Thank You
Can you believe another fantastic year has passed as we head towards the Summer Holidays? We finish for Summer on **Tuesday 23rd July** and school will start back on **Tuesday September 3rd 2019**.

**Nursery** have their Open Day on the 3rd for new starters and children will return on Wednesday 4th September.

Fond Farewells
It will be a sad farewell to our wonderful Y6s who leave us on Tuesday. They will be a huge loss to the school and their fantastic production of the X Factory last night was a fitting end and celebration of our incredibly talented and hugely successful pupils. They leave us as they head off to their secondary schools, more than ready for the next set of challenges they face. We could not be prouder of their attitudes, hard work, dedication, maturity and inspiration to others – they truly are our Acklam Whiners.

Happy Retirement
Next Tuesday, Mrs Devereux leaves us after 19 years to start her well-deserved retirement. As one of the matriarchs of the Acklam Whin family, she will be a huge loss to us all. I’d like to thank her on behalf of the whole Acklam Whin community for her years of commitment, creativity and love that she has given to the children she has worked with. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her all the happiness in her retirement.

More Goodbyes
We will also be saying goodbye to Miss Gunn, Miss Clark and Mrs Lennon as they move on to new positions. We thank them for a wonderful year and wish them all the success and happiness in their new jobs – they will always be part of the Acklam Whin family.

Keeping in Touch
We have had a number of issues with the notifications on our app and are currently looking at more effective options for keeping you up to date with school events and news. We know many of you use our social media and we hope to introduce more ways to keep you informed during the Autumn Term. Don’t forget you can update your contact details via the Sims Parent App. This is essential if you have changed any of your contact details. Please contact the school office if you need any further details.

Attendance
As always, our attendance is a major priority for us and we are delighted that our overall attendance is up 1% to 96.8%, which is outstanding! Persistent absence is any child missing 10% or more of their time at school and the number of children persistently absent has decreased from 28 to 9, which is again, fantastic news. The current standings for each year group since the start of the Autumn Term 2018.

- **Reception**: 94.4%
- **Year 1**: 96.9%
- **Year 2**: 97.3%
- **Year 3**: 96.9%
- **Year 4**: 96.9%
- **Year 5**: 96.1%
- **Year 6**: 96.5%

Overall school total is 96.8 % This is the highest it has been for a number of years – many thanks for your support.

Dinner Money
Thank you again for your support as we have transitioned to Sims Pay. The school is under increasing pressure from the Council with regards to late payments and to avoid us having to chase you for arrears, please can you ensure that your account is kept in credit at all times. We really don’t like having to make those calls, just as much as I know you don’t like receiving them. Any changes to lunch arrangements must be made with at least 1 weeks’ written notice.

Looking Great
Our children do look amazing in their uniform and school PE Kit. We look forward to seeing the children smart and ready for school with the correct clothing and footwear (no trainers, including black ones) when we return on the 3rd. Can we also request that parents **write their child’s name in all school uniform** items to avoid any confusion.

Parkway Support
Anyone wishing to apply for the 30 hours provision you must do so by the 31st August. Parkway start back on Tuesday 3rd Sept, any parents wishing to pop in and look at the provision or make any enquiries, please come and see Vicky or contact her on 01642 813938 – Option 4
Acklam Whinners - We are absolutely delighted to announce that we have been awarded Middlesbrough Sports School of the Year – for the SECOND year running!

We didn’t think we could top the amazing year we had in 2017/18, but this year we have surpassed even that. Here is a selection of participation and achievement, just this term:

Y6 Girls Netball Middlesbrough Competition
Y4 Football EFL Cup Middlesbrough Winners
Y3 Tennis Middlesbrough Winners
Y4 Tennis Middlesbrough Winners
Y6 Girls Basketball Festival At Newcastle Eagles Arena
Y5 Whole Year Group Orienteering At Acklam Grange
SEN PE Inclusion Air Trail
Y6 Girls Netball Festival
Y4 Football EFL Cup Final At MFC Rockcliffe (3rd Place)
Y4 Whole Year Group Multi Sports At Acklam Grange
Y6 Boys Cricket Middlesbrough (Winners)
Y4 Mixed Cricket Middlesbrough (Winners)
Y5/6 Mixed Athletics Middlesbrough (Winners)
Y4 Quadkids Athletics Middlesbrough
Y5/6 Girls Cricket Middlesbrough (Winners)
Reception Bear Hunt (Y6 Leaders)
Y3 Tennis Tees Valley (Winners)
Y4 Tennis Tees Valley (Winners)
Y5/6 Tees Valley Athletics Finalists
Y6 Boys Cricket North Yorkshire Finalists
Y2 Football Middlesbrough
Y4 Boys Football Middlesbrough
Y4 Girls Football Middlesbrough
Y6 Boys Acklam Grange Football League (Winners)
Y5 Orienteering Middlesbrough
Y6 Tees Valley Table Tennis Finalists
Y6 Boys Cricket North Yorkshire Finalists
Y3 Tennis North East Grand Final Runners Up
Y5/6 Highly Commended Middlesbrough Team Of The Year

And best of all we have had a huge number of children representing our school at festivals and competitions. **Over two thirds of the school pupils** have worn our Acklam Whin kit with pride and participated at whatever level or ability. We could not be any prouder of all our achievements. Add to that the incredible before and after school provision for our children, none of which would be possible without the tireless inspiration, passion and dedication of Mr Jackson.

Key Dates for 2019- 2020

**Tuesday 23rd July** – School Breaks up for the Summer
**Monday 2nd Sept** – School is CLOSED for PD Day
**Tuesday 3rd Sept** – Children return to school
**Tuesday 3rd Sept** – Nursery Open Day – new starters
**Wed 4th Sept** – Nursery children return to school
**Friday 25th October** – Children break up for half term
**Monday 4th November** – Children return to school
**Thursday 19th Dec** – Children break up for Christmas
**Friday 20th Dec** – School is CLOSED for PD Day

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**Monday 6th January** – School is CLOSED for PD Day
**Tuesday 7th January** – Children return to school
**Friday 14th February** – Children break up for half term
**Monday 24th February** – Children return to school
**Friday 3rd April** - Children break up for Easter Holidays
**Monday 20th April** – Children return to school
**Friday 1st May** Y2 SATs period begins (1 Month)

**Friday 8th May** – School CLOSED – VE DAY Bank Holiday
**Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2020** – Y6 SATs Week

**Friday 22nd May** – Children break up for half term
**Monday 1st June** – Children return to school
**Monday 8th June** – Y4 Multiplication Table Check week
**Monday 8th June** – Y1 & Y2 Phonics screening begins
**Friday 17th July** – Break up for the Summer Holidays

**Monday 20th July** – School CLOSED for PD Day

There will be another PD Day to fit in during the Spring/Summer terms 2020.

Finally I would like to personally thank all the staff, parents, carers and pupils for another fantastic year here at Acklam Whin, and particularly for all the lovely presents, cards and kind words, myself and the staff have received. We know as a school, we have things to do, things to improve and sharpen, but by continuing to work together, we can offer our children the best learning opportunities we can. **Have a wonderful Summer** and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

**Summer Fair**

Thank you for your donations toward our Summer Fair on Thursday. Please keep them coming, any toys, books, items for the raffles/tombola etc. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there. The forecast isn’t great, so we may need to go indoors.