**HUGH JOICEY C.E. AIDED FIRST SCHOOL, FORD**,



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Headteacher: Mrs Jacqueline Dalrymple M.Ed

**Happy, Healthy, Aspirational Learners in a Christian Community**

**15th May 2018**

Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you to all of you who attended the May Day festivities. It was a beautiful afternoon and the children proudly put fantastic energy into their dances. Thank you also for the contributed cakes and treats, they went down very well and made the afternoon feel like a real community celebration of the long-awaited springtime. Thank you as ever to our dedicated PTA committee for setting up and washing up – events like these are not possible without your help (volunteers always appreciated!)

**Governors –** Governance is a vital part of the Leadership of the school and we require **2 new** Governors to help us to continue to lead and manage Ford school. Please consider applying to become a Governor, or suggesting a suitable candidate, – there are 3 meetings per year plus a few visits into school to work with myself or to have a look round the classes and talk to the children. We would be especially interested if you have educational or business skills that can be transferred to school leadership. Please contact Carol Douglas (Chair of Governors) or myself for further information.

It’s a very busy term as ever so please check and highlight which dates are relevant to your children. Oak class continue to swim after half term**. All children** should have a **named** PE kit and trainers in school.

**Sunny days:** the children do spend time outside every day so please send in a water bottle and a named sun hat. It is also helpful if you can apply long-lasting sun-cream in the morning if necessary. Could you please check if anyone has picked up a black ‘Valtra’ cap and return it to school, thank you.

**New playground:** We have an exciting new development starting this week, enabled by increased Sports Premium Funding and generous donations from our PTFA and Ford Pre-school. The playground markings are being repainted and a ball wall is being installed – to encourage games on the yard. We are also having a wooden fitness trail installed on the field that will contribute to children’s activity, fitness and fun for many years to come. Please allow for some minor disruption to parking/access across the yard while this work is going on.

**Sally’s Spring Walk:** Thank you for the donations that have already been kindly given for Hospice Care in memory of Sally, who we miss every day. We are delighted and touched that Sally’s family will be joining us on Sunday for our sponsored walk from Heatherslaw to Etal, along the river and back to Etal Village Hall for refreshments. (Don’t park in railway car park please) Please do try to join us to show our continued support of the Wood family and of a fantastic local charity. Mrs Green has signed up for the Great North Run again in September so we wish her lots of luck. See you at 10.00 am, Sunday 20th May.

**GNR–** Sarah Tannock would like to let you know that there are places available for the Great North Run in support of local charity, Escape Family Support. 

**Run a mile -**  Mrs Turner is coordinating running on 3 breaks a week to encourage fitness and fun activity.

**GDPR –** (General Data Protection Regulation) You may already be aware of changes to Data Protection Law coming into force at the end of May. Please read the attached letter and request for your consent to continue to use your personal data and to explain how we keep it safe. GDPR also strengthens your rights over access to your own personal data.

**Lady Waterford bicentenary –Watchtower Exhibition –** We are pleased to be part of the exhibition at the Watchtower Gallery in Berwick, Saturday 26th May - Friday 8th June. We have submitted the maximum allowance of 20 pieces of work, with each of our classes represented, that will be on public display. Our children used pencils, pastels and paints to create beautiful art work of our school, Lady Waterford Hall and nature studies of Spring flowers. Please go along and see it if you can. We are awaiting a prize giving date.

**Young Leaders –** Year 4 are all busy undertaking challenges for the Archbishop of York, Young Leaders Award – ***“Be the change you want to see.”*** Please take them up on the offer if they ask to wash your car/ make a meal/pick up litter/collect for charity.

**STEM club –** The children are making good use of 10 new i-pads and cases that we were able to buy with Funding from the Community Foundation. Mrs Green will also access Raspberry Pi resources and training to ensure our children have the most up to date computing curriculum. I have submitted another bid for Creative and Arts resources to enhance our drama and art curriculum.

**Summer 1 Term arrangements:**

* **Oak class swimming**
* **Tennis/Athletics** coach, Mr Hodgson, and Tennis club – Fridays – **collect 4.15**.complete the slip below
* **STEM club (science, technology, engineering and maths) –** Monday 3.15- 4.15, Mrs Green
* **Playground Markings begin –** 15th May
* **Sponsored walk –** Sunday 20th May, 10.00 am Heatherslaw – Etal.
* **School Eucharist** – Church 9.30 Friday 25th May with Mr Kelsey, ALL WELCOME
* **Break up –** Friday 25th May
* **Watchtower gallery exhibition –** Berwick, art work from across the school on public display 26th May- 8th June.

**Summer 2 Term arrangements:**

* **Back to school –**Monday 4th June, 8.45
* **New playground equipment being installed**
* **Cricket, coach and club –**Fridays collect **4.15**
* **Sports day club –** Mondays 3.15 – 4.15, all Year groups (Year 4 Leaders as helpers)
* **Ford’s Got Talent –** 19th June, in-school talent show arranged by School Council – get practising!
* **Hawkhirst Residential –** Wednesday 6th –Friday 8th June
* **Raspberry Pi –** 19th June, Coding training for Mrs Green.
* **School Improvement Partner visit –** 21st June, LEA
* **Middle school transition –** Y4s to Berwick Middle and Glendale – 22nd June
* **Full Governors Meeting –** Monday 25th June
* **Newcastle Cathedral –** Wednesday 27th June Y4 Leavers Service – coach to Newcastle, packed lunch at Discovery Museum.
* **Oak and Cherry class (R, Y1, Y2) trip to Whitehouse Farm –**Tuesday 3rd July
* **Beech class trip –** Tuesday 3rd July t.b.c, Holy Island Priory as part of Vikings Topic
* **New starters parents meeting –** 4th July 3.15 – Miss Carr
* **SEN conference –**Mrs Dalrymple
* **Y4 Ford Forest afternoon –**Tuesday 10th July Partnership transition with Richard Wood
* **Year 4 Leavers Assembly 9.00–** Wednesday 18th July
* **Sports day and PTA BBQ afternoon –** Friday 20th July, 1.00, on the field – All welcome, final day.
* **Break up –** Friday 20th July
* **Back to school –** Wednesday 5th September, 8.45

There will also be additional transition dates to Middle school for some individuals, pre-school transition visits, ‘moving up’ visits to new classes, and final reports to parents.

There is copy of this letter on the school website and dates are also on the website calendar.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns please contact us directly as soon as possible. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Dalrymple

**STEM club – Mondays 3.15 – 4.15**

**I give permission for my child (Y2-Y4) to attend STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) club**

**Signed ………………………………………………………………….Date……………………………….**

**Sports Day club – Tuesdays 3.15 – 4.15**

**I give permission for my child (R-Y4) to attend Sports day Club ( a fun club practising skills and games for Sports Day) with Miss Carr and Y4 leaders:**

**Signed ………………………………………………………………….Date……………………………….**

**Cricket club – Fridays 3.15 – 4.15**

**I give permission for my child (Y1 – 4) to attend Cricket club:**

**Signed ………………………………………………………………….Date…………………………**