



Handale Primary School

Newsletter 19th December 2023



A few words from Mrs Padgett...



Over the past couple of weeks, the children have truly had a lovely time celebrating this special time of year with their friends and staff, with parties, Christmas dinner, pantomime, bingo and performance, of which some are still to come. I would like to thank all of the staff for all their hard work this could not happen without them. Now it is time to look forward to family celebrations and the holiday.

Thank you: I would like to thank a special guest in advance, Santa! Santa will be visiting every class this week giving all children a Christmas present to bring home, (Nursery - Wednesday, rest of the school on Friday). Santa has been very kind and taken a day out of his busy schedule to visit the children at Handale because he knows how special they are to all of us.

Christmas lunch: Last Thursday was a fun day with the Christmas lunch. The hall and the lunch tables looked really festive and I would like to thank the kitchen team for going the extra mile to make the lunch really special.



From all the staff at Handale Primary School we would like to thank you all for your continued support and wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy new year.

Changes to Lunches

I would like to thank you all for your patience with School Grid the dinner system. We have not managed to resolve the problems we have with the system therefore after Christmas we will cease to use it. We have thought very carefully about how to proceed with lunches as we like our children to have a choice before going in the dining hall. Therefore, please can parents and children order their dinners 2 weeks in advance via an electronic form. These will be sent out via a link and a QR code. For a QR code you need to point a device with a camera and internet access to it and it will take you directly to the form to complete lunch choices.

The form only contains the main meal choices, each meal come with a choice on the day of vegetables, pasta and a form of potato along with a choice of desserts on the day.

Please could I ask parents to complete the dinner choices ready for the new year by this Thursday, 21st December 2023. Please do not complete them after this date as the children will have completed them in class.

Dinner Menu - Week Beginning
8th January 2024



Dinner Menu - week beginning
15th January 2024



Or the links...

Week commencing 8th January 2024

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=VYKEWL3ALU6KGE8Gun3OCJ5-isfyMONIh7343u_V5WhUQURaQzIIVVFWNTU2RzM2NULUV0JLRDFMVC4u

Week commencing 15th January 2024

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=VYKEWL3ALU6KGE8Gun3OCJ5-isfyMONIh7343u_V5WhUMEFVMDBCNTZPVFIBTExGQkU1N0MwNzkySi4u

We would really appreciate your support and understanding as we are trialing this for the next half term.

Please can we remind everyone to send in healthy snacks and packed lunches for children. It is vital that children are eating nutritious snacks and packed lunches at school. This will help children to stay fit and healthy; focus in lessons and thrive socially and emotionally. May we also remind you that we are a nut- free school. If you would like any further advice or ideas for healthy packed lunches, please do not hesitate to contact the school. If your child has a school lunch, please make payments through ParentPay. **Meals cost £2.30 per day or £11.50 per week.**

If children are wanting to change from dinners to packed lunches or vice versa, the office require half a term notice please as food orders are placed in advance. Thank you.

Free School Meals

We are aware that home circumstances change. If this happens school are able check to see if your child is entitled to free school meals. All that is required is your national insurance number and the date of birth of the parent. If you think this might be the case, please nip into the office and we can apply for you. If your child is entitled then they will receive this for the next 6 years.

Leavers Hoodies for Year 6



Leavers hoodies are available to purchase on Lollipops Children's Clothes website. The hoodies will have the school logo on the front and the number 24 on the back with all of the children's names. If you do not want your child's name on please contact the office before the end of the term.

www.lollipops-middlesbrough.co.uk

Please could you ensure all items of your child's uniform are clearly marked with their name. If any items not belonging to your child manages to find their way to your home, please send them back to school so that they can reach their rightful owner.

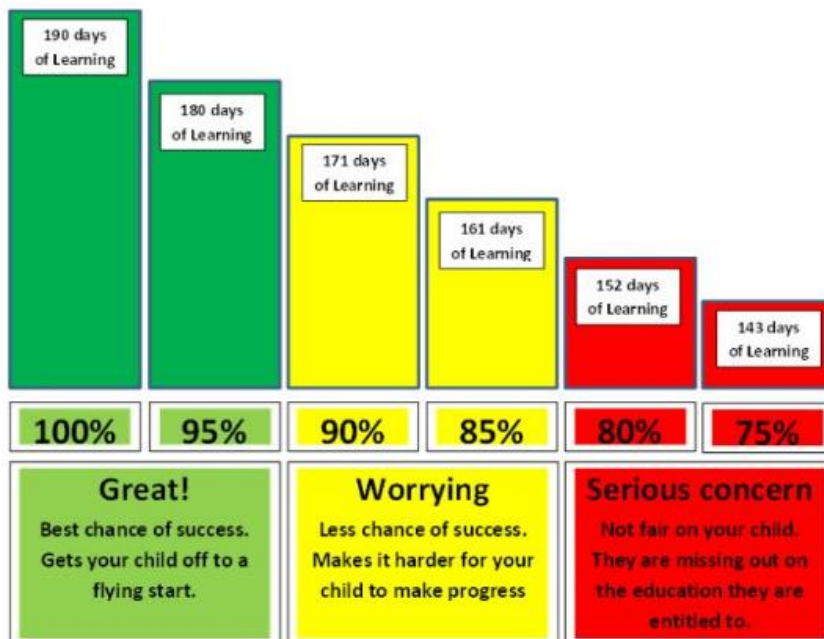
Attendance

Please ensure you adhere to your child's school start time. Children should not be coming into school late through the school office. They should also be picked up at their allocated time and not collected from the office early. We ask that where possible any appointments are made out of school time. If this is not possible and your child has an appointment, please bring a copy of your appointment letter to the office. Children coming to school late and leaving early are missing valuable learning time which can have a long-lasting impact on their progress - it also interrupts the learning of all children in the class. Thank you for your continued support

