

ESKDALE NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year!

Dear Parent/Carer,

A happy new year from everyone at Eskdale! I hope you, your families and children were able to have a relaxing Christmas break and are looking forward to 2025! It has been great to have the children back in school and ready to start another busy term. Please see the school diary that accompanies this newsletter with key dates for the term ahead.

Collecting Children From School or Clubs

We are aware that on occasion, circumstances mean that parents/carers may be late collecting their children at the end of the school day. Children will always be brought back into school after the gate on Ghost House Lane is closed for safety purposes. Please can I remind parents to contact school at the earliest opportunity to let us know if they may be late. Similarly, if parents/carers are likely to be late collecting children from after-school clubs, or give permission for their child to walk home please can they contact school as soon as possible- especially as this is often a time when staff may have other after-school commitments. If parents are frequently late to collect their children either at the end of the school day or at the end of an after-school club, then their children will be taken to S.T.A.R.S and parents/carers will be charged.



Trips/visits and Curriculum Enrichment

We are frequently looking at opportunities for your children that will enrich the curriculum and their experience at Eskdale. It may come as a surprise that we run all trips/visits at a loss to the school budget. We rely on contributions from parents/carers to support trips and visits as we cannot absorb the cost of funding all pupils. Recently, a lack of contributions from parents has put school in a position where we have had to consider cancelling an opportunity in school.

At all times we endeavour to ensure that trips and visits are affordable and inclusive. Please continue to support us in ensuring your children continue to have an outstanding quality of education.



Some Reminders:

Contact details

Please ensure that the school office is updated with any new contact details, especially any new mobile phone numbers or email addresses as these are essential in making contact in case of emergencies. Thank you.

Uniform

Please ensure your son or daughter is sent in the correct uniform, including the Eskdale school bag, to ensure we are maintaining our usual high standard across school. Can I remind parents that **trainers and jewellery that are not stud earrings are not part of school uniform.**

Attendance and punctuality

We had 94 pupils with 100% attendance for the autumn term (18 more pupils than last year!) who all received a certificate-incredible!

We want to be able to sustain excellent attendance (97% at the end of last term!) and especially at this time of year where there are a lot of illnesses flying around we ask that parents/carers continue to support school by only keeping their son or daughter off school when they are absolutely too poorly to attend or have a high temperature/fever.

Please be assured that if any minor illness complaints from pupils become more notable while they are in school we will always phone parents/carers at the earliest opportunity. We often find in the majority of cases that minor illness complaints do disappear once the children are in school!

A reminder to parents to communicate any pupil absence to the office as soon as possible. The phone at school can be answered from as early as 7:15am. Notification of absence can be shared via ParentMail (please state a specific reason rather just 'poorly'), or school can be contacted at office@eskdale.notts.sch.uk

Consistent attendance is key to children making good progress both academically and personally and increased absence from school without good reason can lead to a penalty notice.

Please remember that the gate on Ghost House Lane opens at 8:45am and closes at 8:55am. Pupils who arrive after this time must report to the school office accompanied by an adult as the school car park can get busy at this time of day with both cars and deliveries.

Please also note that arriving after 9:10am is classed as an unauthorised absence.



Communication From School

We are aware that sometimes parents/carers can feel overwhelmed by the amount of communications that they receive from school. This can often be as a result of school being busy and due to some parents/carers not reading the first communications that are shared. A reminder that ParentMail is our main line of communication but that we will also use email, MarvellousMe, our weekly menu and 'X' (formally Twitter) to share information about events in school. Please can I urge parents to read all communications (despite the volume) to ensure that important information is not missed and also avoid any unnecessary further communication to and from school. Thank you in advance for your support.



End of Last Term

Just missing the publication of the Christmas newsletter, our P.T.F.A made a fantastic £556.70 from the Christmas Quiz night-thank you once again to all who were able to support the event. On the last day of last term, pupils were treated to an online recording of the pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk' paid for by our wonderful P.T.F.A. Pupils had a great time (oh yes they did!) in a performance that exceeded expectation.

Here's looking forward to a great Eskdale 2025!

Yours sincerely,

R Scruton

Head Teacher