



Our school breaks up today, Thursday 2nd April for the Easter Holidays. Pupils and staff return to school on Monday 20th April for the beginning of the Summer term. We then have a five week period before half term which this year takes place week commencing Monday 25th May.

Use of Social Media – Twitter & Facebook, Snapchat & Instagram

In this era where technology is a driver of social communication both children and their parents/carers use Facebook, Twitter and the like to freely communicate between selected 'friends' or contacts. Occasionally we have had examples here in our school where parents have used social media to make public comments about the school and named staff who work here. The school has a zero tolerance towards parents who name members of staff in a libelous or defamatory manner and in each case the police and our legal advisors are involved to address the issue.

Yesterday some ridiculous person posted a comment on Facebook claiming two Carr Hill children had been 'lost' in Saltwell Park following the Y1/2 Easter Egg Hunt. This created quite a stir, as you can imagine, amongst parents who read the posting. **THIS WAS TOTALLY UNTRUE** and a malicious attempt to slur the name of our school. Thank you to our parent who telephoned the school to make us aware of the posting. If you use Facebook/Twitter etc. you have a social responsibility to take caution when posting comments whether it's about school dinners, homework or whatever.

Boccia Tournament

Boccia (pronounced "bot-cha") is one of the three Paralympic sports that does not have an Olympic sport equivalent. It requires skill, accuracy and technique to get your ball closer to the jack than your opponent. It is a sport that can be played by everyone. However, at Paralympic level it is played by athletes using their wheelchairs. Boccia is quite similar to bowls.

Some of our pupils took part in this event during the Tyne & Wear Sainsbury's School Games and made it to the County Finals at Northumbria University last week.

Our team finished in 3rd Place and received bronze medals for their fantastic achievement.

Well done to Poppy Tron, Wayne Garbutt and Simon Martin – Carr Hill's Boccia Team 2015!

National School Sport Week

National School Sport Week takes place from 22nd until 26th June 2015 - time to get your sports kit on!

The event is organised by the Youth Sport Trust and is the largest celebration of school sport. Millions of school children and young people have taken part since the event was first held in 2008!

The activities we will be organising are a great way to get our children involved in sports. All children will be asked to wear their PE Kit to school for the whole of this week and they will participate in a wide variety of sports every day.

More sport + activity = healthier young people!

Tyne & Wear School Games

TOP Sportsability is a unique inclusive activities programme developed for schools to help engage young people in sport activities.

Carr Hill's Team made it through to the County Finals last week and finished in 1st Place, receiving gold medals for their outstanding performance.

A massive congratulations to Wayne Garbutt, Poppy Tron, Kyle Townsend, Kieran Stanton, Faith Hewitt, Sam Crozier and Sean Geddes who represented Tyne & Wear (and Carr Hill School) magnificently.

Breakfast Club / After School Clubs

Our Breakfast Club and After School Clubs will restart on Monday 20th April.

Don't forget that children are not allowed into school before 8.00 am so please don't allow your child to come to the school entrance before then.

Dance Festival

Pupils from Gateshead Schools took to the stage at The Sage on 18th March, to showcase their work in dance. Carr Hill's Year 3 children performed a routine called 'Matilda's Magical Mayhem'.

Pupils were also invited to design some artwork which could then be used for the front cover of the Programme. More than 1,000 entries were received and our Courtney-Leigh Webster's artwork won – well done Courtney-Leigh!

Not only did her artwork feature on the Programme but she also received some lovely gifts and the school received a £200 donation to go towards any future activities/events.



Sainsbury's Vouchers

Don't forget that we are collect Sainsbury's Vouchers so if you or your family/friends shop at Sainsbury's, would you please send or bring any vouchers received into school.

So far, we have received 2,088 vouchers from parents/staff – let's see how many more we can get before the scheme closes on 5th May 2015.

School Savings Account

Thank you to those pupils who are using the School Savings Account to save their pennies, it's proving to be very popular.

