King Street Primary & Pre - School

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20th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

What a very wet and windy end it has been to the week! I do hope we see some drier weather over the weekend so our families can get out and about and hopefully next week will be a much better week and we can end the term with some sunshine. Please remember we finish school on Friday 27th and we return on Monday 6th November.

**School photo day**

On Monday our photographer is in school and will be taking photos of individual children and also together with any sibling they have in school. Once photos have been taken and processed you will be sent information on how to purchase them. We always look to use a photographer who gives the best value for money and they do offer ‘bundle’ discounts.

**Halloween disco**

For families who requested a disco ticket, the invoice for payment has been put onto Parent Pay. Please ensure this is paid today to ensure your child can attend. On Monday, if payment has been received, you will receive a text confirmation that your child(ren) has a place. In a bid to save the planet and reduce our paper use, we will not issue paper tickets this year. Your child will be placed on an attendance list, which will be checked as they arrive. If you have any issues with payment, please email the office before Monday morning so we can deal with your enquiry and ensure you receive a text confirmation.

**Autumn competition**

As always at this time of year, we are having an autumn competition and have asked the children to search for any of the following:

* The biggest Conker they can find.
* The biggest Pine Cone (Fir cone) they can find.
* The reddest leaf they can find.
* The lightest shade of yellow leaf they can find.

Children should bring their competition entries into school in a container or small bag (sandwich bags are ideal) and they should be clearly labelled with their name. The entries will be judged on 10th November and a prize awarded for the winner of each category. The aim of the competition is to encourage children to get outside, enjoy family walks and immerse themselves in nature, finding out lots of facts along the way. The upcoming half term holiday should be perfect for this and we’ve already spotted conkers ripe and ready to collect.

**SEND News**

The North East Autism Society is running online workshops over the next couple of months, specifically for parents and carers of autistic children. The webinars will be on Zoom, and places are limited, so must be pre-booked. The webinars offered and the dates are: Introduction to supporting autistic children: 16th November 1pm-3pm Supporting the emotional wellbeing of autistic children: 7th December 1pm-3pm To book, please email Rebecca.Welch@ne-as.org.uk or phone 01914 109 974.

**Online Safety**

How to Support Children to Deal with Upsetting Content

It often feels like we are being bombarded by bad news stories online – upsetting things are happening in many places in the world and children are being exposed more and more to these upsetting stories online, which can lead to them feeling anxious and scared.

In fact, a study carried out by SWGfL, a charity working to understand how children use technology, found that over a quarter of children in Year 4-6 surveyed said that they had seen things online that had upset them. It also found that one of the four main categories causing upset online is news stories and the media.

With this in mind, this week’s online safety information is about how to support children and help them to deal with upsetting content. Unfortunately, it just isn’t possible to avoid upsetting content, but there are things that you can do to help support your child – the key thing having open communication with your child so that they know they can talk to you. According to NetSafe, the most important thing you can do if your child confides in you about something that has upset them online is to take them seriously, and not minimise their feelings – what is upsetting to one person may not upset someone else, but that doesn’t make what they are feeling any less valid.

Their other recommendations on having a successful dialogue about what they have seen are:

• Not to assign blame about how they came across the material

• Reassure them that it isn’t their fault

• Don’t trivialise what they have seen – it important to deal with their feelings first

• Provide comfort and assurance

• Normalise their response, e.g., ‘It’s normal to be scared/angry/upset/confused’

• Don’t overreact by taking away the technology – this will make them less likely to talk to you if something else happens and it can make them feel like they are to blame

• Make sure that they know you are glad that they came to you about it

Don’t forget you can find out more about online safety by using our new parent online portal.Sign up is easy

Just follow [https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/king-street-primary-school](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnationalcollege.com%2Fenrol%2Fking-street-primary-school&data=05%7C01%7Cj.bromley200%40kingstreet.durham.sch.uk%7C9c60dd8eb60f4aabbb7308dbcbd05a99%7C45dfff5283644d73bf3a8f98bdf10d87%7C0%7C0%7C638327867963967654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UoJt73aAwUe2ydGPKJcdFWfd0hnIZym6Ugjp%2Bws0Nbo%3D&reserved=0) and complete your details. Once you’re set up, you’ll be able to choose ‘Parent/Carer’ as your user type and get instant access to all training and resources. Download the app for free, it gives you access to all their parent and carer resources on the go, whenever you want. You can download the National Online Safety app using the links below:

