



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess
We follow in Christ's footsteps

17th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

EQUINE ASSISTED LEARNING DAY – Thursday 30th June 2022

At St. Patrick's, we are always looking for new and exciting ways to deliver learning opportunities. As such, we recently applied for a grant to be able to offer a long-term equine assisted learning project to our Year Six pupils as part of their preparation for secondary school. Unfortunately, we were not successful in this application, but as we feel the benefits of this project could be valuable, we have decided to offer our Year Six children a day visit to explore this. We are delighted that, with the help of a local riding school, we are able to offer this opportunity free of charge.

Equine assisted learning is a method of using horses to help with learning and coaching. A number of recent studies have shown equine assisted learning to have a positive impact on building confidence, self-esteem and developing positive relationships – all of which are skills that we aim to develop in our children. These sessions use techniques such as observing horses and working on the ground with them. They do not involve riding.

Our day session will take place at Holly Riding School, Burnopfield on **Thursday 30th June**. To eliminate any costs, we will walk to the riding school from school. We also ask that children are **collected directly from Holly Riding School at 2:45pm** (to avoid the walk back uphill!)

Children will need to come to school wearing old, comfortable clothes. It would be beneficial if they could wear sturdy walking boots or wellies.

School will provide a free packed lunch for pupils who are in receipt of free school meals. If you would like your child to receive a school packed lunch and you currently pay for school meals the charge will be added to ParentPay in the usual way.

Please click the link below to indicate if your child requires a school packed lunch or if you will be providing one for them (sandwich filling options are indicated).

Please complete the following link by **1pm Monday 20th June**. Pupils should bring a small carry bag or rucksack to transport their lunch in on the day.

[Equine assisted learning day lunch choices](#)

I am extremely excited at the opportunity to offer this worthwhile experience to our children.

Many thanks,

Miss E Parry

IF YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY IN READING OR INTERPRETING THIS DOCUMENT PLEASE CALL 01207 570316

