



November 9th 2018 Issue 9

Remembrance

For the past few years, we have been invited to the Remembrance Parade following the service in St Mary's Church on Sunday. We follow the different groups from the church to the Bowes Museum War Memorial where we congregate and then lay a wreath. It is obviously an important occasion and any families who would like to join us should meet in St Mary's car park (in front of the church) at 11.25am.

In school, Dr Greenwell has helped to coordinate a whole school poppy display, which has gone up in the hall to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1. Each child has made a poppy and understands the importance of the symbol. We held our Remembrance Assembly this week on Friday, where the children were very respectful.

Friends of Montalbo School

At the FOMS meeting this week, FOMS agreed to help the school by purchasing at least TEN more iPads! This is a tremendous gesture and the staff, children and I are delighted. This means that we will have twenty IPADS to use to teach programming, create movies, research facts and much more. This compliments several laptops in each class. When the building works are finished, we hope to create an ICT suite with numerous desktops which will give us even more teaching and learning opportunities.

Parents have helped by supporting the many events and initiatives FOMS have organised and we are very grateful. The school lottery is contributing significantly and we hope to purchase more resources from the money that this raises. If you would like to join please visit www.schoollottery.com

The next event FOMS are helping to support is our Christmas Market on Tuesday 11th December. We would appreciate any donations for raffle prizes or for a bottle tombola that can be brought to the School Office. At the market, 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.

Children in Need

Next Friday we will be supporting Children in Need. We have decided to have a **Crazy Hair Day** and the children can come in non-uniform too. Donations to this worthy charity are much appreciated.

Diwali Workshop

This week we were visited by Jayamini de Silva who talked to Year 3 and Year 6 about Diwali, the Hindu and Sikh Festival of Light which started on Thursday. Years 3 have been learning about the Hindu faith and Year 6 have just finished a light topic so this session tied in well.

Jayamini showed the children a new skill and the Year 6 children created vibrant Dot Mandalas, using paint and a variety of tools such as cotton buds. The Year 6 children shared these in assembly and I was amazed to hear all of the facts that both years knew about Diwali. It is important that we learn and understand more about the range of beliefs and cultures in society. Children in our school are so curious about these things and I know Jayamini thoroughly enjoyed her visit. Well done!

Miss Richardson's Class Assembly

Due to the building works, we did not think it was fair to hold Class Assemblies in the hall but now that the work is nearing completion, Miss Richardson's class will be the first of this academic year. Parents/carers and families of these children are very welcome to attend at 9am on November 23rd.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings have been arranged for Tuesday 20th November and Wednesday 21st November. If you would like to make an appointment, please call in or telephone the School Office. Thank you.

School Nurse Drop In

Lindsey Atkinson, our School Nurse, will be holding her next drop in session to coincide with Parents' Evening on Tuesday 20th November. She will be in school from 3.30-4.30pm on that afternoon to give advice.

Flu Immunisation

The children in Reception and Years 1 to 5 whose parents requested the flu immunisation had this on Wednesday. If you have a child in Reception to Y5 and you missed this date then there is a catch up session at Teesdale Leisure Centre on November 10th from 9-12. Parents/carers **need to book** a slot by calling 03000 030013.

Crafty Ceramics

Crafty Ceramics will visit us on November 23rd between 3.30-4.30pm. Here the children get the chance to paint their own pottery which is then taken to be glazed and fired. They have proved to be popular for Christmas gifts. The order forms plus payments should be returned to school by November 16th if you wish your child to take part.

Attendance for w.b. 5.11.18

Class	Present
Reception	96.8%
Year 1	97.9%
Year 2	97.8%
Year 3	95.9%
Year 4	93.3%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	96.5%
School overall attendance	96.6%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. 34 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Dates for the diary

November 16 th	Children in Need
November 19 th	Book Fair in school all week
November 20 th	3.30-4.30pm – School Nurse Drop In
November 20 th + 21 st	Parents' Evenings
November 23 rd	Crafty Ceramics 3.30pm-4.30pm
November 23 rd	Miss Richardson's Class Assembly
December 4 th	FOMs Meeting
December 11 th	Reception Sports Festival at Staindrop
December 11 th	Christmas Market in the Garden 5-7pm
December 12 th	Year 2 Multiskills at Alun Armstrong Centre, Shildon
December 12 th	Christmas Play Year 1 and Year 2
December 13 th	Year 3 Multiskills at Staindrop
December 13 th	Nursery & Reception Nativity & Christmas Raffle Draw
December 14 th	Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Carol Service at St Marys 1.45-3pm
December 17 th	Christmas Lunch
December 18 th	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party 1.30pm
December 19 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party 1.30pm
December 20 th	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party 1.30pm & Rokeby Church Carol Service
December 21 st	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party 1.30pm