



Christmas Performances

Next week promises to be a lovely one with Foundation Stage's Nativity performance on Monday 5th December at 2pm.

This is followed by the Y1-6 *Lights, Camel, Action* play on Wednesday 7th December at 2pm; Wednesday 7th December at 6pm and Thursday 8th December at 6pm.

Any spare tickets for the Y1-6 Christmas performances will be issued on Monday. I look forward to seeing you there.

FOMs raffle

Friends of Montalbo School are organising hampers to be raffled after the final Christmas performance on Thursday 8th December. You can buy raffle tickets at any of the performances and the Friends will note down contact details. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. NB. They do not have to be bottles now!

Save the Children Christmas Baubles

Earlier this year Jim Chalmers talked to Class 4 about GlaxoSmithKline's work with Save the Children. The children wanted to help and have decided to make a wish tree. From Monday, you will be able to write a wish on a bauble – it can be a wish for anything or anyone. They will cost £1 and can be purchased each morning between 8.45am and 9am from the hall. The Wish Tree is starting to look lovely.

Woodwind Concert

The Year 4 children have been learning the recorder with Mrs Unwin this year and today played to parents in an assembly. They did very well and I hope that several of them will make the transition to play other instruments with Mrs Unwin. Her clarinet group contains very talented girls and they played beautifully too. Well done to both groups.

Eden FM

A number of Key Stage 2 children have taken part in poetry recitals which are being broadcast on Eden FM (97FM). A different one is playing on each day of Advent. Group 2's poems are broadcast on the 2nd December, Group 3s on the 3rd December etc. They are being broadcast Monday to Friday between 7.45am and 8am and again between 4.45pm and 5pm and on weekends between 8.45am and 9am. I would like to thank Mrs Liz Franklin for organising this event and recording the children. We hope to be able to produce a CD of the poems to share with parents.

Lockerbie Manor Residential for Class 4

On Tuesday 6th December pupils and parents of Class 4 are invited to a presentation about the proposed residential to Lockerbie Manor in May. The presentation will begin at 5pm and Ian Ward, from the centre, will be able to answer any questions that you may have. The presentation lasts around 40 minutes.

Dick Whittington Pantomime

On Thursday the children were treated to a pantomime in school. Thank you so much to the Friends of the School whose generous donation paid for the event.

Year 1-3 Immunisation

Parents of children in years 1 to 3 are being offered the opportunity for their child to receive the flu vaccination (nasal spray) in school on Thursday afternoon. Please could all parents make sure that they have returned the forms to school whether they would like their child vaccinated or not. Thank you.

Class 3 Netball Festival

On Tuesday Class 3 are attending a Netball Festival at Teesdale Sports Centre. Please ensure your child has the appropriate PE kit including trainers.



Butterwick Hospice

The ever-popular 'Flumpets' (Christmas decorations) are available from Nursery and the School Office priced £1.50 are available from Monday. All of the money goes to this worthy cause.

Carol Service

On the last Friday of term, 16th December, we are having a Carol Service from 2pm in the hall. Parents are invited to this event but do not need a ticket.

Swimming After Christmas

After talking to the staff at Teesdale Sports Centre, we have been advised to take our Year 4 children swimming for the next 2 terms, plus those children in Year 5/6 who have not achieved the requirements set out in the PE National Curriculum.

The following year, the current Year 3 children, will swim for the whole year. This new arrangement should see all children achieve National Curriculum expectations before they leave primary school.

Christmas Parties

During the final week of term, week beginning 12th December, we will be having Christmas parties for the different year groups (see the Dates for your Diary section below). Please could you send your child with party clothes in a named carrier bag to change into after lunch.

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term is a tradition we are encouraging each year just for fun – a donation will not be necessary.

Attendance for w.b. 28.11.16

Class	Present
Reception	98.1%
Class 1	96.2%
Class 2	87.7%
Class 3	98.4%
Class 4	97%

Overall attendance this week was 95.2%

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.

40 minutes learning time lost this week

Application for a School Place (Primary School) for September 2017

Cards have been handed out to Nursery parents detailing the procedure for applying for a Reception place for their child. All information is available online from www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the deadline for applications is midnight on 15th January 2017.

Dates for your Diary

- December 5th Dress Rehearsal for Christmas performance (am)
- December 5th Class 3 to visit Hartlepool Power Station and Wind Farm
- December 5th Christmas Nativity (2pm) for Nursery and Reception
- December 6th Netball Festival for Class 3 at Teesdale Sports Centre
- December 6th Lockerbie Manor Presentation (5pm) to pupils and parents of Class 4
- December 7th Christmas Play (2pm and 6pm) for Years 1-6
- December 8th Christmas Play 6pm for Years 1-6
- December 12th Year 1 and 2 Party 1.30pm
- December 13th Nursery and Reception Party 1.30pm
- December 14th Year 3 and 4 Party 1.30pm
- December 15th Year 5 and 6 Party 1.30pm
- December 16th Christmas Jumper Day
- December 16th Carol Service in school from 2pm

Mr Minikin
Head Teacher