



Fellside Community Primary School, Fellside Road, Whickham, NE16 5AY.
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Mrs M Maitland, Headteacher

Fellside Matters

We are polite with good manners, respect everyone and everything, we work hard and have fun.



On behalf of everyone at school may I take this opportunity of wishing all friends and families of Fellside a Happy New Year! As we begin a new calendar year, we find ourselves almost half way through the school academic year. Without the end of term activities associated with Christmas or those at the end of the summer term, this period leading to Easter is the time for lots of learning and rapid progress for all our children.

We work hard to ensure that children are aware of past and present learning and importantly their targets for future

progress and how they can achieve success. The second of our parent consultations just before February half term will enable you to share in their successes so far (there are many!) and discuss with all class teachers areas for development.

The wonderful support our children receive at home is an essential element to their rapid and continued progress in their learning.

Thank you.

M. Maitland



Olympic and Paralympic Values Photograph Competition

We have already begun to discuss the Olympic and Paralympic values at school and in the coming months will be revisiting these during assemblies and school activities. A number of the values mirror our school values and the dispositions and attitudes to learning we are focussing on this year.



One of our activities is an Olympic and Paralympic values photograph competition, we would love to see photographs of the children displaying one or more of the following values:

respect excellence friendship courage determination inspiration equality

There will be three prizes awarded for the most amazing photographs. Please send in your child's photograph by Monday 20th February, with their name, class and value written on the back. Good luck to everyone and we eagerly await some fantastic photographs which will be displayed in the hall for everyone to share. This will replace our Fellside talent wall.

Pupil Questionnaires

At Fellside we are always keen to listen to the views of the children as to how we can keep improving school for them. During the Autumn term they completed our pupil questionnaires. I thank the School Council members who gave up lunchtimes to help collate the results.

Amongst the things they like the most about school are: It's fun, fair and caring, friends, the teachers, Bike It activities, learning new things, we are a sporty healthy school, playtimes, trips, the new tuck shop, clubs, art, numeracy, ICT, science, the School Council..... the list continued. A number of children simply wrote everything!



They would like to see:

Bigger school dinners, an extra playtime and better playtime equipment, more water fountains and more literacy and numeracy! Some children said nothing needs to be better, its brilliant!

We also asked them about their aspirations for the future, they would like to be:

Marine biologists, teachers, doctors, police officers, lawyers, archaeologists, horse riders, singers, actors, rugby players, professional footballers, astronauts, accountants, secret agents, vets, fashion designers, fighter pilots, midwives, authors, historians, travel lots, go to university, learn languages and be stars! (They already are!)



Reading these clearly demonstrates that we have children with high aspirations and who are mature and thoughtful about their futures.

Looking Forward

This term we have many activities planned for children across the school, some of these include Play in a Day, Cooking for Life sessions, music sessions with Brendon Renwick, Year 6 to Robinwood, sports competitions begin again and the annual Nursery sponsored event.



Punctuality

This is not the first time that this issue has appeared in Fellside Matters. The vast majority of our children always arrive on time but we are concerned that a minority of children (often the same ones) are regularly late for school. It is important that all children are in class for the start of the school day at 8.55am.

Not only are they missing out on pre school chat with friends but they can often feel uncomfortable entering a working classroom. Children begin important quick maths sessions at 8.55am to develop and reinforce key skills in maths, those children arriving late are missing out on this essential practise.

Punctuality that continues to concern us will be followed up this term.

Bike It

Congratulations to our Wheelie Wednesdays winner John Moody, he was presented with a fantastic new bike during the last week of term. Thank you to everyone who has entered the design a bike sticker competition, fingers crossed for another winner from Fellside. The Big Pedal will be taking place again later this term, we will begin with a Bike It breakfast this year, more details to follow.



Our BUG members will be working with Alan Barlow, our Bike It Officer, this term to produce their own Bike It newsletter. Alan would also like to explore the idea of a Bike Bus, a similar initiative to that of the walking bus. If anyone is interested in finding out more please contact me at school.

Friends of Fellside

The Friends of Fellside World Book Day disco will be held on Thursday 1st March. There will be prizes at each disco for the best girl and boy fancy dress outfits (come as a character from your favourite book).



Reception Nursery and Key Stage One **4.45—5.45 pm**

Key Stage 2 **6.00—7.15 pm**

Fairtrade

Last year we took part in the Fairtrade bunting event held on the Newcastle and Gateshead Quaysides, this year we will be looking at other projects linked to Fairtrade we can become involved in. The first of Gateshead Council's activities is for children to look out for Fairtrade products whilst shopping with their families. Please see the attached flyer and return completed ones to school by Friday 27th January.

After School Clubs

The following after school clubs will be operating this half term:-

Reception / Year 1	Little Kickers - Monday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Year 1 / Year 2	Little Kickers - Thursday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Year 4	Art Club - Thursday 3.15 - 4.15pm
Year 3 and 4	Dance Festival Club - Friday 3.15 - 4.00pm
Year 5 and 6	Hockey - Monday 3.20 - 4.50pm
Reception to Year 6	Karate - Wednesday/Thursday 7.30-8.50am
Reception to Year 6	Gymnastics - Wednesday 3.20 - 4.20pm

Diary of Planned Events to April

Sunday 15th January	Closing date for Primary Admissions
Tuesday 17th January	'Spanglish' Family Learning Session
Mon 6th - Thurs 9th Feb	Parent Consultations
Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb	Half Term
Friday 24th February	School Photographs
Mon 27th - Wed 29th Feb	Year 6 to Robinwood
Mon 27th - Wed 29th Feb	Book Fair
Thurs 1st March	FOF World Book Day Discos
Friday 30th March	Finish for Easter holiday
Monday 16th April	All children return after Easter holiday

