

# Seaburn Dene

## Primary School

HEADTEACHER : MR J K HOWE

TORVER CRES.  
SEABURN DENE  
SUNDERLAND  
TYNE AND WEAR  
SR6 8LG

TEL (0191) 5634100  
[admin@seaburndenepriamry.co.uk](mailto:admin@seaburndenepriamry.co.uk)  
<http://www.seaburndenepriamry.co.uk>

4th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the new school year. I hope that you have had a happy and safe holiday. A warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families, we hope that they settle quickly into school life and enjoy their time with us at Seaburn Dene. Please remember that school starts at 8.50am (8.45am for Nursery) and ensure your child is on time, so that lessons can start promptly.

### School Start Times

This academic year, school years R-6 begin at **8.50am**. The gates will be open to the main yard for Years 2-6 from 8.45am, where children will be supervised. Likewise, the smaller yard will be open for parents to bring their children in from 8.45am.

Nursery morning sessions will commence at **8.45am**.

For the rest of school, the bell will ring at **8.50am**. There is no change to the end of day arrangements, the school day ends at **3.20pm**.

### Uniform

All children are expected to wear full uniform in line with our expectations. We really appreciate your support in this matter as all our children look incredibly smart.

Children may wear school PE kits on PE days for the full day to reduce changing issues in the classroom. Your class teacher will let you know when these sessions are on. Please ensure ALL clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name.

### Parking

As you may be aware, Torver Crescent is particularly busy at the beginning and end of the school day, for both ourselves and Monkwearmouth Academy. We ask that you be respectful when parking your cars during drop off and collection and do not block residents' driveways.

It is illegal to park on the yellow zig zag lines outside of the school; parking opposite these lines is also dangerous. Throughout the year, we actively encourage children and families to make active journeys to school through our Travel Tracker award scheme.



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## Staffing News

As you know, this week we welcome one new member of staff to Seaburn Dene - Mrs Golding in Y2. I know she is looking forward to starting the new school year with our children.

## Allergies

We currently have children in school with severe nut allergies. Please ensure that you do not send any nut products in your children's lunch boxes, this includes Nutella (and similar chocolate spreads) and of course peanut butter.

## Addresses/ Telephone numbers

Please remember to inform school if you have changed your address and/ or phone number (including mobile phones.)

## Pupil Premium

As you may know, we receive additional funding for every child who is entitled to free school meals (or would be if the meals were not provided free of charge to all children in Reception and Key Stage 1.) This money is used to benefit our children, through allowing access to extra-curricular activities such as residential visits, music tuition, additional training for staff and further support in school.

If there have been any changes in your circumstances that might mean your child would be entitled to and able to benefit from this, please contact the office and Mrs Baker will take you through the procedures to apply for the premium.

## Communication

While Class Dojo is our main platform to communicate with parents/ carers, the school website is regularly updated with new information ([www.seaburndeneprimary.co.uk](http://www.seaburndeneprimary.co.uk)) Our staff will do their very best to answer your questions promptly, our expectation is that staff respond within 24 hours. Their main priority will be to be present with the children during the day, so they are unable to respond during teaching time. If there is an urgent message you would like us to know about, please contact the school office.

## Holidays

I would like to remind parents that the law gives no entitlement to parents to take their children on holiday during term time. As headteacher, I no longer have the authority to authorise absences for holidays or related activities, unless there are exceptional circumstances. I would not be expected to class any term time holidays as exceptional. This being the case, any requests for term time holidays will be declined and any subsequent absences will be recorded as unauthorised. Please do not take holidays in term time to avoid any misunderstanding.



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### Other information

- Bags/ pencil cases - children will be supplied with the stationery they need in school- pencil cases are optional. Large bags take up a lot of our limited room in cloakrooms, please consider their size and whether they are necessary.
- Mobile phones/walking home unaccompanied. Children in Yrs 5 and 6 may bring a mobile phone with them to school, **if walking unaccompanied home**. Phones must be switched off before coming onto school grounds and handing to a class teacher to store. If you intend for your child to take up this offer then contact the school office/Mrs Baker for a request form. This must be completed before your child brings a phone with them when walking into school.
- FSU - parents are respectfully reminded not to allow their children to play on equipment set up for the start of the school day, while waiting in the yard. This also includes climbing on the large cable reels and the school maze.
- After School Clubs - there are no after school clubs on the first week of school. Letters will be sent out regarding the offer for the Autumn term in the first week.
- Friends of the School - The Friends of Seaburn Dene are a small, but active group of parent who work to support the life of the school as well as raising valuable funds. This term they will be helping raise additional funds to redevelop the ICT suite.
- Uniform - We have pre-loved uniform - in excellent condition - free to collect. Please contact Mrs Baker for more details.

### Dates for your diary

September 11th - Y6 Nissan Visit.

September 27th - Tyne and Wear Fire Brigade Visit - Yr 4.

October 2nd- Reception Class 2024 application period opens.

October 5th - Poetry Recital

October 6th - Parent Panel meeting in school, 2.30pm.

October 12th - Harvest Festival, donations to Sunderland Community Soup Kitchen.

October 16th - Derwent Hill Residential Y6.

October 18th - Sports Hall Athletics - Y5/6

October 20th - Non-uniform day - bottle tombola, Break Up - Half Term.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. I wish everyone a happy and successful new school year.

Kind regards,

Mr John Howe  
Headteacher



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