



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL

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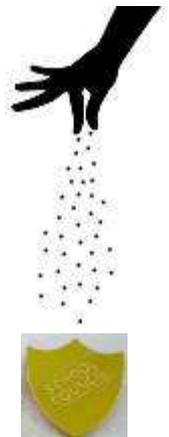
Dear Parents and Carers,

Newsletter 1 - September 2017



It was wonderful to be able to welcome all our children back to school at the start of this new academic year. All the children look very smart in their uniforms and there has been a really positive and productive atmosphere throughout the school. We especially welcome all our new starters in Reception and Nursery as they start their school life with us at Southridge.

New Reception Intake - A Message from Miss Parker and Mrs Mason - All the Reception staff are very proud of the fantastic start Southridge's new intake have made during their first two weeks of school. Staff are very impressed with the children's positive attitudes, fantastic behaviour and new found confidence in their setting. The Reception children will look forward to being full time from next week. Well done to all our new pupils and keep it up! We look forward to bright futures ahead at Southridge!



Our Vision and Values - During Assembly last week we reminded ourselves of the five core values that are like 'magic dust' around our school. They are **friendship, kindness, honesty, respect and responsibility**. We also discussed our school motto which reflects these core values in one simple sentence: **'Work hard, enjoy school and do your best.'**

School Council - A Message from Mrs Rosario As we start another exciting academic year at Southridge First School it's time to think about our School Council representatives. The School Council benefits the whole school, pupils and teachers, because it provides opportunities for pupils to communicate their feelings as well as influence decisions that are made. Our representatives will attend School Council meetings in school and be a voice for their class and new ones will be elected every term.



Jeans for Genes Day
Changing the world for children with genetic disorders

On Friday 22nd September the children may come to school in non-uniform wearing jeans for a small donation. The money raised by organisations and schools on Jeans for Genes Day funds a range of initiatives that improve the quality of life of children and families affected by genetic disorders.

Friends of Southridge - Thank you to PTA - the total sum raised at the summer fair was £3,150. We were very lucky with the weather and appreciated everyone's support on the day. The PTA worked incredibly hard last academic year to support the school and organise events and are always grateful to the extra helpers at events on stalls / refreshments etc.

Healthy School Award - in July our school was reaccruited for our Healthy School Status and the assessor commented on the children's enthusiasm for the Mile a Day Challenge. Last weekend a number of our children ran in the Junior Great North Run and assured us that this had helped! We aim to continue with this in the Autumn term.

School Games Award - we were also delighted to be awarded the Gold Award for our commitment to school sports. The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme to reward schools for their



commitment to the development of competition across their school. Participating in this process allows schools to evaluate their PE provision and assists them in developing an action plan for future progress.

Calculation Policy - Mrs McIntosh has updated our Calculation Policy and a copy is on the school website. This sets out how our children tackle their maths calculations and is a useful guide for parents.

Safeguarding -

- **Our Child Protection Policy has been updated and a copy is** on our website.
- **Medicines in School** - we will be reviewing asthma care plans and other medical care plans next week. If you have notified us that your child has a medical need and we need additional information we will ask you to complete / update a form with further details. Please note that medicines must be collected from school at the end of the day / weekends and that you will be asked to collect any out of date medicine stored for long term medical conditions.
- **Car Park** - please use the pedestrian path around the school perimeter fence to access the playground / school office and do not walk across the school car park. We will be improving signage in this area to make this clearer for parents. The school car park is for staff and visitor use only.
- **Operation Encompass: A reminder**

Operation Encompass was launched in June 2016 and is an initiative run in partnership with Northumbria Police and North Tyneside Council which aims to support children who are affected by domestic abuse. As a result, following any domestic abuse incident being reported to the police, the Police will make contact with Children's Social Care Front Door service who will then communicate relevant and necessary information to nominated school staff. This will ensure that the school is made aware at the earliest possible opportunity and can subsequently provide support to children in a way that means they feel safe and listened to. Each school has members of staff (key adults) who have been fully trained in liaising with police and Children's Social Care when required, and will ensure that the necessary support is made available to the child following the disclosure of a domestic abuse incident. Our key adults in school are Mrs Hall and Mrs McIntosh. You can also find out more information here <http://www.operationencompass.org/>

