



New Pastures News February 2024

Dear parents and carers,

We have nearly reached the holidays at the end of this short half term. The days are starting to get longer and hopefully the worst of the weather is behind us. The children continue to work hard and engage in their lessons. We collect data throughout the year to track each child's attainment and progress. So far, the data is showing how well the children are doing and we are on track to improve on our results in all areas of school compared to last year. School life is not just about data however. On the whole, despite squabbles that naturally occur from time to time between children, they seem happy in school; demonstrating positive behaviour and following our school rules. Children tell us they feel safe and know who they can talk to if they have a problem that needs sorting out.

Again, a big thank you to those of you who completed the parent survey before Christmas. Below is a table of the results which demonstrates that most of you are satisfied with most things we are doing in school for the good of your children. If ever you need to speak to a member of staff regarding your child, either see them on the playground at the end of the day or make an appointment. I always believe that an open and respectful relationship between school and home develops trust and ultimately benefits the children.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at this school	65%	22%	4%	2%	4%
2	My child feels safe at school	63%	26%	4%	2%	2%
3	My child does well at this school	57%	41%	0%	0%	0%
4	The school has high expectations for my child	43%	48%	2%	0%	7%
5	The school tries hard to make sure the pupils are well behaved	41%	46%	2%	0%	0%
6	The school deals effectively with bullying <i>please leave blank if you have no experience or knowledge of this</i>	30%	20%	0%	2%	11%
7	The school is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit	70%	26%	2%	0%	0%
8	When I have raised concerns, the school has dealt properly with them	61%	26%	2%	2%	4%
9	The school lets me know how my child is doing	50%	39%	4%	2%	0%
10	There is a good range of subjects available at this school	59%	39%	2%	0%	0%
11	The school supports my child's personal development	46%	41%	0%	2%	0%
12	My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school	52%	39%	4%	0%	2%

13	Communication between home and school is effective	63%	26%	7%	4%	0%
14	I would recommend New Pastures to another parent/carer	54%	35%	4%	2%	2%



Our current attendance is 94.5% which so far is an improvement on last year. The chart below points out how many hours of lost learning there are when children have time off school. Children can't get this time back so it is really important they are in school to learn, achieve and socialize. We have high expectations for all of our children in terms of academic success so they need to be in school aiming for at least 96% attendance. Obviously if they are very poorly, they need to stay at home but if they only have a runny nose or mild cough, they are well enough to be in school. We will always contact you if your child becomes too unwell to stay.

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance	Whole days of absence	Learning Hours Lost
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10
Good	98%	186 days	4	20
	97%	184 days	6	30
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5
Cause for Concern	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5
	94%	179 days	11	55
	93%	177 days	13	65
	92%	175 days	15	75
	91%	173 days	17	85
Unsatisfactory	90%	171 days	19	95
	89%	169 days	21	105
	88%	167 days	23	115
	87%	165 days	25	125
Serious cause for concern	86%	163 days	27	135
Critical	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
	84%	159.5 days	30.5	152.5
	83%	158 days	32	160
	82%	156 days	34	170
	81%	154 days	36	180
	80%	152 days	38	190

Here is some information that can support parents and families if you are struggling with anything and need some help and advice

What can you expect from the local team at Your Place?

The team are on hand to chat with you about what is concerning you or what you feel you need support with.



Here are a few of the things that you can chat to the team about:

Benefits
Family support
Local groups and activities
Childcare
Anti-social behaviour
Housing support
Employment
Debt and financial concerns
Education support for your child as well as information for adults wanting to access adult learning courses.



Drop in and see us soon!



Conisbrough Library: 01302 736644

Civic Office: 01302 736409

Vermuyden Centre: 01302 736336

Woodlands Library: 01302 736787



Conisbrough Library: LocalSolutionSouth@doncaster.gov.uk

Civic Office: LocalSolutionCentral@doncaster.gov.uk

Vermuyden Centre: LocalSolutionEast@doncaster.gov.uk

Woodlands Library: LocalSolutionNorth@doncaster.gov.uk



MEET THE TEACHER

Each newsletter we will get to know a member of staff a little bit better. Our first 'volunteer' is Miss Senior who teaches in Year 1.

