valued contribution to *Northburn Primary School*. They will all be greatly missed.

Mrs Waters will begin her maternity leave in September. We all share her excitement as she waits for the new addition to her family and we will keep you informed.

In September, we are delighted to announce that we will be welcoming new staff.

- Miss Young will be joining the Key Stage 1 team, covering Mrs Water's maternity leave, working full-time in Class 5;
- Mrs Whittingham, Mrs Fagan and Ms Scorer will be joining the teaching assistant team; and
- Mr Hurst will be our new caretaker and he joins us in August.

Summer Term

Unfortunately, over the past couple of weeks we have seen more children and staff having to isolate and consequently they have not been able to enjoy the last week of school. Fortunately, most of our events had taken place and the sun has shone. I have decided to delay the presenting of our *School Challenge Award* badges until September, when everyone will (hopefully) be able to gather together to celebrate.



This term, we have continued to participate in *Schools Games* with some events taking place virtually. I am very proud of the sportsmanship demonstrated by Northburn children. Mr Aird has written to you separately to share our successes.

September 2021

It is very much my hope, that when we return in September, we will not be operating in *Bubbles*. I am however, planning for all eventualities.

Below our usual procedures have been outlined.

Breakfast Club

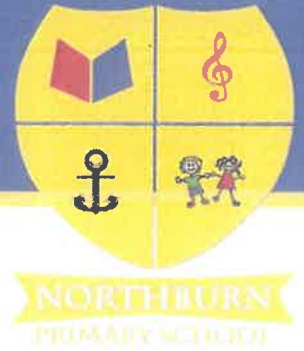
Breakfast Club will be open from **7.40am** at £3.50 /session. Places need to be booked in advance as numbers are limited. Mrs Davison will be sending an email detailing how you can book a place for your child.

Arrangements at drop off and pick up times

- Morning Nursery Session 8.45am – 11.45am
- Afternoon Nursery session 12.15pm – 3.15pm
- Full time Nursery provision 8.45am-3.15pm
- Doors for **Reception** open at 8.50am
- Doors for **KS1 and KS2** open at 8.45am

The school day for pupils in Reception, KS1 and KS2 finishes at 3:10pm.

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 can walk to and from school by themselves, however parental permission must be provided for children in Year 4.



Thanks

As always, I am immensely grateful for all the work carried out by members of the P.T.A. They have worked tirelessly throughout the year to plan creative, new fundraising activities, ensuring that the children continued to enjoy fun events.

A huge thank you to all those in the school community for the role they have played in supporting Northburn and its children through challenging times.

A final thank you for your support and understanding during the past, challenging year. I know that there is still work to be done to ensure we support our children with learning and, in particular, missed experiences.

I am excited about a return to normal where we can all mix and really feel like a whole school community again.

Whatever you have planned, I hope that you have a lovely holiday. I look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday, 7th September.

Best wishes,

Clare Scott