[App store](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fapps.apple.com%2Fgb%2Fapp%2Fnational-online-safety%2Fid1530342372&data=05%7C01%7Cj.bromley200%40kingstreet.durham.sch.uk%7C9c60dd8eb60f4aabbb7308dbcbd05a99%7C45dfff5283644d73bf3a8f98bdf10d87%7C0%7C0%7C638327867963967654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZW5IkKfqGbHpCOejQp%2FLvMecU5xt6VX7s3cecZtNSQ0%3D&reserved=0)

[Google Play](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fplay.google.com%2Fstore%2Fapps%2Fdetails%3Fid%3Duk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos&data=05%7C01%7Cj.bromley200%40kingstreet.durham.sch.uk%7C9c60dd8eb60f4aabbb7308dbcbd05a99%7C45dfff5283644d73bf3a8f98bdf10d87%7C0%7C0%7C638327867963967654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Z5Ip%2FUb0DbeVGaifCtncioNFJhr%2FW6%2BT58gcz%2Fh5Tm8%3D&reserved=0)

**Nursery and Reception Intake – September 2024**

We are holding an Open Evening for families to look around our EYFS on Wednesday 25th October at 5pm. This information can be shared with friends or family within the community who may have a child of Nursery or school age.

Applications are now open for school places for next academic year, starting in September 2024. These must be applied for through the online portal: <https://durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. The deadline for applications is Monday 15th January 2024.

For enquiries about Nursery places, please contact the school office.

**Secondary school applications**

Final reminder to all of our Year 6 parents. If you have not year applied for your child’s place in secondary school, you must do this by 31st October. You can do this online. [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

**New Autumn Winter Menu**

Chartwells, our school meal provider, will be launching their exciting new Autumn/Winter menu after the half term holiday. Full of hearty, flavoursome recipes that have been lovingly created by a team of chefs and nutritionists, these dishes are packed with all the things children need to grow strong and healthy. Plus, they have been given the thumbs up by children so are really tasty too. If you would like to swap your child from packed lunch to school meals you must give one week’s notice by emailing the school office. [kingstreet@durhamlearning.net](mailto:kingstreet@durhamlearning.net)

**Music lessons**

As part of your child’s music curriculum, we work alongside the Durham Music service to provide high quality music lessons to your child. This includes singing lessons and learning to play an instrument. If you would like your child to take part on extra curricular music lessons, the music service are now offering lessons direct to families. If you are interested in purchasing additional lessons for your child, more information can be found at this website: <https://www.durhammusic.org.uk/sign-up>

**Nasal flu vaccination**

The nasal flu vaccinations will take place at school on **14th November 2023**, please use the below link to complete either a consent form or a refusal for the vaccinations. The link contains the consent form and additional information such as FAQs regarding the vaccination. The link will close on **7 November 2023**.

[https://nhsImms.azurewebsites.net/session/a88e62a8](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnhsimms.azurewebsites.net%2Fsession%2Fa88e62a8&data=05%7C01%7Cj.bromley200%40kingstreet.durham.sch.uk%7Cce668e4818664defc70608dbd13d83c3%7C45dfff5283644d73bf3a8f98bdf10d87%7C0%7C0%7C638333834468930589%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tB2kcSAEM%2FEcXHQZgjAtCegcuooYtuv4rdNHcaUVxxE%3D&reserved=0)

**If your child has already had the Nasal Flu vaccine since September 2023, please disregard this message**.

Upcoming diary dates

Monday 23rd October – School photo day.

Monday 23rd October to Thursday 26th October – SEND children parents’ evenings

Thursday 26th October – Halloween disco in school.

Wednesday 25th October- Open Evening for children eligible for Reception or Nursery places.

Friday 27th October- Halloween school themed meal day

Friday 27th October – School closes for half term

Monday 6th November - School reopens for Autumn term 2

Monday 13th to Friday 17th November – Parents’ evening Y1-6 (more information on booking will follow in due course)

Monday 13th November -Reception class stay and play

Wednesday 15th November – Nursery Class stay and play

Friday 17th November – Children in Need, dress down day.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns please speak to, or email, the school office. Teachers can also be contacted directly by email. If you require a teacher’s email, please speak to the school office.

Yours Sincerely

J Bromley

Head Teacher