



STAR OF THE SEA PRIMARY SCHOOL
Seatonville Road, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear, NE25 9EG.
Telephone: (0191) 643 2080
E-Mail: starofthesea.primary@ntl.gov.uk
Website: www.staroftheseaschool.co.uk

9th September, 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back

It is a pleasure to welcome you back to school this new academic year. I hope everyone had a very enjoyable summer and that the children are returning refreshed, full of energy, ready for the busy year ahead. We are delighted to welcome our new children into Reception and Nursery and we also welcome all new parents, grandparents and carers to our school community. Let's pray we enjoy a settled year this year.

Parent-Teacher Evenings

Parent/teacher consultations will be held in the last week of this half term on Tuesday, 18th October and Wednesday 19th October. You will be able to come into your child's classroom, meet their new teacher and find out about how they are settling into their new year group. The start time is 3.30pm and last appointment is 6pm. More information about how to book sessions will be sent in the coming weeks.

School Meals - Caterlink

School meals are paid for via the Caterlink app.

All parents need to activate their Caterlink account even if your child is entitled to free school meals in reception, year 1 and 2, to keep a check on their school meals balance, if applicable, and receive important updates about the service. A school meal costs £2.30 a day and all pupils in Year 3 and above must pay for school meals.

Caterlink payments are monitored by school, so if you have any queries, please contact the school office. We will reissue log in details next week when our IT systems are up and running again.

To check eligibility for free school meals you must apply online at www.northtyneside.gov.uk and enter 'free school meals' in the search bar. If you don't have an e-mail address, please call to register for free meals (0191) 643 2288 choose option 3.

CAN WE ALSO REMIND YOU THAT WE HAVE CHILDREN WITH SEVERE ALLERGIES. PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD ITEMS CONTAINING NUTS INTO SCHOOL AS OFTEN PUPILS WILL TRY TO SHARE SNACKS WITH THEIR FRIENDS. THANK YOU.

School Milk

School milk is available for all children: it is free to under 5s and subsidised for over 5s. If you wish to register your child for milk, please log onto Coolmilk.com.

The School Website: www.staroftheseaschool.co.uk

Information about holiday dates, year group curriculum, year group newsletters, holiday forms, medical forms (which can be downloaded), lunch menus, ParentMail, school uniform, the PE timetable, the Catholic life of the school including Church bulletins and many other important and interesting pieces of information, can be found on our website.

Please try to make this your first port of call when finding information you need.

We also have a school Twitter account which is [@starseatweets](https://twitter.com/starseatweets)

Communication and GDPR Regulation

As part of the GDPR Regulation introduced in May 2018, we need to ensure that our communication and mailing lists are up to date. If you change address, telephone number or email address please inform us. Thank you. We use ParentMail regularly as a form of communication as it is a very effective way of sending information to families, so please keep an eye out for these. The parental consent forms for photographs, twitter etc. will be sent home next week. Please complete and return these form to your child's class teacher straightaway. Thank you.

Classes for 2022 – 2023

Year group	Teacher	
Nursery	Mrs. Merrin and Mrs. Bell	
Reception	Mrs. McQuillan	Miss Wilson
Year One	Mrs. Anderson(4 days) and Mrs. Connon (1 day)	Mrs. Raynor
Year Two	Mrs. Taylor	Mr. O'Doherty
Year Three	Mr. Thompson	Miss Austin
Year Four	Mr. Burton	Mrs. Byrne/Mrs. Connon
Year Five	Mrs. Hodgkins	Mr. Maguire
Year Six	Mrs. Chidlow	Mr. Hall/Mrs. Hepplewhite (from 21 st October)

Also, please remember to email your child's class teachers using the year group email addresses with any queries (this will be up and running by the end of next week due to IT issues).

Nursery	nurseryatsotsrcp2@gmail.com
Reception	receptionatsotsrcp@gmail.com
Year 1	yearoneatsotsrcp@gmail.com
Year 2	yeartwoatsotsrcp@gmail.com
Year 3	yearthreeatsotsrcp@gmail.com
Year 4	yearfouratsotsrcp@gmail.com
Year 5	yearfiveatsotsrcp@gmail.com
Year 6	yearsixatsotsrcp@gmail.com

Admissions September 2023

The application process for all admissions for all schools, including reception and high school, opens on 12th September 2022.

The deadline for high school applications is 31st October 2022.

The deadline for reception applications is 13th January 2023. Please refer to the North Tyneside Council website for more information. <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/129/school-admissions>

Showbie

We will continue to use Showbie as a platform for homework. Your child's class teacher will contact you about this. If you have any queries about, please contact the class teacher using the year group email above.

Absence line

Please remember the school absence line is: **0191 643 2088**. Please report any reason for absence before 9.30am. You can also log onto ParentMail to log an absence too.

Extra-curricular music lessons

We offer a range of extra-curricular music lessons for our pupil (from Year 2 upwards for most instruments). These include: guitar, keyboard, flute, violin and Rock Steady (a rock band). If you would like information about any of these sessions, please contact the school office by email.

