



September 29th 2017 Issue 4

### **Visitor feedback**

We are lucky to have such amazing children and visitors often comment positively about our school. I thought I'd share an extract from Cloud Singh's visit, after he talked to the children in Y5/6 about Sikhism.

'It has been such a long time since I have enjoyed myself so much. Such a lovely welcome by everyone at the school and a classroom of inquisitive, bright, open, respectful, caring pupils. And smiling, laughing adults too!' This is exactly what we want our school to be. Well done everyone!

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning/Afternoon**

I hope you enjoyed the refreshments and the chance to catch up with other parents during our coffee morning and afternoon. Thank you to everyone who donated cakes to support the event. I will inform you of how much money the event raised for this worthy cause next week. Thank you.

### **Welcome to Mr Aspey**

As we are now part of High Force School Centred Initial Teacher Training we welcome our first trainee, Mr Aspey. He will be working alongside Class Teachers and supporting small groups at various points until Christmas before he moves on to his next placement.

### **Data Protection**

After reviewing many of the school policies this month, it is a requirement of the Data Protection Policy to inform parents of the data we store and how it is used.

We collect and hold personal information relating to our pupils and may also receive information about them from their previous school, local authority and/or the Department for Education (DfE). We use this personal data to:

- support our pupils' learning
- monitor and report on their progress
- provide appropriate pastoral care; and
- assess the quality of our services

The full policy is on the website and the Parents Information Sheet has been added Information Section of the Ourschool App. If you would like to talk about this policy or receive a paper copy of the information sheet please call at the School Office

### **School Based Childhood Flu Programme**

On Tuesday this week flu immunisation letters were sent home to every child from Reception to Year 4 inclusive. This initiative is from the NHS and is for these year groups only. Please return the letters to school by Tuesday. Thank you.

### **Harvest Appeal 2017**

Last year we had a harvest appeal for Durham Christian Partnership and collected an amazing amount of food. The charity has been in touch to ask for your support again this year. The charity would like non-perishable food items, tinned and dried food, and have arranged to collect donations on Friday 13th October. Thank you.

## Starting School

The application process for school places for children who will be 5 on or between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 is open now. Applications can be made via [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) where you can access a guide containing essential information to help you with your application.

## Sewing Club

A reminder that sewing club has been cancelled on Wednesday 4th October due to staff training. After school care is still available if needed.

## Old Pound Coins

Although you can still use pound coins until 15th October, we will not be able to accept any old £1 coins in school in October due to the way in which we bank cash. Thank you.

## Applications for Secondary School Places

It always seems incredibly early, but the application process for Secondary Admissions 2018 intake began on 12th September 2017. Parents can make their application for Secondary School online by visiting [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) which will be open now. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2017.

Paper application copies can be printed off by the parent/carer and emailed to [schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk) if you would prefer that method. Questions around admissions can be answered by the School Admissions and Transport team on 03000265896.

## Head Lice

We have had some cases of head lice since returning to school. Please check your child's hair frequently. Treatments can be obtained from your local pharmacy.

## Attendance for w.b. 25.9.17

Class	Present
Mrs Bartoli's Reception	98.8%
Miss Lauder's Class	94%
Miss Blackburn's Class	94%
Dr Greenwell's Class	92.4%
Miss Richardson's Class	97.85
School Total	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. 41minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

## Dates for the diary

- October 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> - Dr Greenwell's Class: Art Project
- October 16<sup>th</sup> - Dr Greenwell's Class Tag Rugby Festival at Staindrop Academy
- October 17<sup>th</sup> - Miss Richardson's Class to Multi-skills Festival at Staindrop Academy
- October 18<sup>th</sup> - Miss Richardson's Class and parents Play in a Day for (details to follow)
- October 19<sup>th</sup> - Dr. Greenwell's Class: Highlights visit to Witham
- October 20<sup>th</sup> - Individual and siblings photographs – **Nursery parents please note - morning only**

## October 23rd-27th Half Term

- November 1<sup>st</sup> - Flu Immunisation
- November 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> - Parents' Evening
- November 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> - Book Fair after school each evening
- November 17<sup>th</sup> - Children in Need events

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher