



November 17th 2017 Issue 10

Parents' Evening

I hope parents/carers found Parents' Evening useful and informative. It certainly was very well attended. The feedback I received was very positive from both parents/carers and teachers. Strong relationships between home and school are important to help our children as much as we can. Those parents/carers who were unable to make an appointment can do so by speaking to their child's teacher or contacting the School Office.

World Science Day

We are keen to foster children's interest in Science and create curious learners. I know a lot of children enjoyed the recent homework. Dr Greenwell, who leads on Science in school, has organised a number of visitors and events to promote science and on Friday 10th November we celebrated World Science Day with a range of activities around school. These included experiments with toothpaste and children also learnt about the first black, female astronaut. During the day, children thought about how science affected their every-day lives.

Online Gaming

Key Stage 2 parents should have received a useful leaflet last week with hints on managing children's online behaviour. Many children play games online and it can often be tricky for parents (myself included) to keep up with games and their suitability. For parents/carers who did not receive one the information can be found by following the link below:-

<http://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Online-gaming-an-introduction-for-parents-and-carers-2017.pdf>

Children in Need

The children and staff looked fantastic in their spotty outfits today. We talked about some of the projects the donations would benefit and will inform you of how much we raised next week.

Remembrance Service

Thank you to the parents/carers and grandparents who were able to attend the Remembrance Service. It is an important occasion and we were pleased to take part.

Surprise Panto

We were offered a free pantomime on Thursday by a company who had had a cancellation. We thought it would be super treat for the children so said yes! Year 4 swimming was cancelled and will recommence next week. We have the FOMs pantomime to look forward to next month.

Safety Carousel

Miss Richardson's class enjoyed an informative visit to the Safety Carousel on Tuesday. The children visited workshops about water safety, e-safety, the dangers of electricity, road safety and fire safety. These sessions are so valuable and help to keep our children safe.

Takeover Day

Our Year 5/6 children visited the Bowes Museum as part of Takeover Day. This gives our older children a chance to find out more about the different roles and careers. Later in the academic year, we would like to invite people to school who work in a number of different occupations to talk to the children about their job and perhaps spark an interest. Please let us know if this is something you/your company would like to do. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch

On December 12th Christmas Lunch will be served. **If your child usually has a packed lunch** but would like the Christmas Lunch, please complete the reply slip at the bottom of the newsletter. Children who have school dinners need not reply. Orders must be made by December 1st. 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 where you can access a guide containing essential information to help you with your application.

Attendance for w.b. 13.11.17

Class	Present
Mrs Bartoli's Reception	100%
Miss Lauder's Class	99.3%
Miss Blackburn's Class	98%
Dr Greenwell's Class	98.4%
Miss Richardson's Class	99.4%

School Total 98.9%

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. 20 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Dates for the diary

November 22 nd	Y1-Y2 to Teesdale Leisure Centre (PE kits needed)
November 27 th	Y3-Y6 Centre for Life trip 8.30am departure
December 6 th – 10 th	Christmas Tree Festival at St Marys
December 7 th	Nursery and Reception Nativity 2pm in the School Hall
December 11 th	Miss Blackburn's Class Hockey Competition
December 12 th	Dr Greenwell's Multi-Skills Festival 9.30-11.30 at Staindrop
December 12 th	Christmas Lunch
December 13 th	Pantomime in school (thanks FOMs!)
December 13 th and 14 th	Christmas Plays @ 6pm Miss Lauder and Miss Blackburn's Class
December 14 th	Reception to sports festival at Staindrop
December 15 th	Christmas Jumper Day
December 15 th	Whole School Carol Service at St Marys 1.45-2.45pm (families welcome)
December 19 th	Recorders concert (Y4) and Clarinets at Teesdale School 5pm
December 20 th	Christmas Party Y1/2 and Y3/4
December 21 st	Christmas Party Y5/6 and EYFS
December 21 st	End of Autumn term
December 22 nd	Teacher Training Day

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher

I would like my child, _____, to have a Christmas Lunch on December 12th. I enclose cash/cheque made payable to 'Durham County Council' for £2.

Signed _____ Date _____