

Seaburn Dene

Primary School

HEADTEACHER : MR J K HOWE

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to Spring Term 2024! I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new families joining us at Seaburn Dene Primary School tomorrow and beginning their journey as part of our school family - we look forward to meeting and getting to know your child. This term is jam-packed with exciting learning opportunities and events, which we will update via our website and Class Dojo this week.

Primary School applications are open

The closing date for applications to apply for our Reception 2024 class is **Monday, January 15th**. If your application is received after this date, it will reduce your chance of being offered your preferred school. If you haven't already done so, the online portal is <https://emsonline.sunderland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal/en> - once you have applied, you will receive an email confirmation about your child's school place sooner than if you apply by paper application form. The national offer day is **16th April 2024**. If you have any questions or queries, please contact Mrs Baker in the school office.

Contact Updates

Some lucky people may have been gifted a new mobile phone at Christmas or might have created a new email account. One or two of you may even have moved home. Please can we request that you update the school office ASAP with any new details so that all phone calls and emails are made to the correct address. If you feel that your emergency contacts have changed since August, please can you also let us know who should be removed from your child's file and the details of the replacement contact. Many thanks for this.

Attendance

We are working really hard to ensure that attendance and punctuality remains high across school. Please remember that good attendance is crucial and that most minor ailments (e.g. a cold, tiredness) can be dealt with at school. We regularly speak to the children about the importance of punctuality and good attendance even if we are not feeling 100%. Please remember that your child must arrive at a good time to enter school at **8:50am for registration in class (Yrs R-6)** and the school gates will close at **8:55am**. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Term Dates

The spring term is often a time when people look to book their annual holidays. If you are planning a trip this year, please do check our school's website for our term dates to ensure that you are referencing the correct



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term dates. We will aim to upload the next academic year (2024-25), once we have received the finalised version from Together for Children. We set our own term dates, in agreement with other maintained schools in Sunderland, however some schools, e.g. academies and other authorities do not follow suit, particularly when it comes to February half term and INSET days. Also, please be aware that unless there are exceptional circumstances, holidays during term time cannot be authorised.

General

We are always left with a huge amount of unclaimed clothing (without names.) Please ensure that ALL your child's clothing, from ties to shoes and coats, are appropriately named. There are no clubs in the first week of term.

Finally, please remember that if you have any concerns or queries at all as the term progresses, do contact the school office. Your child's class teacher will usually be your first port of call but me or Mr Smith are out on the playground most days, and are very happy to deal with any concerns you may have.

Kind regards,

Mr John Howe
Head Teacher

