



November 23rd 2018 Issue 11

Miss Richardson's Class Assembly

Our first class assembly of the year took place on Friday and I was amazed by the work shared by the children. Our children are so curious and are really enjoying the wide variety of topics. The class took us on a journey to the Isles of Scilly, which is where their class text is set. There were many elements of our creative curriculum evident and I loved the wildlife video which the children's commentary – perhaps Brandyn is the next David Attenborough? The poem that the Year 6s had written at the end of their assembly summed up the broad and balanced curriculum they are enjoying. The whole class performed brilliantly and I hope our Year 6's special visitors enjoyed it too. Thank you to Miss Richardson for organising this. Class assemblies will start again in the Spring Term.

Parents' Evenings

There was a large turnout of parents/carers for Parents' Evening this week and I enjoyed chatting to many of you. The relationship between home and school is crucial and I hope that you found the meetings useful. We strive to create a culture where we are as approachable and supportive to families as possible and hope that this was reflected your meetings. If you were unable to make an appointment and would like to speak to your child's teacher, please contact the School Office to arrange this.

Book Fair

We have many avid readers in school and it was lovely to see the children's enthusiasm over the Book Fair. We are keen to promote reading and have a variety of ways in which we do this. Please remember to sign your child's reading record – even Year 5/6 if they are reading independently – so they have a chance to win the weekly reading raffle!

Children in Need

Last week's efforts for our Crazy Hair Day helped to raise a fantastic £206 for Children in Need. Thank you for your donations for this special charity.

County Durham Litter Competition

As part of a larger campaign to tackle littering across County Durham, the council are asking primary schools to design eye catching posters that will help stop people dropping litter and get them to use public bins. Please use strong colours and be creative! The poster:

- Must be A4 in size.
- It can be drawn by hand or using a computer.

Should include:

- A strong anti-litter pictorial message not lots of text as this will already be in the template. For example the children may want to design their own County Durham litter superhero (please note these must be original characters).
- A short anti-litter message of up to six words could be included along the top or bottom of their design.
- The design and wording must be original and not copy artwork or wording from existing campaigns.

The competition is open between 20 November 2018 and 21 December 2018 so please return them by 16th December so we can send them off. Good luck!

Christmas Dinner Day

Due to a request from the school cook, Mrs Slater, we have swapped Christmas Dinner to Tuesday 18th December. Nursery and Reception's party will now be on Monday 17th December

Friends of Montalbo School

We have a number of stalls booked for the Christmas Market and I thank FOMS for their help with this. At the market on December 11th, there will be many Christmas stalls selling a variety of things that may be good stocking fillers, so please come along between 5pm-7pm! If the weather is too bad we will be able to use the school hall.

If you would like a stall at the Christmas Market or know of anyone who may, please contact us at montalbo@durhamlearning.net The event will be open to the wider community so if you know anyone who may like to come please pass the date and time on. Both the main gate and back gates will be open.

Parking Considerately and Safely

Parking around schools is often tricky, especially when the weather turns worse. Please park away from junctions and off the paths to help ensure that the paths and roads are as safe as possible. I have asked our PCSO to come to school to help ensure that this is happening. Thank you.

Attendance for w.b. 19.11.18

Class	Present
Reception	98.9%
Year 1	98.9%
Year 2	97.4%
Year 3	94%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	95.9%
Year 6	92.9%

School overall attendance 96.2%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. **1 Hour and 30 minutes** of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Dates for the diary

December 11 th	Reception Sports Festival at Staindrop
December 11 th	Christmas Market in the Garden; 5:00 – 7:00pm
December 12 th	Year 2 Multiskills at Alun Armstrong Centre, Shildon
December 12 th	Christmas Play Year 1 and Year 2; 6:00pm
December 13 th	Year 3 Multiskills at Staindrop
December 13 th	Nursery & Reception nativity & Christmas Raffle Draw; 2:00pm
December 14 th	Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Carol Service at St Marys; 1.45 - 3:00pm
December 17 th	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party 1.30pm
December 18 th	Christmas Lunch
December 19 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party 1.30pm
December 20 th	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party 1.30pm
December 21 st	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party 1.30pm

Mr Minikin, Head Teacher