



'Respectful and resilient; being the best that we can be.'

Timothy Hackworth Primary School



Wednesday 11th February, 2026

Parent and Carer Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our information update.



Dates for your Diary

This colour means a whole school event.

This colour means an event for (a) specific year group(s).

This colour means school holiday opening/closing dates and staff training days.

Spring Term 1

Wb Monday 9th February – Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 9th February – Y1 Local Area Walk – Geography Lesson

Monday 9th February – More OPAL Zones introduced – Small World Zone and Parachute Zone

Tuesday 10th February – Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February – Non-Uniform Day – Children's Mental Health Week

Friday 13th February – Silent Disco – Years 4-6

Friday 20th February – School closes for Half-Term

Spring Term 2

Monday 2nd March – School re-opens after Half-Term

Week Beginning Monday 2nd March – Y6 Parent Teacher Progress Meetings

Wednesday 4th March – Y3 Child Pedestrian Training – Day 1

Wednesday 11th March – Y3 Child Pedestrian Training – Day 2

Friday 20th March – Red Nose Day – Wear red! Non-school uniform day.



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Week Beginning Monday 23rd March – Parent Teacher Progress Meetings – 2s, Nursery, Reception, Years 1-5
All after school clubs and groups will be cancelled for this week.

Thursday 2nd April – School closes for Easter Holidays

Summer Term 1

Monday 20th April – School re-opens after Easter Holidays

Wednesday 6th May – Y3 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Skills Day – The Locomotion

Week Beginning Monday 11th May – Y6 SATs Week

Friday 22nd May – Staff Training Day – School Closed

Week Beginning Monday 25th May – Half-Term

Summer Term 2

Monday 1st June – School re-opens after Half-Term

Further dates will be shared as part of the next update letter.



[Gold Rights Respecting School Reaccreditation – We are gold again!](#)

[CRC Article 29 – All children have the right to be the best that they can be.](#)

As you will be aware from the information shared last week, we continue to be a Gold Level Rights Respecting School – hurrah!

Your children were a real credit to you when we had our assessment day; we are very proud of them.

More information to follow regarding a special event to celebrate our good news!



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NSPCC Number Day

[CRC Article 28 – All children have the right to learn.](#)

[CRC Article 19 – All children have the right to be safe.](#)

We had great fun last Friday on our Number Day! The children enjoyed completing their exciting Maths activities whilst wearing green, in support of the children's charity, NSPCC. Thank you for all of your kind donations. We raised £69.30 for the NSPCC.

Congratulations to the following children for their amazing achievements in the NSPCC Rocks Times Table School Battle:

Winner – Nylah – Year 5

2nd Place – Zayden – Year 5

3rd Place – Sebastian – Year 5

Well done, Year 5! Wow!



Welcome to our new School Business Manager

Mrs. McGrath joins us on Monday 9th February as our new School Business Manager. Mrs. McGrath is looking forward to joining our school and working with you.



OPAL Zones

[CRC Article 31 – All children have the right to play and rest.](#)

The children are thoroughly enjoying their OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) lunchtimes. The Small World and Parachute Zones will be introduced on Monday. Our recent OPAL Assembly, led by Mrs. Simpson-May, introduced these new zones to the children.

We will continue to share OPAL updates with you and are excited about these developments.



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Pupil Progress Meetings with Teachers

CRC Article 28 – All children have the right to learn.

Our Parent Teacher Progress Meetings will be held week beginning Monday 23rd March. Appointment times for meetings will shortly be released for you to book with your child's class teacher.

For parents and carers of Year 6 children, these meetings will be held earlier, week beginning Monday 2nd March. This is so that useful assessment information can be shared with parents in advance of the Y6 SATs tests in May. Appointment times for meetings will be released this week for you to book.



Safer Eating

CRC Article 19 – All children have the right to be safe.

You may well be aware that Safer Eating practices, with a specific focus on children in the Early Years, aged 2-5, are very high profile in schools currently. The reason for this is to prevent children choking on their food.

As a result of the Safer Eating procedures, and to avoid any potential incidents of children gagging or choking on food, children no longer take their school fruit snacks outside when playing. All snack items, including bagels, are eaten in classrooms.

If your child has a packed lunch in school, please ensure that grapes are cut in half, and any vegetables are chopped into small pieces as recommended in the attached information.

We have also purchased a device which is situated in our Dining Hall to be used if a child chokes or gags on their food.

All of our lunchtime staff are First Aid trained and Safer Eating practices are shared with all staff.

If you have any questions about this, please contact our School Office, or ask your child's class teacher for more information.

If you have any questions that you would like to ask us, please contact our School Office on 01388 772959 where Mrs. Doughty, Mrs. Wilkinson and Mrs. Heslop will be pleased to help you, or, alternatively, you can send us an email to timothyhackworth@durhamlearning.net

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Boulton

Head Teacher

Mrs. Simpson-May

Deputy Head Teacher