Admissions - applying for school places for September 2018

From 8 September 2017 you can apply online at www.northtyneside.gov.uk. This is a quick and easy process and will provide you with immediate notification of receipt of your application form. Alternatively you can complete a paper application; these are available from your child's current school or are available to print at www.northtyneside.gov.uk. If you have chosen to complete a paper application we strongly recommend that you return it by recorded delivery as in the event that we do not receive your application proof of posting will be required. You must return it to: The Access Team, Floor 3, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant West, Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

For Nursery parents - applying for your child's Reception place for September 2018

If your child's is in our Nursery and their date of birth is between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 you should complete an application form for admission to Reception Class. **Please ensure you apply by the deadline date of Friday 12 January 2018**

For Year 4 parents - applying for your child's Middle School place for September 2018

If your child is in the last year of a First School and their date of birth is between 1 September 2008 to 31 August 2009 you will need to complete an application form for admission to year 5 of a Middle School. **Please ensure you apply by the deadline date 27 October 2017.**

Diary Dates: Diary dates for the term have been sent out in children's school bags and the first half-term's dates are set out below. Dates will be updated regularly in the whole school newsletter and on the calendar page on our school website www.southeridgefirst.org.uk.





SEPTEMBER	
18 th	Reception in FULL TIME
18 th	Year 4 visit Valley Gardens – Sports Activities
18 th	After School Clubs start
18 th	Reception - Reading Meeting for parents
19 th & 20 th	Individual School Photos – 8.30am morning Nursery and Reception Siblings 3.30pm – Siblings from the rest of the school on 19 th September
22 nd	Jeans for Genes Day – children come to school in non –uniform /jeans
25 th	Year 3 – Stone Age Workshop
27 th HARVEST ASSEMBLY	RECEPTION - 9.15 am - one parent per family Following the Harvest Assembly there will be a COFFEE MORNING run by PTA – enjoy coffee and cake and meet other Reception parents.
27 th	Year 2 Visit to St Mary’s Lighthouse
28 th	National Poetry Day – ‘Freedom’
28 th HARVEST ASSEMBLIES	YEAR 3 & 4 – 9.15am - one parent per family YEAR 1 & 2 -2.45pm - one parent per family
OCTOBER	
2 nd – 5 th	Bikeability Training sessions begin for Year 3 and 4
5 th	School Census Day – themed lunch (a sports theme –‘half-time’ plate)
9 th	High Borrans Residential Meeting for Year 4 parents – 5.00pm in school hall
12 th	School Disco G Force Disco Yr 1 and 2 at 5pm - 6pm Year 3 and 4 at 6.15pm - 7.15pm £3.00 entry
13 th	Year 1 Visit to Centre for Life ‘Fantastic Fossil’ Workshop
13 th	Year 4 Rugby Festival at Southridge
20 th	BREAK UP – HALF-TERM

Term Dates for the Academic Year:

Holiday	School Closes	School Opens
Spring Mid-Term 2017	Fri 17 February 17	Mon 27 February 17
Easter 2017	Fri 7 th April 17	Mon 24 April 17
May Day closed on		Mon 1 May 17
Teacher Day closed on		Fri 26 May 17
Summer Half Term 2017	Thu 25 May 17	Mon 5 June 17
Teacher Day closed on		Mon 4 September 17
Summer 2017	Fri 21 July 17	Tue 5 th September
October Mid-Term 2017	Fri 20 October 17	Mon 30 October 17
Teacher Day closed on		Mon 8 January 18
Christmas/New Year 2017/2018	Fri 22 December 17	Tue 9 January 18
Spring Mid-Term 2018	Fri 9 February 18	Mon 19 February 18
Easter 2018	Thu 29 March 18	Mon 16 April 18
May Day closed on		Mon 7 May 18
Teacher Day closed on		Fri 25 May 18

Local Elections – provisional date of 3rd May 2018.

School will be OPEN to pupils in Reception - Year 4.

Nursery will be CLOSED on this day to allow us to use the Nursery mobile as a polling station