Can parents note that if pupils wish to withdraw money from their account they need to bring in a "Withdrawal of Funds" form which a parent has to sign to authorise the withdrawal.

But please, try and encourage your child to keep saving until they have a nice sum of money to spend!

"Withdrawal of Funds" forms are available from the school office at any time.

Dates to Remember

Please remember that:-

- Year 6 pupils will take their Key Stage 2 SATs week commencing 11th May 2015;
- Years 3, 4 and 5 will have their optional SATs during w/c 18th May 2015, and
- Year 2 pupils have ongoing Key Stage 1 assessments throughout May and June 2015.

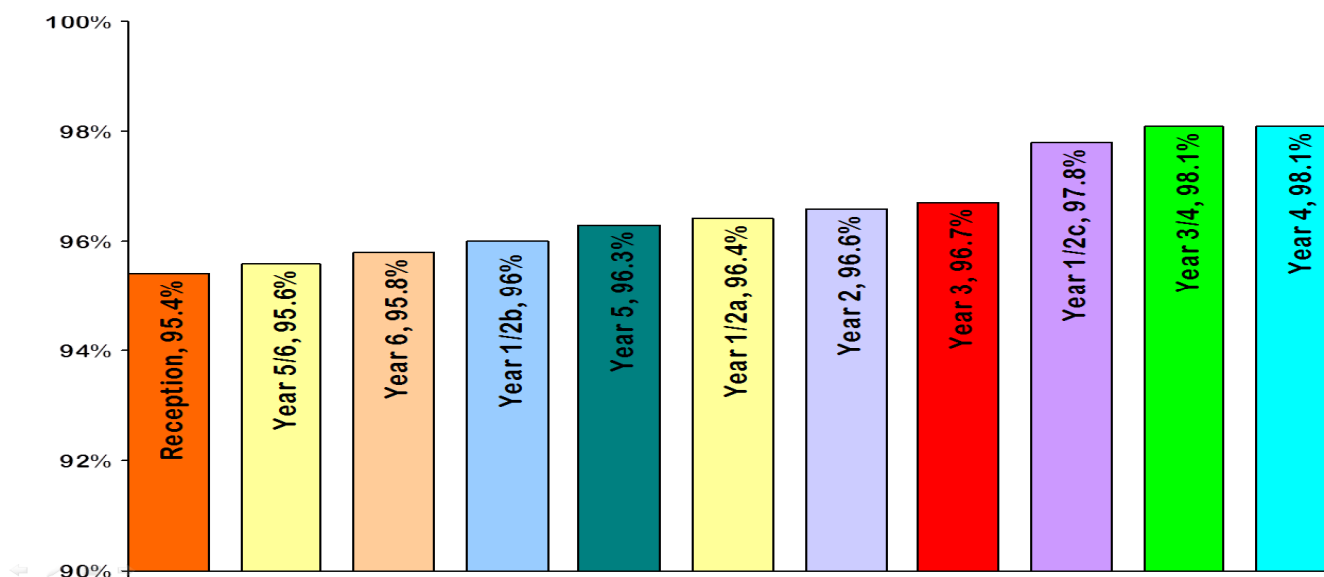
As there is no authorised absence for holidays taken in term time we would expect all of our children to attend school during these weeks unless they are genuinely ill and can't come to school to complete their assessment work.

Change to Pupil Contact Details

Please don't forget that, if you change your contact details, you need to inform the school office so that we can update our records.

Attendance – Spring term 2015

The whole school percentage attendance for this half term, from 5th January until Tuesday 1st April, is 96.5% - lets keep this up during the rest of the school year. Here is the attendance data, class by class. Congratulations to Mrs Mill's Year 4 Class who have the highest percentage attendance this term, at 98.1%. We have 56 pupils who still have 100% attendance so far this school year.



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2014/2015

Summer Term

Monday 20th April until Friday 17th July 2015

Bank holiday – 4th May 2015

Half term 25th – 29th May 2015

Occasional Day – Monday 22nd June 2015

Staff Training Day – Friday 17th July 2015