why did you want to become a teacher?	I wanted to be a teacher as I wanted to make a positive difference in children's lives.
were there any other jobs you wanted when you were younger?	I have wanted to be a teacher for as long as I can remember, I used to line up my stuffed animals and take the 'register' everyday!
Have you had any other jobs apart from teaching?	Before I became a teacher, I was a children's entertainer. I used to plan host parties for children- it was lots of fun!
If you could be an animal what would it be and why?	If I could be any animal, I would be a dolphin, as they are very sociable and I love being surrounded by friends and family.
Do you have any pets?	I have very recently adopted a Labrador named Poppy- she is 9 years old and she loves collecting sticks and cuddling her soft animals!
If you could choose any animal in the world as a pet what would it be and why?	If I could have any animal as a pet, it would be a giant panda- they are so clumsy and playful, they're hilarious!
Which TV programmes do you like to watch?	I love to watch friends- I must have seen every episode 10 times! I am also partial to a good crime drama.
What music do you listen to?	I love listening to Taylor Swift- my favourite songs are 'Paper Rings' and 'Lover'
What kind of books do you like to read?	I really enjoy reading a good thriller and my favourite author at the moment is Colleen Hoover.
What is your favourite food?	I love anything Mexican – especially tacos!
Are you scared of anything?	I don't have anything I am too scared of; however, I am definitely not a fan of heights!
If you could go back in time, what advice would you give to your younger self?	If I could go back in time, I would tell my younger self to just be myself and to not care so much about what everyone else thinks.

School Uniform

School uniform:

- A white plain polo shirt
- A royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Grey or black school pinafore dress or skirt
- Grey or black tailored school trousers
- Grey or black tailored school shorts
- Navy blue or pale blue checked summer dress
- All pupils wear black shoes with no heels or smart black trainers with black laces

PE Kit:

- Black shorts
- Plain White T-shirt
- Black school pumps or trainers
- Black or grey plain jogging bottoms for colder weather

Sweatshirts & cardigans with the school logo can be ordered from school at cost price. An order form will be available in June / July and at intervals during the year.

Pupils should have their names inside their coats and on as much of their clothing as possible to avoid loss.

In the interests of safety and natural growth and development, flat heeled shoes are much better for your child and we strongly recommend this type of footwear.

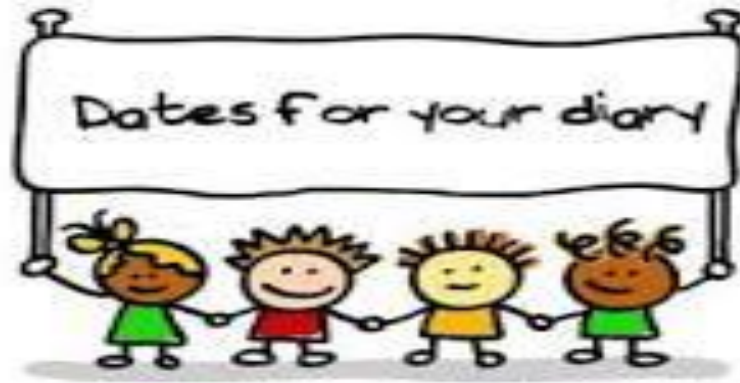
During the summer months we encourage parents to provide sun hats for pupils to wear during playtimes and dinnertimes – these can be purchased in school.

Pupils must not wear bracelets, necklaces or rings in school at any time. In Key Stage 1 earrings are not allowed. In Key Stage 2 we do allow one pair of small, plain stud earrings to be worn.

Earrings may be worn by children from Y1 upwards. They must be small stud earrings and must be either removed or covered with surgical tape for all PE and games lessons and are not allowed to be worn at all during swimming lessons and afterschool clubs. Watches may be worn but are the pupil's own responsibility. They must be removed for PE and games lessons.

Please note that school cannot accept liability for private property lost or damaged. All clothing should be clearly marked with the pupil's name in indelible ink or using nametags or some other means. Pupils should not bring unnecessary money or valuable items of property to school.

Mobile phones – We understand that some children need to bring mobile phones into school, especially if they are walking home alone. However all phones must be switched off **BEFORE** children come through the school gates in the morning and only switched back on again once they leave school premises.



Friday 9 th February (usual time 3:15/3:20)	Break up for half term
Monday 19 th February	Return to school
Monday 4 th March	Theatre company Y3/4
Wednesday 6 th March	Class photos
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day – come dressed up!
Friday 8 th March	Theatre company Y5/6
Tuesday 19 th March	Parents' evening
Wednesday 20 th March	Parents' evening
Thursday 28th March 1:15pm lower site 1:20pm upper site	Break up for Easter
Tuesday 16th April	Return to school