



## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Hello once again!

Our children have settled wonderfully into their new classes. We wish a warm welcome to all those who have recently joined our school: Erin, Arlo, Oliver, Lily, Layla, Ben and Leon. We are sure that you will have a wonderful time with us at Rothbury First!

Our Year 2, 3 and 4 children had a super trip to Alnmouth in our second week, and the weather was very kind to us. The children took part in a number of activities which included searching for rocks and shells, beach art, a 'bramble picking' walk and a history walk around the village.

Thank you to those who came to our Early Years Reading Meeting. If you were unable to come but would still like to have a chat about helping your child to read in the Early Years, please speak to Mrs Brotherton.

Our after-school activities have got off to a great start with Taekwondo on Mondays, Cricket on Tuesdays and Trident Soccer on Thursdays. Please speak to the School Office if you missed the original letters and you wish your child to attend any of these.

We hope that you found your child's 'settling in' Parent Consultation useful. We plan two more this year which will be in the Spring Term and the Summer Term. If you wish to catch a member of staff sooner, you can always speak to someone at the end of the school day, or call the office to make an appointment at a time more convenient to you.

### Parent Meetings

**Year 4 Robinwood Meeting** Parents of Year 4 children are invited to a meeting in the Dining Hall at 5pm on Wednesday 2nd October to give more details about our planned Year 4 Residential to Robinwood, Barhaugh Hall.

**National Year 1 Phonics Check** Parents of Year 1 children are invited to a short meeting in the Dining Hall at 8.45am on Tuesday 8th October to learn about the National Phonics check.

**National Year 2 SATs Assessments** Parents of Year 2 children are invited to a short meeting in the Dining Hall at 8.45am on Wednesday 9th October to learn about the National SATs assessments.

**National Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check** Parents of Year 3 and Year 4 children are invited to a short meeting in the Dining Hall at 8.45am on Friday 11th October to learn about the National Multiplication Tables check.



## Harvest Celebration & Food Bank Collection

You are invited to join us for our Harvest Celebration in the Dining Hall at 9.15am on Thursday 24th October. Teas and coffees will be served by the FRFS after the event.

Once more we are collecting for the local food bank. If you have any spare dried goods or tins that you would like to donate, please send them to school before the Harvest. Thank you.

## Messages from the School Office

### Every child:

- Please make sure that your child has a warm coat (waterproof if possible) as they will be having outdoor play even if the weather is a bit drizzly.
- We do not allow earrings in school so please remove these before school.
- Please tie back long hair to prevent the spread of headlice.
- The only drink that we allow during lesson/play times in water bottles is water, so please do not send juice to school for drinking during the day (cartons of juice are permitted in a packed lunch).

**Early Years** - please can all children keep a named pair of wellies in school and a change of clothes on their coat peg.

**Elephants** - please can all children keep a named PE kit on their coat peg (to stay in school).

**Penguins** - please can every child keep a named pair of wellies in school so that they are equipped for their Forest School sessions. We do not have enough spare pairs in school for all of the children. Please can the children also wear long trousers for their Forest School sessions..

**General** - Mrs Walton would really like some junk modelling materials - please see Mrs Walton for further details.

**Music Tuition in School** - this term our Year 3 and 4 children will all be learning to play a pocket trumpet. We offer additional private small group tuition from our peripatetic tutor, Richard Wallhead, for guitar and keyboard. Please speak to the office if you wish further details. Unfortunately at the moment we do not have sufficient interest to make the violin lessons viable this term, however, our tutor, Annelise Nicklen will be doing a short demo this week to the older children. If more children are interested in taking up violin tuition, we may be able to offer it as an option later this term.

**Payment using Live Kitchen/School Grid** - we are trialling online payments for school activities. If you have any problems using the system, please let us know.



**REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS:** Children are not allowed to go onto the school field, explore the Forest School Area, or play on the wooden equipment at drop off/collection time. They are only allowed in these areas under the supervision of a member of staff.

**SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS:** For all the latest updates in school, follow us on Facebook <https://facebook.com/rothburyfirst/> or on Twitter @rothburyfirst.