Flu Immunisations – Reception to Year 6

Immunisations will take place in school on 15th November 2022. Please read the attached letter which details how to register for this. We have been asked to request that you register for this straightaway.

Important Safety Reminders

I understand that there are a number of new parents and carers who may not be aware of some of the safety issues concerning our school. Please be aware of the following safety issues which have been highlighted in previous letters:

Our car park.

Please keep speed to a maximum of 5 M.P.H. in the car park; please park thoughtfully and be patient. Please DO NOT use the staff car parking area and remember that the safety gate across the pedestrian crossing at the school gates will be locked between 8.30-9.15 a.m. and 2.50-3.35 p.m. – this is to safeguard children and parents walking into school at the beginning and end of the school day.

We have parking bays for blue badge holders to accommodate the increasing numbers of parents, carers and visitors with mobility difficulties. **Please can you only park in the disabled bays if you hold a blue badge as we have many families that need to park in these bays. Thank you.**

Parents and carers of children in Nursery are kindly asked to use the main car parking area and to walk around to the nursery entrance. Please respect the yellow zigzag markings at the school office/reception entrance and do not compromise the safety of pedestrians by dropping off or parking in this area.

School Crossing patrol

We have a School Crossing patrol officer at the zebra crossing within the school grounds and this has been a great help.

With a school as full as ours I do appreciate that parking is a major problem and I thank everyone for their patience.

Important dates – more information will be sent to you about these events

Date	Event	Time
w/b 12 th September	Pedestrian training for Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y4 in school	During the school day
29 th September	Curriculum evening in school	5pm – 6pm
30 th September	MacMillan coffee morning	9am – 10.15am
3 rd October	Y6 – pedestrian training	During the school day
18 th and 19 th October	Parent/teacher consultations	3.30pm to 6pm
21 st October	Fireworks evening in school	TBC
21 st October	Break up for October half term	
7 th November	Y6 go to Robin Wood	9.15am
8 th and 9 th November	Year 3 Team Challenge Day in the school grounds	All day
10 th and 11 th November	Year 4 Team Challenge Day in school grounds	All Day
15 th November	Flu Immunisations for YR to Y6	All day
17 th November	Author visit to school – Will Mabbit for Early years and KS1	During the school day
23 rd November	SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS	All day
24 th November	Author visit – Emer Stamp for Y3 and Y4	
1 st December	Advent service for Y5 and Y6 pupils at St Edward's church	5.30pm
12 th December	Swimming week for Y5 pupils	PM
13 th December	Nursery and Reception Christmas play	9.15am and 2pm
14 th December	Year 1 Christmas play	2pm
15 th December	Year 2 Christmas play	2pm
16 th December	Year 3 Year 4 Christmas celebrations for parents	9.15am (Y3) 2pm (Y4)
w/b 19 th December	Party week	Dates to TBC
22 nd December	Break up for Christmas holidays	

Children's Liturgy at Star of the Sea Parish.

The following information is from Star of the Sea Parish.

*Children's Liturgy is returning! We will be offering Children's Liturgy at the following Mass times;
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monkseaton - Saturday evening 6:00 pm
10th Sept, 17th Sept, 8th Oct, 15th Oct*

*St Edwards, Whitley Bay – Sunday morning 10:00 am
11th Sept, 18th Sept, 9th Oct, 16th Oct.*

The children attending Sunday Mass gather after the Sign of the Cross and Greeting with the priest and liturgy leaders and share in a blessing with the Book of the Gospels. They then leave the church in procession to prayerfully celebrate the Word of God together, and return to their families at the Offertory for the rest of Mass.

In the session we welcome our children and then celebrate the Gospel with songs, discussion and activities. We cater for children between the ages of 3 and 11 years. Pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult or an older sibling. Whether you come to Church regularly or just occasionally, all are welcome. Families with children intending to receive their First Holy Communion this year are strongly encouraged to attend. Please note; a register is kept, for safeguarding purposes, of all children and adults attending and the information is kept securely in accordance with GDPR

Children's Liturgy Leaders required.

Have you ever thought about helping to run our Children's Liturgy sessions?

It is a really rewarding experience. We have volunteers who lead the sessions and some who prefer to support. If you think you would like to join us in either role, or just have a chat about it contact us by email using 1holychommunionolss@gmail.com. Once a DBS check has been carried out, any training and resources you need will be provided.

Reminders

- Please remember to label all uniform as we have missing jumpers already! We are happy to receive any uniform that no longer fits your child. Thank you.
- The PE timetable is now on the website.
- Extracurricular clubs in school will be starting soon – more details to follow.
- Please remember that no holidays can be authorised by school in term time.
- Please ensure your child arrives at school on time. Children can be dropped off at school from 8.45am – 8.55am to their classroom doors or the school hall (Y4 and Y6). If it is raining, the hall doors will be open for all pupils to enter.

School yards - dogs, smoking or use of mobile phones are not allowed on school premises. Please refrain from allowing your child to use the play equipment in the school grounds due to health and safety issues. Thank you.

Many thanks for your continuing support in school and let's pray that we all have a very productive and rewarding year.

Kindest regards,

K.L.DiMambro

Mrs K. DiMambro
Head Teacher