



Safer Internet Day 2017

The children have had an extra focus on keeping safe online this week to coincide with Safer Internet Day which was on Tuesday. Each class produced either a song, leaflet or information to share with parents who visited today. Thank you to Miss Richardson for co-ordinating this event.

There are many good links from our website for parents and children to look at giving further advice on how to keep children safe online at home. Some of them are games and they do make you think and reflect:

<http://www.montalbo.durham.sch.uk/parents/useful-links/>

FOMS Valentine's Disco

FOMS are kindly arranging the Valentine's Disco again this year. It is on Thursday 16th February. Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1's disco is from 5.15pm to 6.15pm and Key Stage 2's disco is from 6.30pm-7.30pm. FOMS are also arranging a raffle and tickets can be bought before or during the event from FOMS. There are some good prizes including Chocolates from Chocolate Fayre and Vouchers from the Bengal Merchant.

Tickets cost £2.50 and the price includes a drink and a hot dog. There will be a sweet and popcorn stall, friendship bracelet stall and glitter tattoos so your child might want to bring along some change for this. Teas and coffees are available for parents.

Helping Out at Home

Miss Smith would like to invite parents of Reception children into school at 3.30pm on Tuesday 28th February to talk about ways to support their children's learning at home. The session will last about 30 minutes and your children will be looked after in the main school building. It would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible.

Stay and Play

Miss Smith is organising a Valentine's themed Stay and Play Session for parents of Foundation Stage children. Nursery children who do not usually attend on Tuesday afternoons are welcome to attend from 2:45pm with an adult. This will be an opportunity to see the hard work your child has been doing this half term and join them in their learning and play.

Class 3 Assembly

On February 16th at 9am Dr Greenwell's class will be presenting their Class Assembly. It would be lovely to see parents or family of Class 3 attend.

Big Garden Birdwatch

Class 3 have been busy this week looking out for birds in and around our school grounds. They will be entering their results into the national survey. The most common bird they spotted were blackbirds with 162 sightings!

Multi Skills

Teesdale Leisure Centre are running a multi-skills event every Wednesday night 4 – 5pm for children 8 years and over. The session is free and for both boys and girls.

30 hour provision

A letter was sent out two weeks ago regarding the government's pledge to provide 'free childcare for 3-4 year olds for eligible parents'. In order for us to plan for this, please could any parents of 2 or 3 years olds return the letter to us with their thoughts on the provision they may require. It is also available on the Head Teacher's blog section of our website. Thank you.



World Book Day

Miss Smith is organising a series of events for World Book Day on March 2nd. She would like us all to dress up as a character from our favourite book so here is some advanced warning!

Payments for YMCA and Musikality

Please make sure that the YMCA Young Scientist Club and the Musikality Choir/Band are paid directly to these organisations on the night as we are not in contact with them until the following week. Thank you.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

If you or any friends or family shop at Sainsbury's, please could you ask them to collect the Active Kids Vouchers. This will enable school to exchange them for PE equipment. The collection box is located next to the staff room so your child could drop them off there themselves. Thank you.

Reception Multi-skills Event

On Wednesday Reception made the cold and wet walk to Teesdale Sports Centre to take part in a Multi-skills Festival. This was a busy but fun event and the children were praised by the organisers for their positive attitude and behaviour. Thank you to the helpers who accompanied the children.

Lockerbie

A range of forms were handed out to the children in Class 4 for the residential trip to Lockerbie in May. Please could these be returned to school by February 16th. Thank you.

School Meals

Please note should your child wish to have a school meal rather than a packed lunch notice is not required to change. If your child wishes to change from school meal to packed lunch **two weeks' notice** is required.

Attendance for w.b. 9.1.17

Class	Present
Reception	91.7%
Class 1	97.1%
Class 2	95.2%
Class 3	97.5%
Class 4	96.4%

Overall attendance this week was 95.9%

Punctuality
Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m.
29 minutes learning time lost this week

Next week sees the half term attendance awards given out. To date there are still more than 60 children who qualify for 100% attendance this half term which is a good effort considering the chickenpox and sickness bug that has hit ours and other schools.

Dates for your Diary

- February 14th Stay and Play for Reception 2.45pm
- February 16th Class 3's Assembly 9.00am
- February 20th-24th Half Term
- February 28th – Helping out at Home 3.30pm (Reception Parents)
- March 2nd World Book Day
- March 6th Garden clearance starts
- March 7th FOMs Meeting at 5pm
- March 8th Class 3 to Hitachi
- March 20th-22nd – Parents' Evenings
- March 24th – Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher