



January 17th 2020 Issue 17

School Update

As you may be aware, Mr Minikin is currently absent from school and Mrs Bartoli continues on maternity leave. As a result, we have had to make a few temporary changes to the teaching structure to support the smooth day to day running of the school. To ensure the continued high-quality education for children, it has been agreed that Mrs Leonard will teach in Year 6, Mrs Newton will teach in Year 5 and Mr Coates will continue his teacher training role in Year 2 with continued support from Mrs Newton and Mrs Gladstone. We would like to reassure you that if you have any questions or concerns you should speak to myself or Mrs Newton and we will be more than happy to help.

Chinese New Year

Next Friday we will be celebrating Chinese New Year across school. The children in Year 1 to 6 will move around the school visiting different teachers to learn different aspects of the Chinese culture. There will be sessions around Chinese music, dance, writing, speaking and maths. Children will also learn the history and geography of China. Reception will be learning about Chinese New Year all week and Nursery will be learning about it the week after. Taylor Shaw and Mrs Slater have created a Chinese banquet for dinner. If children on packed lunch would like to join in the banquet, please complete the form that has been sent home.

Drop off times

Please be aware that there are no adults to supervise the school yard until 8:40 on a morning and children should not be left unattended before this time. Also, please avoid using the school car park to drop off, pick up or as a turning point.

Easter Play

Year 3 and Year 4 have made a start on preparations for their Easter play, "Darwin Rocks". The children have now been given their characters and parts. Letters will be sent home with the children next week which will explain which costumes are needed, along with lines to be learnt. Already the songs are proving to be a big hit, with air guitar moves being seen out on the playground as they practise their dances. The performances will be on Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April.

Attendance for w.b. 17.01.20

Class	Present %
Reception	95.5 %
Year 1	100 %
Year 2	99
Year 3	91.6
Year 4	97.6
Year 5	96.8
Year 6	97

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 11mins of learning was lost to lateness this week

School overall attendance is: 96.9 %

Dates for the diary

January 23 rd	Reception hearing test
January 24 th	Chinese New Year Celebrations
January 31 st	School Games Swimming for selected Year 4, 5 & 6 children
February 7 th	Year 2 Class Assembly
February 11 th	Year 5 – Trampoline lessons at Staindrop Academy
February 12 th	Year 5 – Netball Festival at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre
February 13 th	Year 1 – Multi-skills Festival at Staindrop
February 14 th	Cross Country at Green Lane School for selected children
February 17 th - 21 st	Half Term
February 24 th	Children back

Miss Richardson
Acting Deputy Headteacher