

Term 1

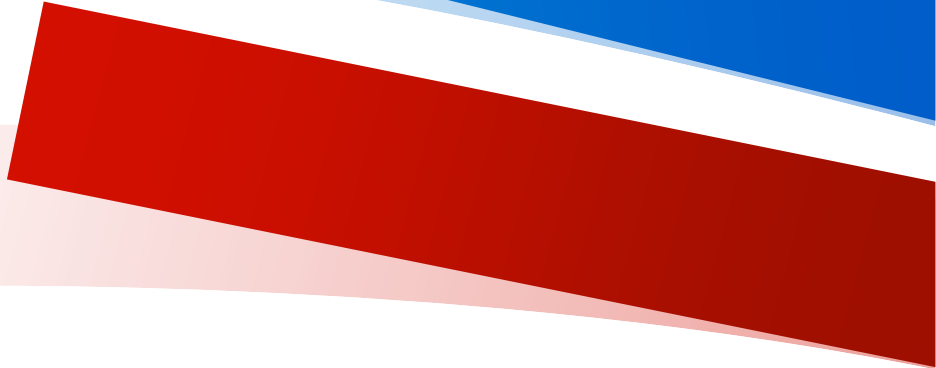
OPENING DOORS



OPENING MINDS



Spires Federation



Dear Parents and Careers,



Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year! We have been thrilled with how all the children have returned with a smile and are calm and settled. It is lovely to see our new reception children skipping into school and smiling each day and being so independent this early on.

Staff have worked exceptionally hard over the summer and the environments in all three schools are looking great! We have had many visitors across the Federation over the last few weeks and they have complimented how amazing the schools are looking and how fabulous the behaviour and attitudes of the pupils is.

As you will know from our updates last year, we are continuing to work closely with Infinity Academies Trust and they have already been in school this term. They were very impressed with so many aspects of our Federation and we look forward to working more closely with them as the year progresses.

This next term, brings lots of exciting adventures for our three schools and we cannot wait to share them with you. Please keep an eye on Dates For Your Diary and watch out for PMX's which will give more information. Next week, brings the first Parent's Evening of the year and the staff are looking forward to sharing how well the children have settled and how you can support them further at home. If you are remotely joining us on Teams, please check you are able to log on prior to the appointment and let us know if you have any difficulties.

Thank you as always for your support and kind words.

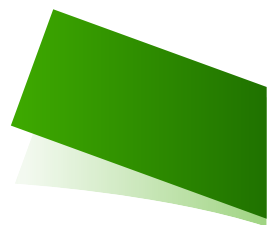
Miss Winters



Mrs Toulson



Miss Vaughan





Apples

Term 1

Apples have enjoyed a very quick paced return to school.

We have all settled well into our routines and lessons.

Green Apples have had a great time learning "all about me" and developing their phonics skills and then practicing those skills in the provision.

Red and Yellow Apples have been learning about maps and directions in Geography and Animals including humans in science. They really have enjoyed exploring these topics and singing about them too.





Green Apples loved learning about healthy teeth!



Apples really loved our Curling enrichment.



Apples have been learning about Nouns and verbs.



Green Apples have been developing their understanding of feelings and how our bodies feel when things happen.

Apple Class



Oak

Term 1

What an amazing start to the year. The new Oak class have settled into year 3 and 4 so well. We have been very busy learning lots of new things, from light to all about Mount Everest. In music we have enjoyed learning the start of 3 little birds by Bob Marley on the steel pans. We have enjoyed a golf competition, where the year 4's showed off some amazing natural talent. We also got to experience Kurling for the first time. We cannot wait to see what the next term brings us!





Oak Class





Redwood

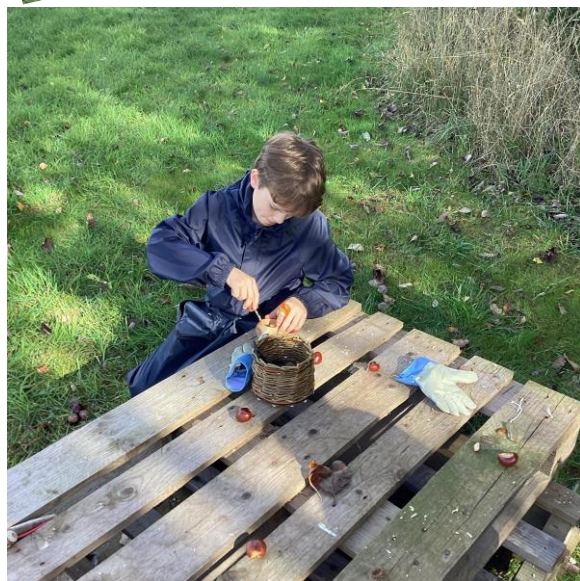
Term 1

Redwood have hit the ground running with their geography learning about mountains. They've really enjoyed learning all about Everest and the story of Edmund and Tenzing (the first people to reach the summit). In science, we've been investigating light and have carried out some fascinating investigations. In English, we've spent time understanding the place value of punctuation and grammar and are now writing non-chronological reports to show off our geography knowledge. In maths, we've also begun with place value, alongside multiplication and division. We've used our sketching skills to create portraits and we loved the kurling enrichment. We also managed to fit in a 3-day story telling workshop culminating in a performance to the whole school. We've been so busy!



