DALLAM C P SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
Friday 11th September 2026

School Vision: **Success at the Heart of the Community**
We: **Nurture…..Inspire……Achieve**

School value: **respect**

Welcome back to the new school year. It was so lovely to see the children coming into school on Monday morning looking incredibly smart in their uniforms and eager to get to class and catch up with their friends.
Once again, school is looking great! Over the summer, there has been even more improvement work carried out during the holidays, supported by the office and maintenance team. It's really important to us that the school environment is clean, bright and inviting so that the children can focus on their learning feeling safe, comfortable and valued and that staff have the space and opportunity to focus on supporting our children in the very best way possible.

The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and ready to embrace a new term of learning. As I have visited classrooms throughout the week, I have been so impressed by how quickly and positively the children have settled back into school life. Each morning, they arrive eager to learn, entering their classrooms with purpose and settling quickly into their activities. On Monday, we came together for a whole-school assembly to revisit our school rules and reflect on why they are so important. The children were fantastic, not only remembering our rules but also demonstrating a thoughtful understanding of how these expectations help to create a safe, respectful and successful learning environment for everyone. There are only four school rules that all children are asked to follow:

- I do as I'm asked first time
- I listen well
- I work well with others
- I always do the best that I can

I had the most wonderful email this week from one of our parents who has been working with his daughter to produce a series of podcasts throughout the summer holiday.
The first week can be found here https://pod.co/school-holiday-radio/school-holiday-week-1 It is a lovely way to develop oracy skills as well sharing some great activities to do with children while they are not in school. Watch this space for further instalments - I think we've got a broadcaster of the future here!

Today, Rowan and Maple Classes have had the most amazing experience. They have joined a live assembly with Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (the author and illustrator of the latest Gruffalo book). The book came out yesterday. Julia and her friends acted out the Gruffalo, then Julia read the brand-new story – The Gruffalo Granny – to the children. They were transfixed! There was even more – Axel showed them how to draw the Gruffalo Granny and then did a draw along where the children produced their own illustrations. To see some examples of their amazing artwork check out our school Facebook or Instagram accounts or visit class Seesaw pages.

I hope you have a restful weekend.

Mrs Downey

Attendance and Punctuality Procedures

As you know, the rules and regulations around attendance and punctuality changed a couple of years ago. You will have received a letter from Warrington Local Authority (see attached) outlining fixed penalty notice procedures and reminding parents that as a school, we are not allowed to authorise holidays in term time. The school holiday dates are published on our website – **please check them before booking any holidays for the coming year.**

Attendance and punctuality remains a major focus for us in school. It is astonishing how quickly a child's attendance can drop below 96%. This has a real impact on their ability to keep up with their classmates and as a result can cause children to worry about coming to school. Maintaining good attendance and punctuality is a habit which sets children up to thrive in the future, so we will continue with our drive for improvement this year.

As I'm writing this newsletter, statutory attendance is 97.7%. This is fabulous. Thank you for supporting our children to make such a positive start.

Home School Agreement (attachment)

I am sending home the Dallam/TCAT Home School Agreement with this newsletter which outlines the ways that we can together support all our children to achieve success. It outlines the responsibilities of school, our children and parents and carers towards ensuring that our children thrive.

The agreement highlights the high expectations that we have around the respectful relationships within our school community. It will be available to sign at parents' evening after half term, but please take the time now to read it and discuss it with your child. If you have any questions about this, don't hesitate to ask us.

Uniform

The children look so smart coming back to school. Please make sure that you put your child's name in their clothes – particularly their jumpers and cardigans. It has only been a couple of days but already we've had some mix-ups and class staff have spent lots of time trying to reunite items of clothing with their owners. This can be a real challenge, particularly if clothing does not have a name in it – we would much rather be supporting children with their learning. I also know that occasionally jumpers, cardis and coats go home with the wrong child at the end of the day – particularly for our younger children. If this happens, please send it straight back to school and we'll do our best to make sure everyone has their own clothing. Please be patient with class staff – there are sometimes of the day when their priority can't be looking for lost uniform – for example at pick up time. It is much more important for them to ensure that every child goes with the correct adult.

