



NEWS FROM...

30th September 2022

Well done and congratulations to Year 6 for their behaviour and engagement with the activities on their residential last week. They were excellent ambassadors for our school and the time away enabled them to build confidence and independence as they faced new experiences and challenges.



On Monday, we officially welcomed our new Reception children with a beautiful liturgy in the school hall. Each of our new starters was presented with an 'Our Lady' teddy bear which will accompany them on their journey through our school. We look forward to

seeing them grow and flourish during their time in our school. Thank you to our Year 6 buddies who helped to make the liturgy so welcoming with their lovely singing and by being encouraging towards the younger children. Well done to the Reception children for managing so well in front of a large audience—it's hard to believe that they have only been in school for a few weeks!

Thank you for helping to make our flexible drop-off in the morning work so well. We have noticed how much more settled and calm the children have been coming into school and how focused and ready to learn they are when the day begins at 9am.

We still have a few regular latecomers—please try to be on time as being late not only impacts learning and progress, but also children's emotional wellbeing as they tend to be more anxious and unsettled if they are late.



We appreciate that it is not always easy to schedule appointments outside of school hours, particularly for hospital appointments but we ask that wherever possible, parents try to arrange non-urgent appointments for outside of school times so that they do not impact on pupil attendance.

Please note that school finishes at 3:15pm and children may only be collected early to attend medical or similar appointments. Requests to collect children will not be granted without an appointment card.

Gentle reminder—school policy **does not allow earrings** due to the health and safety risk posed when children are wearing them in school. We ask that earrings be removed before school or you may be asked to come in to remove them. Applying plasters over the top of earrings is not an acceptable solution.

Change to Friday liturgy time—from next week class liturgies on Fridays will begin straight after registration (as **close to 9am** as possible). Please wait in the yard and you will be brought in when the children are safely in class.

Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation.

With best wishes

J McGill



21st October-Reading Event in school - see page 2



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Is your child due to start Reception in September 2023?

Applying online is the simplest option. Go to www.sunderland.gov.uk/admissionsonline to complete your application. You can apply on a variety of devices including a phone, tablet and PC or alternatively you can visit City Hall where there are facilities to apply online. The online facility is open during the preference period – **3 October 2022 to 15 January 2023**. It is only possible to apply at this web address if you live in Sunderland. If you live in another area, you must apply through your 'home' Council

When you apply online you will receive an email confirmation once your application has been received. You will also receive an email notification regarding your child's school place on 17 April 2023, if you apply online.

If it is not possible to access or submit an online application, a paper application form can be obtained by emailing school.admissions@sunderland.gov.uk or by telephoning **0191 520 5553**.

Reading

One of our school improvement priorities for this year focuses on reading. We have invested in a new reading scheme and are exploring different ways to improve our reading curriculum and how we nurture and promote a love of reading in school. The importance of reading for children cannot be underestimated. Reading for pleasure can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing, and their mental health. During their time with us, we hope to inspire in children a love of reading for life and aim to ensure that every child becomes a fluent, confident reader who has experienced a wide range of high quality texts throughout their primary school years. At each stage of the journey towards fluency, children are taught different skills and are exposed to a variety of reading experiences. To help parents support their children on this journey, we would like to invite you into school to find out more about how we teach and promote reading in school and how you can help your child at home.

On Friday 21st October, we will begin the day with 'Breakfast with Books' starting at 8:30am in each classroom. Parents are invited to come into class and read with their child until 9am (parents with children in more than one class will be able to either visit both classes or read with both children together in one classroom).

At 9am and 2pm, there will be a Reading Café in the school hall where parents can find out more about our reading scheme, how we teach reading at each stage in school and pick up ideas to promote and support reading at home. The 9am session will focus on EYFS and KS1 and the 2pm session will focus on reading in KS2.

Please join us if you are able—together we can achieve much more. 😊

