



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

Our Rights Respecting thought for this newsletter is Article 31 – the right to play, rest and join in a wide variety of activities. There is definitely a celebratory theme to this newsletter – and I do hope that you are able to join us on Wednesday 23rd for our celebrations!

Celebrations!

There are many aspects to our curriculum that we feel are special to us and shape how we teach, and how our children learn. They fit into our school ethos so well that they have just become part of 'what we are'! Towards the end of the last academic year we successfully achieved national reaccreditation in many of these awards – as recognition of our commitment to their values. We really can't miss the opportunity to share this with you and we have therefore decided to devote our termly Rights Respecting Day to celebrate all of our achievements together.

On **Wednesday 23rd October** children need to come to school in their **team coloured tops** ready to start the celebrations. Every team will rotate around school during the day and take part in different activities to celebrate our **Rights Respecting Gold Award**, **Our Eco Schools Green Flag** re-accreditation, the full **International Schools Award**, **Educate and Celebrate Gold** and the **Fair Achievers** certificate in recognition of our commitment to Fairtrade!

We will end the day with a song or two and the raising of our new Green Flag. And we would like to invite you to join the celebrations from 3pm onwards. We will gather on the school field, sing our celebration songs and hoist the flag. Celebrations wouldn't be complete without a cake or two as well. Please come along at 3pm to join us.



Thrills and Skills Days next week

The children were excited to hear about the activity days taking place during half-term and I am sure that the children would thoroughly enjoy them if you want them to take part. (These days will run alongside our Scamps Child Care provision – see below). The cost of the day is just £12 for Thrills and Spills – and lunch will be provided from the grant from Asda – they will make their own from fresh ingredients! Please remember children need appropriate clothing for outdoors – they will get dirty! Please book via the app.

Parent interview reminder

Letters/notifications have all gone out inviting you to make a request for an appointment to discuss progress and targets with your child's class teacher. If you haven't submitted your request yet, please do so today on the app as we will be allocating slots on Monday afternoon at our staff meeting. We do want to see all parents and will happily work with you to find an appointment that will work for us both. Just let us know either by telephone or email. Thank you.



Aladdin – Panto trip to Gala Theatre (Reception – Y6)

Just a polite reminder please that the contribution towards the cost of our annual Panto trip on 6th December to the Gala Theatre is now being collected. Please pay the £10 requested via 'Schoolcomms' no later than 31st October.

Christmas procession Friday 29th November

Preparations are well underway for this year's Christmas Procession which takes place on Friday 29th November and it's a lovely start to the Christmas festivities – which will be with us before we know it! As always, we would love as many of our children as possible to join us for the procession which leaves St Luke's church at 4pm. If you and your child can come along, please meet us inside St Luke's for 4pm. Staff from school will also be there but it is important that the children are also accompanied by an adult. The children will be able to join other school children and teachers in the Town Hall Gardens for carol singing and the big light switch-on at the end of the procession. It is our turn to switch on the lights this year and we will be choosing the lucky pupil soon. Could you please let us know via the consent form on the app if your child will be joining us and we can let the Town Hall administration people know how many to expect.

Spanish Visit

As part of staff continuing professional development, two of our Teaching Assistants, Mrs Brown and Mrs Punshon are off to Spain next week to discover more about Spanish life, culture and the education system. The trip, fully funded by the Erasmus Project with Durham County, will also help us to extend our Spanish curriculum into school life.

Training day – 25th October

Just a reminder that school will be closed to pupils on 25th October as we have staff training. Children return on Monday 4th November.



Scamps Holiday Child Care

We still have spaces left for our child care provision over half-term. If you would like further details, please check our website or give us a call here at school. Children booked into Scamps for the Wednesday and Thursday of half term will automatically be part of the Thrills and Skills activity sessions at no extra cost.

Year 3 Parent's Residential Visit Meeting 4pm Nov 12th

Year 3 parents are invited to join us for an information session ahead of their residential visit to Kingsway on 28th November. Abi from Kingsway will be here at school to answer any questions you may have. It will also be an opportunity to complete the forms required and find out about the organisation and details you will need for the trip.



Tickled Pink disco – Thursday 24th Oct 6pm

A very pink night to look forward to next Thursday. DJ John will be entertaining us all from 6pm – 7.30pm. Entry will be £2 and proceeds will go to the Tickled Pink Charity. Refreshments will be on sale too and younger siblings are welcome to join us as long as an adult stays with them.



Samaritan's Purse Annual Shoe Box Appeal

If you're out and about shopping over the half-term holidays, please give a thought to the children around the world who may not be looking forward to Christmas quite as much as our children are. If you can, please help us put a smile on the faces of children who will receive a Christmas Shoebox. We do have leaflets in school at the moment and are awaiting a full supply to send out as soon as we can. Our friends from the Methodist Church will collect the shoeboxes that we have filled from school on 12th November. Thank you for helping us to help others.

After school clubs

After School Clubs next half term – to **commence the first week back** and run for **5** weeks, leaving the last 2 weeks of term free for concerts etc. Children will receive a note (where needed) early in the week confirming if they have been allocated a place. We do want as many children as possible to enjoy after-school clubs and if a club is full, opportunities will be given to those who may not have previously attended activities.

Monday	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Yoga - Y1 – Y3 boys and girls
Tuesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Eco Team – spaces available for new Key Stage 2 members
	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Singing Club – with Mr Haswell – Key Stage 2 only
Wednesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Boxercise – Y4 – Y6 boys and girls
Thursday	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Infant Christmas Crafts – Reception, Y1 and Y2 welcome
	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Cookery - Y1-Y6 –this popular club is already filled with the 'reserve' list from this term