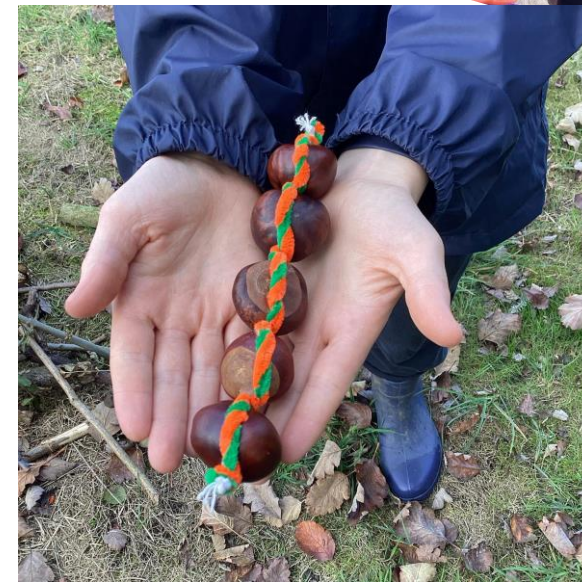
Thank you for visiting the children had a great time asking questions and performing 🙌👏

Tickets to Billy Shugster



Redwood Class

Forest School has now officially begun at Dunston and Year 6 are the first to have a go.



Things happening at Dunston

DUNSTON ST PETER'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY OPEN DAY

Join us for our open days and meet our dedicated, nurturing teachers, explore our Forest School facilities, and get a glimpse of the exciting curriculum we offer.

Did you know we offer full wrap around care from 7.30am to 6pm?

Date : Thursday 10th and 31st October 2024

Time : at 9 AM – 5 PM

Location : Dunston St Peter's Back Lane, Dunston, LN4 2EH

CONTACT:
www.spirefederation.co.uk
01526 320027

Don't miss this chance to be a part of our school community and take the first step towards your child's brighter future!

OPENING DOORS  OPENING MINDS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need your help!

Friends of Dunston School (FODS) PTA is recruiting a chairperson and helpers for the 2024/2025 school year.

FUNDRAISING | EVENT ORGANISATION | SCHOOL SUPPORT

Please come along to our next AGM meeting to show your support, get involved and help the school raise much needed funds for equipment and resources.

Tuesday 15th October 2024
18:30
at Dunston St Peters School



We desperately need volunteers. Without your help, we will be unable to continue running fun events for our children. We are a friendly team, open to new ideas. You do not need to commit to everything – just do what you can, when you can! Parents, guardians and grandparents welcome.

School Office

Ms Jo Hayward is the school administrator and can be contacted on

01526 320027 or
admin@spiresfederation.co.uk

School Gate

The school gate is open from 08:45am each morning. If you are late, please ensure that you sign your child in at reception

School office

The School office is manned from 08:45am to 3:20pm

Attendance

Apples - 98.09%
Oak - 97.05%
Redwood - 97.35%
Whole school - 97.67%

Contacting the school via email

Please use the admin@spiresfederation.co.uk email when contacting the school

Thank You!

