



September 2023

Silver Tree Primary School and Nursery NEWSLETTER

AMAZING START!

I just wanted to write to you all to say what a fantastic bunch of children we have at Silver Tree Primary School and Nursery. As a new member of staff I have had a great number of questions and every child I have spoken to has been incredibly polite and supportive. I have been given small gifts, friendly good mornings and beautiful smiles! They have explained what they love about Silver Tree, what they are currently learning and what they would like to improve.

I have also been told that every teacher in our school is very pleased with how the children have returned from the summer holiday. Miss Ray and Miss Reynolds wanted me to add how EXTRA PROUD they are of our new starters—well done to Reception and Nursery! We cannot wait to see all you will learn and the progress you will make in our fantastic Early Years' Unit.

If you need to speak to me, do not hesitate to contact the school office and they will happily arrange an appointment. I am usually available at drop off and pick up time too, so if you spot me—just come over! I am always happy to listen.

I am already so proud to be headteacher of Silver Primary School and Nursery and I cannot wait to see where this year takes us! What an adventure we will have!

Mrs. Grainger



GOODBYE TO MRS BROWN

On Friday 22nd September, our school said goodbye to Mrs. Brown from the school office. We had a special assembly and the children and staff presented a card and gifts to thank Mrs. Brown for all of her hard work.

We are currently advertising for a replacement, but while we do this—please be mindful that Mrs. Pearson will be running the office alone! If we fall below the standards you expect, please let us know. But be rest assured—we will be doing our absolute best!

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH SCHOOL

This year we will be communicating with our families in the following ways:

- Letter, telephone call, email and text
- Early Years will continue to use CLASS DOJO to send information, including photos and activities from school to home.
- Year 1-6 will use the school FACEBOOK account to share learning from school to home.

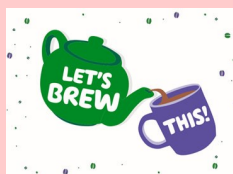
If you would like to contact school, the following ways are accepted:

- School Text through TEACHERS2PARENT
- School email silvertree@durhamlearning.net
- School phone 0191 373 0622

We really do want to know if there is an issue we can help you with and that is why we have made the communication pathways with school clear. We hope you continue to use these methods to contact school when needed. Please speak with Mrs. Grainger if you need any further information regarding this.

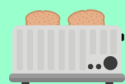
MACMILLAN COFFEE EVENT

We are holding a coffee and cake session on FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER (this Friday!) in support of the fantastic cancer charity, MACMILLAN. It will take place in the Nurture Hub by the school gates, starting at 1pm. All donations collected will be given to MACMILLAN to support the fantastic work they do for families who are dealing with cancer. Please note EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club is available for all pupils in school. The club starts at 7.45am. Pupils should enter via the hall door. There is £2.40 charge per day for the club payable by ParentPay. Please remind your child about good behaviour at breakfast club!



HEALTH & SAFETY REMINDERS

To keep everyone safe, we ask that:

- Everyone who needs to cross the busy road uses our friendly crossing patrol, Mr. Tillson.
- Cars are NOT parked on the zigzags outside school. This causes a great hazard to all trying to cross the road.
- Dogs are not to be brought on to school site.
- Bikes and scooters are pushed on and off the school site and not ridden. Please ensure your child dismounts before the school gate.
- Bikes and scooters should be taken home every night.

COMING TO SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone for using the pedestrian gate to school to enter and leave school. We no longer have a one way system so please make your way around the site as you see appropriate. We have closed the car park barriers to help at these busy times.

UNIFORM

Thank you to all parents and pupils for adhering to our uniform and jewellery policies in school—our children are looking so smart! Please remember:

- Pupils should not wear earrings or any other jewellery for school. If earrings cannot be taken out, please cover them DAILY with plasters until they can be removed.
- Clear, plastic hole holders can be used.
- A basic, time telling watch is permitted. Smart watches are not permitted in school.
- Nail varnish is not allowed in school.
- School shoes should be black.
- Please also ensure all items of your child's uniform are clearly marked with their names



MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please try to make appointments outside of school hours. We do understand that you cannot always ask for a particular time—if this is the case please try to bring your child to school first to get their mark for that session. This will help your child's attendance percentage.

TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL

Please remember our sickness absence procedures. School must be informed on the first day of absence before 9.30am. If you do not make contact, Mrs. Nicholson will start to work through the contact list—ringing family members to ask where your child is! Please help Mrs. Nicholson by making contact with school before 9.30.

PLEASE DON'T BE LATE!

School starts at 8.50am prompt. It is extremely important your child arrives at school on time as work has been set for them to complete. Being 15 minutes late every morning for a week adds up to 1 hour and 15 minutes of school time lost, over a half term this is 7 and a half hours! This is more than a whole school day. Please ensure your child arrives on time and ready to learn!

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Mrs. Martin and her team are working extremely hard bringing back the school library. It is really starting to take shape. If you have any good quality children's books (suitable for age 3-11) please do not hesitate to donate them to improve our school library. Mr. Durham, our English Lead will be over the moon! We will be sharing some before and after photos soon!

WHOLE SCHOOL ART PROJECT

Mrs. Grainger has a whole school art project in mind and she needs **EVERYONE'S** help. Please can every family collect as many bottoms from plastic bottles as they can! All will be revealed...



Starting School

Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025?

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2024.

Visit www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. The easiest way to apply is online, if you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to apply for a place in Year 3 in a junior school for an older child.

Applications open 5 September 2023 and close midnight 15 January 2024.

For more information please contact

School Places and Admissions Team

🌐 www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

☎ 03000 265896

SE114/CYPS

If you would like to receive this newsletter in a different format, please contact the school office. Thank you.

Dates for your diary...

Friday 29th September	Coffee Afternoon in support of MacMillan. 1-3pm in the Nurture Building. All donations are welcome for this amazing charity. Mrs Grainger and Mrs Nicholson will be there—if you have any questions or just want a chat!
Friday 29th September	The Wellbeing for Life drop-ins will also take place. As well as having a coffee and a treat, you will also have the opportunity for a health check, find out what is available in the local area and have the opportunity to say what courses, activities and groups you would like to see in the area.
Friday 6th October	Well-being for Life in the Nurture Building (see above)
Wednesday 25th October	Open Evening in our Early Years Unit for prospective families.
Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November	Half Term Week
Tuesday 7th November	Parent Afternoon (opportunity to chat to your child's teacher, look at learning and ask any questions you may have). More information to come.

NURSERY SESSIONS

Currently we have spaces available in our beautiful Nursery. Please let family and friends know if they have children who are nearly three years old—we are happy to arrange a visit to see the amazing indoor and outdoor provision and meet our friendly staff. If you use our Nursery and would like to access additional sessions, these are also available. The cost is £12 per session and there is an additional charge for lunch. Please do not hesitate to make contact with our school office if you need a one-off session or a more regular arrangement.



FREE CHILDREN'S SPORTS CLUB

MONDAY'S

MULTISPORTS
@ THE SIR BOBBY
ROBSON CENTRE
(HALL)

AGES 4-11

WEDNESDAY'S

FOOTBALL CLUB
@ MEADOWFIELD SPORT
CENTRE 3G

AGES 4-11

THURSDAY'S

FOOTBALL CLUB @ THE
SIR BOBBY ROBSON
CENTRE (HALL)

AGES 4-7

FRIDAY'S

INDOOR FOOTBALL
@ MEADOWFIELD
SPORTS CENTRE
(HALL)

AGES 4-11



ALL CLUBS RUN 5-6PM
BOOK ON
WWW.ACTIVE2LEARN.CO.UK

OCTOBER HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS



Become a
Holiday Club
Member and
receive
reduced rates!



Simply Sport



MULTISPORTS CLUB

FOOTBALL CLUB



LEGO CLUB

WEEK 1 Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October (Catholic & Sunderland Schools)

WEEK 2 Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November (Durham Schools)

FROM ONLY £12 A DAY

OPEN 9AM - 4PM

BOOK AT WWW.SIMPLYSPORTLTD.CO.UK
BASED AT NEW FERENS PARK NEXT TO
INFINITE AIR DH1 1GG