It is lovely to see the children wearing school shoes as they start the year. If you have had difficulty with this, please speak to us – we may be able to help.

PE is the lesson where children **should** wear trainers – not school pumps. Health and Safety regulations highlight that school pumps do not offer the correct support for children's feet while they are exercising. Almost every child now has our PE uniform for their lessons. If you have any problems providing your child with a PE top, please speak to us.

If you have any uniform that you child has grown out of and is still in good condition, please consider donating it to school so that it can be reused by another child. This not only supports our community, but is environmentally friendly as well.

Site Safety
This year the leaves are already starting to fall for autumn as we return to school. Mr Davidson works incredibly hard to keep the site safe and cleans up fallen leaves regularly: however, it is impossible to keep the paths totally clear at all times. When it rains, the leaves can become slippery so please take extra care.

Bikes and Scooters
It is great that so many children are developing healthy habits by walking, cycling or scooting to school. Please make sure that your child leaves their bike or scooter in the racks on the KS2 playground where they are secure during the day. If your child goes to breakfast club, they can take their bike or scooter into school through the hall doors and will be given time before lessons start to drop them off on the KS2 playground.
Finally, for the safety of the whole school community, please ensure that your child does not ride their scooter or bike across the carpark or playgrounds.

Office opening hours
Please note the school office is staffed from 08:30-4pm each day. This means the car park cannot be accessed before 08:30am.
Telephone Number: 01925 633927 chose option 1 to report a child's absence.
You can also contact us by email: office@dallamprimary.tcat.uk.com

Dietary needs
Please remember to let the office know if your child has any changes in dietary needs.

Afterschool Football club (KS2 Year 3-6)
We are excited to now offer professional football coaching, by KS-Education. This will be held every Tuesday afterschool until 4.15pm, starting 15th September to years 3-6. **The charge is £10.00 for the term**. If your child has not come home with a letter, please come and see us in the office.



Lead Learners this week: a child who has made a fantastic start to the new term.

Acorns: All of acorns children have made an amazing start to the school year. It has been lovely welcoming all of their smiley faces.

Seedlings: All the children in Seedlings have come back happy, keen and excited to see their friends.

Ash (reception): All the children have started in reception class with a smile on their faces, found the way around their new class room and settled in to the new routine.

Cedar – Year 1: Ella has had a fantastic start to the school year. She does as she is asked first time and is a real role model.

Rowan – Year 2: Mila O has made a fabulous start to the school year with a fantastic attitude to learning!

Maple – Year 3: Willow settled well in her new class and engaged positively with all her learning this week

Sycamore – Year 4: Luna, has made a lovely start to the term. Trying really hard to listen and be kind to others.

Olive – Year 5: Amelia for a great start to year 5. An excellent role model to all.

Oak – Year 6: Lennox for making a great start to her new class. She was particularly impressive during a maths lesson on place value.

Holly: Grayson for making a great start to the year and settling in well in his new class.

Hazel: All of Hazel class, Felicity, William and Morgan for being so kind and understanding towards our new class friends and to our new students, Mila, Alexandra, Alenya, Allen and Dominic for a fantastic start in a new class!

Willow: Archie for settling straight into the routines of Willow Class & Brodie for joining his friends in the hall at lunch times.

Cherry: Nathan for a phenomenal start to year 6. He has followed all of our school values and tried his very best every single day.

THIS WEEK'S PALS POINTS, READING CHAMPIONS AND MAD ABOUT MATHS AWARDS

PALS POINTS – Positive Attitude to Learning points:
100 PALS = Dallam YELLOW
200 PALS = Dallam GREEN
300 PALS = Dallam RED
400 PALS = Deputy Head's SILVER
500 PALS = Head Teacher's GOLD
600 PALS = Governor's 3 STAR

Reading Champions and Mad about Maths **(will commence next week)** - For every 10 occasions your child reads or does maths at home it will be celebrated in our Monday assembly.
This week's awards go to:

	READING CHAMPIONS	MAD ABOUT MATHS	PALS Points
Rowan			**100 PALS Emre, Esme, Livya, Mia, Owen, Rosie, and Princess.**