Please note that the School Office is closed on Wednesday afternoons. If you need to contact school on Wednesday afternoons, please leave a message on the answer machine and we will get back to you as soon as we are able.

**DATES FOR THE DIARY:**

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
Wed 25 Sept	all + parents	FRFS Film Night
Fri 27 Sept	parents	Bag 2 School collection - please leave any bagged items at the school gate in the carpark next to the conservatory.
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
Tues 1 Oct	Years 1 - 4	Visitor Assembly: Kirstine Davies - Mustard Tree Trust
Wed 2 Oct	Whole school	School individual & sibling photographs (morning)
Wed 2 Oct	Year 4 Parents	5pm Parent Meeting - Robinwood
Tues 8 Oct	Year 1 Parents	8.45am Parent Meeting - The National Phonics Check
Wed 9 Oct	Year 2 Parents	8.45am Parent Meeting - The National SATs Check
Fri 11 Oct	Year 3 Parents and Year 4 Parents	8.45am Parent Meeting - The National Multiplication Tables Check
w/c 14 Oct	all	Food Bank donations
Thu 24 Oct	Years R - 4 + parents	9.15 am Harvest Celebration + Food Bank collection
Thu 24 Oct	Years R - 4	Flu immunisations (after Harvest!)
Fri 25 Oct	all	School closes at 3.15pm
<b>Mon 28 Oct - Fri 1 Nov</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED - HALF TERM</b>
<b>Mon 4 Nov</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED - TRAINING DAY</b>
w/c 4/11/19	all	eSafety Week
w/c 11/11/19	all	Anti Bullying Week
w/c 18/11/19	all	Scholastic Book Fair Week & Tree Planting Week
Wed 11 Dec	all	Christmas Performance at Rothbury All Saints Church (early evening)

Term dates for 2019-2020 are available on the Northumberland County Council website: <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Holidays.aspx#schooltermdates>

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Upcoming Friends of Rothbury First School PTA events:  
**Cinema night** - Wednesday 25th September - The LEGO® Movie 2  
**Hallowe'en disco** - Friday 25th October

Please get in touch if you're able to help out with these or any future FRFS PTA events.

You can reach us by  
 Email: rothburyfirstschoolpta2017@yahoo.com  
 Facebook: Friends of RF School (PTA)

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## ROTHBURY FIRST SCHOOL - CAR PARK

A reminder that our school car park is primarily for the use of school staff, school transport and visitors to school.

If parents/carers wish to use our car park, follow our car park code:

- **School staff and school transport have priority** over the car park spaces
- **Do not park in the area reserved for school transport** - yellow hashed area nearest the school
- **Drive slowly** – 5mph on the ramp and within the car park
- **Reverse into spaces** to reduce the chance of a child being knocked over
- **Accompany your children AT ALL TIMES.** If you are getting more than one child out of the car, take the other child to the fence to wait for you. Hold your child's hand whilst in the car park and walk them to the gate.

*Staff and visitors have witnessed parents letting children out of the car to walk/run to the gate on their own whilst the car is still running. Children have also been seen running around cars both before and after school, and when attending a club.*

- **Keep the centre aisle clear**

*We have been sent photos of cars blocking the aisle and blocking the school entrance which is a safety hazard to school.*

- **Keep the emergency gates clear AT ALL TIMES**
- **Switch engines off when waiting** to reduce air pollution

We do appreciate the difficulties of dropping children off/collecting them by car however the safety of our children must be foremost.

Please consider other means of bringing children to school.

Something to think about: a recent survey of how our children come to school showed that most children who are driven to school would rather walk, cycle or scoot.

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## NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL PREMISES

A reminder that all of our school premises which include **the buildings, the school fields, the yards and the car park** are a NO SMOKING ZONE. This means that smoking is not permitted on any part of our school premises. **This restriction also applies to electronic cigarettes.**

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## NO DOGS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

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Please make sure that these notices are passed on to whoever drops off/collects your child, including from after school clubs.