Attendance Matters

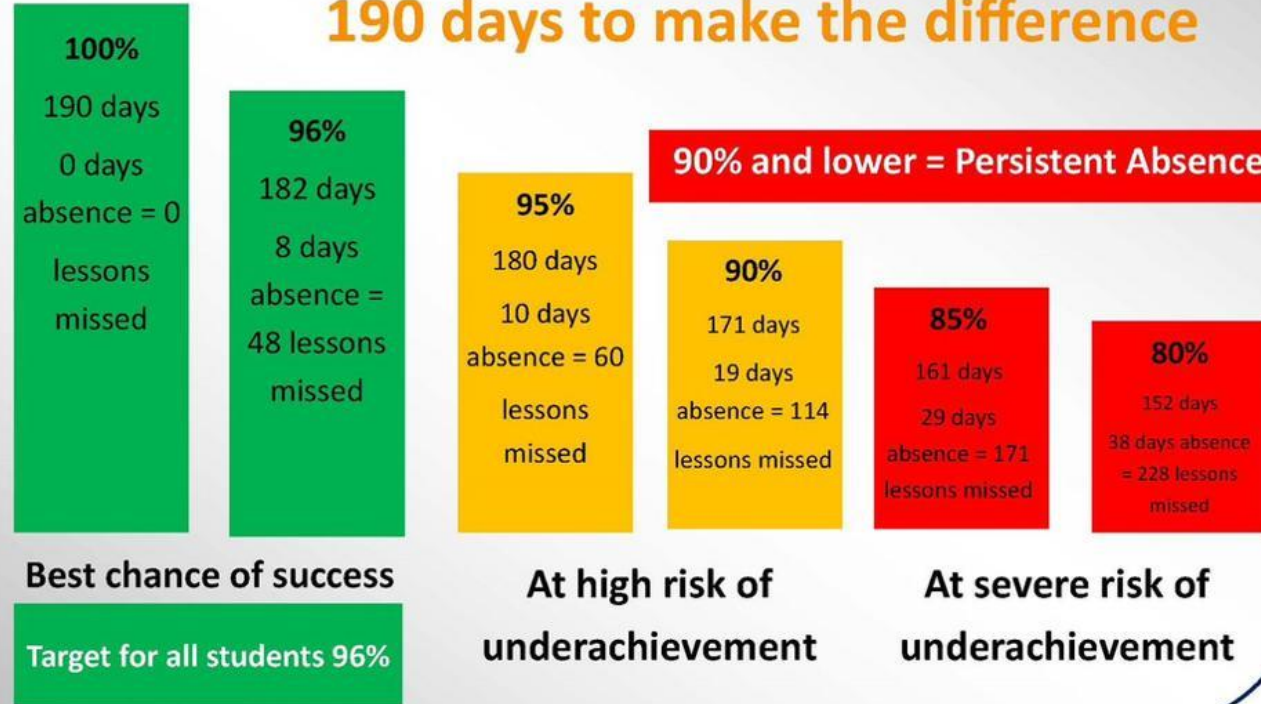
Good attendance means

Being in school at least 96% of the time or 180 to 190 days

365 days in a calendar year

175 days not in school for holidays, appointments, exercise

190 days to make the difference



Attend school regularly, attend school punctually, attend school prepared!

ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = 2 Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

4

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

2ND TIME

2 parents and 1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.
A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
	Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	

Wrap Around Care (WAC)



Wrap Around Care

Before and After School Childcare

2024/25

Our three schools offer wrap-around childcare provision for families. You may book the day and section of time that suits you. Bookings are made up to three days prior through our Parentmail payments system, with an up-front charge to cover the period booked. If you will be paying using Tax Free Childcare Vouchers, please select the box on PMX to make us aware.

Breakfast Time

For those children attending a before school session we will provide a variety of cereals, yoghurts and fruit, along with the option of toast for their breakfast. This will help them start their day on a nice full tummy. We aim to meet all dietary requirements, so please communicate with the WAC supervisor if you need an adjusted food provision.

If you book a 'drop-off' session only, breakfast is not provided.

After School Time

Following our school healthy eating approach, we offer the children a light, healthy snack and fruit to keep them full until you arrive to take them home for their family meal. We understand the importance of making sure the children are nutritionally balanced and will endeavor to make sure we fulfil those needs. Drinks and fruit will always be available throughout all sessions.

Medication

Should your child need to take any medication whilst at clubs please use the standard school medication form and inform us immediately.

Opening Times

We are delighted to now offer wrap around care as follows (new times and prices for 24/25):

Wrap Around Care (WAC)



Opening Times

We are delighted to now offer wrap around care as follows (new times and prices for 24/25):

WAC Session	Time	Price
Breakfast Club	7:30am - 8:50am	£5
Drop off Only	8:20am - 8:50am	£2.50
After School Club (early twilight)	3:20pm - 4:20pm	£4.50
After School Club (late twilight)	3:20pm - 6pm (Mon-Thurs) 3:20pm - 5:20pm (Fri)	£10

Ideally please book and pay before term starts to secure your place. We will try to accommodate late bookings – please contact the school office.

Clubs Staff

Miss Urquhart	Dunston
Mrs Butler	Dunston
Mrs Colley	Dunston
Mrs Elliott	Digby
Miss Thompson-Dowse	Nocton

Please call the school office if you have any queries.

For billing queries, please email admin@spiresfederation.co.uk specifying which school your query relates to.

Wrap Around Care (WAC)

A blue banner with a white shadow, containing the text 'Wrap Around Care (WAC)' in white. The banner is tilted upwards from left to right.

WAC out of school hours contact

If you need to contact the WAC Co-Ordinator after 3:30pm.
Please use the following Mobile number.

07907 372167

