



Nelson Primary School

Inspiring Ambition, Achieving  
Success

# Newsletter

Issue 1 Monday 9th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for the new school year.

We have some new members of staff to welcome also I hope you will make them welcome.

Sahanaz Begom	- PA & Office Manager
Rebecca Brown	- Teacher
Sara Shereif	- Teacher
Emily Jane Webb	- Teacher
Lubna Malik	- Teaching Assistant
Catherine Nesarajah	- Teaching Assistant

It is lovely to see all the children wearing the correct uniform; this helps children to have a sense of identity but also ensures that children aren't judging each other about designer clothing. Please remember what we said at the end of last year; back packs are not school bags. This is because we do not have enough room to store them in the cloakrooms. I have asked staff on the doors to give them back to parents to take home. You can buy school bags via Parent Mail.

## ParentMail

This is the phone app based system that we use to communicate with Parents.

Parents can use the app to buy items and give permission for educational visits etc. You can also register your child's absence on ParentMail.

If you have not registered for ParentMail, please ensure you have done this as soon as possible. This will ensure that you will receive information promptly. It is a very easy system and the office staff are happy to help you with any queries that you may have.

This year our free after school clubs will be organised via ParentMail. Please make sure you get signed up so your child doesn't miss out on these opportunities.

## Roll of Honour

This is a special board next to Ms Cull's office.

If a child does something special outside school or becomes a times table titan or a Maths Magician their photograph will be displayed for everyone to see.

Congratulations to Anisa from T4 for passing the Hip Hop and Street Dance exams.

## Reading Wristbands

We have decided not to continue with our reading wristband system. There is no change to the requirement to read every night but now children will complete a quiz when they have read the books instead. This is to ensure they have understood what they have read. Each half term the children will take a star test to determine which level your child will be reading at. At the learning review days you will be given a report telling you how many quizzes they have passed and targets for them to work towards. We will be holding a meeting to explain all this in the near future.

## Bike sheds

If your child would like to ride their bike or scooter to school they can. However, they must be left in the bike sheds in the playgrounds. I suggest that you use a lock to lock them in the sheds too.

**All bikes and scooters are left at the owners risk. We do not take responsibility for any loss or damage.**

## The Importance of Excellent Attendance

Remember we take attendance very seriously at Nelson Primary – if you are not in school you are missing out on all of the amazing things happening ... as well as seeing your friends!

190 days 100% Very best chance of success	183 days 96% Off to a flying start	179 days 94% Less chance of success	175 days 92% Harder to make progress	Over 18 days absence Less than 90% Persistent Absentee (Unfair to your child)
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Attendance percentages for last academic year.

### Term Time Leave

Nurs AM	90.68%
Nurs PM	85.10%
Reception	93.36%
Year 1	91.73%
Year 2	95.16%
Year 3	95.80%
Year 4	95.69%
Year 5	96.01%
Year 6	95.67%

Changes in the law mean that the Head Teacher no longer has discretion to allow pupils to take term time leave. If you take your child out of school for any reason you will receive a fine for £60 per child per parent. This means that the mum will be fined £60 for each child and the dad will be fined £60 for each child.

The government monitors school attendance. They look at persistent absence. If your child has attendance of 90% or less they are deemed persistent absences and we are asked to follow this up and refer to the Local Authority who could take you to court. At court, the penalty is either a very large fine, £1000, or imprisonment.

Please avoid keeping your child off school unless they are very sick and certainly **DO NOT TAKE THEM OUT OF SCHOOL WHEN THE SCHOOL IS OPEN**. Please wait until the holidays

### Dates for your diary

	Holiday dates	School start date
Half Term INSET Day	Monday 21 October 2019 to Friday 25 October 2019 Monday 28 October 2019	Monday 29 October 2019
Christmas Break	Monday 23 December 2019 to Friday 3 January 2020	Monday 6 January 2020
Half Term	Monday 17 February 2020 to Friday 21 February 2020	Monday 24 February 2020
Spring Break	Monday 6 April 2020 to Friday 17 April 2020	Monday 20 April 2020
Half Term	Monday 25 May 2020 to Friday 29 May 2020	Monday 1 June 2020
May Day	Monday 4 May 2020	Tuesday 5 May 2020
Summer Break	Thursday 23 July 2020 to <i>To be advised</i>	

Please note that there will be two more INSET days, which will be confirmed later on this year.