



# **BYERS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

## **WEDNESDAY 24 MAY 2017**

Dear Parents,

Please note the following:

### **COFFEE AFTERNOON – FRIDAY 26 MAY**

There will be a coffee afternoon on the last day of this half term beginning at 1.15pm. Book club will run as usual. As always, we really appreciate the donations we receive towards our raffle and refreshment stall.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Please make a note of these upcoming events:

- Class 3 Assembly - Thursday 22 June at 9.15am
- Class 2 Assembly - Thursday 6 July at 9.15am
- New starters/Moving up Morning – Tuesday 11 July
- Class 1 Assembly - Thursday 13 July at 9.15am
- Whole school trip to Seaburn Beach – Friday 14 July
- Sports Day/Coffee Afternoon – Monday 17 July at 1.15pm
- Class 4 (including Y6 Leavers) Assembly - Thursday 20 July at 9.15am

### **WATER SAFETY**

Please see the information below from Durham County Council in relation to ‘cold water shock’:

Jumping into rivers without acclimatising can kill. Being suddenly immersed in cold water can cause you to have a heart attack and die. The change in temperature can also lead to a gasp response where you could breathe in water, get into a panic and drown.

Drowning is one of the major causes of adolescent deaths worldwide. An estimated 57,000 ten to nineteen-year-olds drowned across the globe in 2015 – two thirds of them boys.

Fourteen year old Cameron Gosling never came home after jumping into the river without acclimatising, while playing with friends one sunny day. The lives of those closest to him will never be the same again. His family has no routine or structure and his brother goes to sleep every night listening to Cameron’s funeral music. Some of his friends have been taken out of mainstream school, friendships have suffered and there have even been thoughts of suicide.

Cameron’s mum Fiona has been left wishing she had spoken to her son about ‘cold water shock,’ believing he would still be here if they had had that chat.

Do your children know about the dangers of jumping into rivers? Do you?

Please learn about cold water shock and have the conversation with your children that Fiona will forever regret not having with Cameron.

You can find out more at:

[www.durham.gov.uk/dyingtobecool](http://www.durham.gov.uk/dyingtobecool)

and

[www.durham.gov.uk/article/7833/Stay-safe-in-or-near-open-water](http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/7833/Stay-safe-in-or-near-open-water)

### **STAFF UPDATE**

As you may already be aware, Miss Dodds will start her maternity leave this Friday. I am sure you will join with me in wishing her all the best for the remainder of her pregnancy and for the safe delivery of her baby at some point in the near future.

Mr Grant (Durham University PGCE student), who is currently completing his final placement at our school, will continue to teach Class 4 for the remainder of the summer term. In September he will take up the post of class teacher at a primary school in Durham City. We wish him all the best for his future career.

Mrs Rose, who has been working at our school for the last 4 years, will be relocating with her husband to London during the summer break. She has been promoted to the post of class teacher with additional management responsibility at a primary school in the Wood Green area and will take up her new position there in September. As she still has seven fun-filled weeks at our school, I will save my goodbyes, thanks and good wishes until the end of term!

In light of Miss Dodds' maternity leave and Mrs Rose's relocation, our governing body has appointed two new KS2 teachers for the new academic year. We are currently carrying out the statutory pre-employment checks and I will be able to provide you with more information about our new teachers and the class organisation for September shortly after the half-term break.

For the period of Miss Dodds' maternity leave, Miss Forth will become Acting Deputy Headteacher; a role with which she is familiar, having undertaken that position at her previous school. I look forward to working with Miss Forth to continue to provide the very best educational experience for all the children in our care.

### **HALF-TERM HOLIDAY**

School will close for the half-term holiday on **Friday 26 May 2017 at 3.15pm**. We return on **Tuesday 6 June 2017**.

**Mr W. Kirtley (Headteacher)**