We all have a legal duty to ensure our children will reach their full potential by attending school if they are able. All the evidence clearly shows that pupils with excellent attendance achieve better at school. Just a

gentle reminder that the school gates open at 8.30am for children to come into school, but they close at 8.45am. We understand some children are coming in late which impacts significantly on their education, as we utilise every second of the day for learning.

If you are having problems with getting your child to attend for reasons other than a holiday, please speak to me as soon as possible so that we can work together to resolve this



Children's Mobile Phones

We are aware that more of our children are bringing mobile phones into school as they feel more secure walking to and from home with them. School policy is that all mobiles are either handed into the school office on a morning or locked away in the classroom's lockable cupboard. This is for safeguarding reasons. Please could you discuss this with your child if they bring their phone into school.

Unwanted Visitors in Hair

We have had a few reports of head lice in children's hair. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat if required.

Earrings

Please could earrings be removed at home on PE days, we do not want any accidents occurring with it being caught and torn out.

Clubs

Club letters will be sent out the first week back in January to sign up for the new and exciting offers.

Leavers

This term we are sadly having to say goodbye to Mrs Howes who will be leaving us to enjoy some well-earned rest. Mrs Howes has been a part of this school for a lot of years, over 17 years. She has been an integral part of the school and her contributions will be missed. We would like to wish her well and a happy retirement.

Miss Stone

I would like to congratulate Miss Stone and family on the safe delivery of their beautiful son, who was born on 5th December 2023. They are all doing well and looking forward to some lovely family time together.

Holidays in Term Time and Unauthorised Absences

As a reminder, please see below holidays for the Academic Year 2023/2024. Holidays should only be booked within these dates. No holidays will be authorised outside of these dates unless they meet the special circumstance criteria. If you are intending to take holidays during term time please make sure you complete a

holiday form so we know where your child is. This is imperative to ensure our safeguarding procedures are followed.



School Term and Holiday Dates

Academic Year 2023/24

	AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER			JANUARY												
Monday	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29		
Tuesday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	
Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	
Thursday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		
Friday	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		
Saturday	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		
Sunday	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	

	FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE			JULY														
Monday	5	12	19	26	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29				
Tuesday	6	13	20	27	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30				
Wednesday	7	14	21	28	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31				
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25				
Friday	2	9	16	23	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26
Saturday	3	10	17	24	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27				
Sunday	4	11	18	25	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28				

190 PUPIL ATTENDANCE DAYS + 5 PD DAYS

	Bank Holiday
	School Holiday
	PD Days

The number of term days shown is 195.
Five professional development (PD) days for teaching staff to be arranged; pupils will not attend school on these days.

Reception Intake 2024

If you have a child that is due to start school next September (born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020) the on-line application system is **now open** (www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions). Applications should be made by the 15th January 2024. You should apply to the council where you reside (pay your council tax). Please spread the word amongst the community for parents who have children of school age next year. Any queries please contact the Office.

Parking Concerns

Please be mindful about parking at drop off and pick up times for the safety of pedestrians. There are residential driveways close to school, these should not be parked over or obstructed. Thank you for your help with this.

Please could I ask parents to refrain from using the staff car park for drop offs and collections unless this has been agreed through school. Only staff and visitors are insured to bring vehicles on site. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Concerned About a Child?

Did you know that there is a number to call if you have any concerns about the welfare of a child. You can share these concerns anonymously so you are not put off by concerns that your identity would be known. It may help a child in need if you take the time to pick up the phone and call the Redcar and Cleveland Social Services Team or use the link below.

www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/children-and-families-services/concerns-about-a-child

Email: RedcarMACH@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Telephone: 01642 130700

[Report a concern about a child](#) in school, please speak to Mrs Padgett, Mrs Farrier or Miss Tully

Important dates

Class Assemblies @2.30pm - Parents Invited

Year 5	Thursday 23 rd May 2024
Year 4	Thursday 25 th April 2024
Year 3	Thursday 18 th January 2024
Year 2	Friday 2 nd February 2024
Year 1	Thursday 21 st March 2024
Reception	Thursday 13 th June 2024

Christmas Dates parents invited...

Year 5 and 6 Performance at Church 20.12.2023 @10.30am

Term Dates...

Nursery Christmas party - children can come to school in their party clothes. Wednesday 20th December 2023 more information to follow.

Year 5 and 6 Christmas party - children can come to school in their party clothes. Thursday 21st December 2023

Monday 8th January 2024 - PD Day children are not in school

Tuesday 9th January 2024 - Children return to school