



Acre Rigg Infant School



February Newsletter

Communication

Every Friday, the office will send a reminder, via email, about upcoming events. Please speak to Mrs. Simcox or Miss Garrod if you would like this as a printed copy.

Parents' afternoons

Thank you to all parents/carers who came to the parent's afternoons. The meetings were well attended. They give an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss your child's progress and future targets. Our next parents' afternoons are arranged for May 2026.

Attendance - appointments

Where possible, please arrange appointments outside of school time so that children do not miss out on the school day as this has an impact on their learning.

E safety-

Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the 10th of February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme '**Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI**'. Children will take part in a range of computing activities throughout the day.

Parent Communication

In order to ensure parents/carers are receiving all communication from school, we ask that you have signed up to Marvellous Me using your child's unique code (this changes every year) and have the Teachers2Parents app installed on your mobile device. Monthly newsletters are usually sent out via email. If you require any support, please contact the school office.

School lunches

School lunches are made fresh on the premises every day. We operate a three-week menu which is available from the school office. School lunches are free for all children. If your child would like to change from school dinners onto packed lunch, please give the office two weeks' notice in order for the kitchen to make changes. Thank you for your support.

After school childcare

Our after-school childcare runs Monday to Thursday until 5:30pm and Fridays until 4:30pm. Childcare is available from reception through to year 2. It is £3.50 from 3:15p.m. – 4:30pm (£2 if they are in a club first) and £6 from 3:15pm – 5:30p.m (£5 if they are in a club first). If you would like further information please contact the school office.

Breakfast club

Our breakfast club is available from 8am Monday to Friday, no need to book just turn up on the morning. Breakfast club door closes at 8:25am, after this time parents must wait with children until their class door opens at 8:45am.

After school clubs

After school clubs are running very successfully this half term- they will continue after the half term holidays and will run until Easter. We will offer different clubs after the Easter holidays. After school clubs finish at 4pm.

Coffee Morning

We have a coffee morning on Monday 16th February at 9am. We will have speakers from The Family Hub, The Bread and Butter Thing and the School Nurse. They will be available with our Parent Support Advisor, Karen Harrison to answer any questions you may have.

The Family Hub - Family Hubs support families from pregnancy right up until your child turns 19, or 25 if they have special educational needs and disabilities. They can offer help and advice. For further information please look at: <https://familyhubsnetwork.com/>

The Bread and Butter Thing – The Bread and Butter Thing is an affordable food club which offers low cost weekly shopping bags made up of fruit and veg, fridge favourites and cupboard staples. For further information please visit: <https://www.breadandbutterthing.org/>

Please come along and they will answer any questions you may have. There will be free tea, coffee and biscuits.

Swimming gala

Easington Sports Partnership swimming gala takes place today at Peterlee Leisure Centre. Letters have gone out to children taking part. We wish them good luck.

RISE Gymnastics and Gymnastics festival

Children have been invited to take part in the RISE Gymnastics festival at East Durham College on Thursday 19th February. Letters will be sent separately to all children involved.

Year 2 Seaham Trip

This is rescheduled from last month. The trip will now take place on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th February.

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March, children will be celebrating World Book Day in school. The whole day will be dedicated to reading and book related activities. World Book Day's mission is to offer every child the opportunity to own a book for free. As part of the event every child in school will receive a free book.

All children are invited to dress up as a book character on World Book Day. This could involve a full costume or just a prop / hat (or similar) relating to a favourite book or character. One child from each class will receive a prize. Please don't feel you need to go out and buy a costume especially for this. Here are some ideas which need little to no time or money:

- wear all one colour to be a crayon from 'The Day the Crayons Quit',
- regular clothes with a golden ticket to be Charlie from 'Charlie and the chocolate factory',
- regular clothes to be 'Horrid Henry',
- regular clothes with a toy dinosaur to be Harry from 'Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs'.

If you are stuck for an idea please do reach out to us to ask.

We are also running a 'Get Caught Reading' competition with a prize for one child in each class. To enter this competition, take a photograph of your child reading a book in an unusual place and either print your photos or email them to school at acrerigginfants@durhamlearning.net with your child's class name as the subject by Thursday 5th March (World Book Day).

February half term reading challenge

There is nothing your teachers like doing more when on holiday than relaxing with a good book! This holiday we would like you to do the same. All you need to do to enter is grab a book, find a place to read and ask someone to take a photo of you. Please either print your photos or email them to school at acrerigginfants@durhamlearning.net with your child's class name as the subject by Thursday 5th March (World Book Day).

There will be a prize for one child in each class. This may be the most unusual reading spot, the cosiest reading spot, the most unusual book choice etc.

February Reading Challenge ideas:

- Create a cosy den with blankets and pillows
- Read while wearing fancy dress
- Read at the beach

Please remember to ensure all locations are safe and secure with adult supervision.

- Read to a pet
- Sitting in a supermarket trolley

Science week

The week beginning 9th March is Science week. Parents and carers are invited into school for one session during the week to work with their child. This year we will be celebrating British Science Week by exploring 'Curiosity: What's your question?' Parents/ guardians are invited in to support their child with a range of investigations. Please save the date – we will send a separate letter closer to the time.

	10th March	11th March	12th March	13th March
AM 9.30am	Class 9	Class 8	Class 1	Class 3
PM 2.00pm	Class 7	Class 4	Class 5	Class 2

Half term holidays

School will close on Friday 20th February and reopen on Monday 2nd March for the half term holidays. I hope you all have a lovely break.

Important spring term dates:

Thursday 5 th February	-	Swimming Gala
Friday 13 th February	-	Multiskills event
Monday 16 th February	-	Coffee Morning
Tuesday 17 th February	-	Year 2 Seaham Trip
Wednesday 18 th February	-	Year 2 Seaham Trip
Thursday 19 th February	-	Gymnastics Festival
Friday 20 th February	-	Half Term
Monday 2 nd March	-	Return to school
Tuesday 3 rd March	-	Wellbeing Festival
W/C Monday 9 th March	-	Science Week
Tuesday 31 st March	-	Dance Festival
Thursday 2 nd April	-	Easter Holidays
Monday 20 th April	-	Return to school

Thank you for your support

Mrs Longstaff