



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Challenge Award  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROVISION FOR  
ABLE, GIFTED & TALENTED PUPILS  
JANUARY 2014

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a busy Christmas term. Despite it sometimes feeling chaotic here at school, it really is a lovely time and one that always seems to fly over with so much going on!

With Remembrance Sunday this weekend, our Rights Respecting reference this time is aptly Article 30 '*Children have the Right to learn and use customs of their families*'



## Anti-Bullying week – 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November

There will be lots of activities in classes next week in school to highlight anti-bullying week. So please don't be alarmed if children talk about the issue of bullying – that's all part of the way we encourage pupils to deal with any concerns that they have.

We will start the week with a **whole school assembly around the theme of 'Change starts with us.'** We will look at how if everyone of us just made a small change, the impact would be huge. **Tuesday** of next week has been designated as 'Odd Socks Day' and I know that the children will really enjoy showing their support for anti-bullying by wearing odd socks to school – and I am sure that staff will love joining in too. Why not join in yourselves and share pictures of the family joining in. Send us your photos and we will share them on our social media streams. Each class will be exploring different activities during next week and then on Friday we will celebrate both anti-bullying and the fact that it is Children in Need!



## Reception Class and Nursery

### New Starters Open afternoon – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm start

Do you know of any children who are due to start school or nursery next year? We are holding an open afternoon to give parents of prospective new pupils the opportunity to look around our provision, meet the staff and see what goes on. This is different to our normal school open afternoon which we have in May which is for parents of existing pupils, and to take part in activities in their child's class. If you do know of any new starters, please tell them about our open afternoon and encourage them to come along.

## Children in Need 2019 – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November - Together we can....!

It's Pudsey time of year again! Pudsey and Children in Need is always a charity event that the children love to get involved with, so we can't disappoint! This year's theme is '*Together we can change lives*' – they seem to have borrowed our school motto! To celebrate the day and show our support, the children are invited to come to school SPOTTY! They can wear spots or have spots drawn on them – whatever they wish. If everyone takes part and contributes even just a £1 on the day, we will be able to raise well over £250 for Pudsey and the children in need that the charity supports. Any donation amount is welcomed and we can look out for our school's name on the Friday night programme. Thank you.



## Remembrance Day Service – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Our School Councillors will represent us at the Cenotaph in Ferryhill village on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to take part in a Service of Remembrance. Children will join service personnel, local councillors and children from other schools to lay crosses and wreaths in remembrance of those who have given their lives in combat and military service.



REMEMBRANCE DAY  
*Left We Forget*

### **Operation Christmas Child – last call!**

Thank you if you have already sent in a shoebox full of goodies for this year's shoebox appeal. We have only had about 6 boxes so far though! Could you put one together this weekend? It really makes a huge difference to those children who otherwise wouldn't have any presents to enjoy at Christmas.

If you do want to do one, please ensure it gets to us by next Wednesday 13th November. They will then be collected and added to the collection at the Methodist Church. If you have lost your leaflet, don't worry, you can download one from the operation Christmas Child website or just clearly label the outside of the shoebox with the age group 2-4, 5-9, 10-14 and girl/boy. Please don't forget to include £3.00 towards transport costs. More details and case studies can be found on their website at [www.operationchristmaschild.com](http://www.operationchristmaschild.com)



### **Aladdin Panto – reminder!**

Our visit is fast approaching and we have had to pay the theatre so please, if you haven't already paid your **contribution of £10 online**, can I ask that it is done as a matter of urgency. Unfortunately, although school fund can subsidise trips and does so regularly, we do need to have parental contributions too. Thank you for your support.

### **Ferryhill's Festival of Christmas Trees Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov**

This year's Festival of Christmas Trees, organised by Approach Too, will again be held at the Methodist Chapel in the village. This year it will prove to be 'tremendous' with the theme of the 'Good old days' It's a wonderful family event which will display Christmas Trees made by schools, churches, community groups, shops and businesses from the area.

It will be open from 10am until 7pm on 29<sup>th</sup> Nov – same day as the Christmas light switch-on. So pop along and see our school and nursery's wonderful Christmas inspired displays.



### **Christmas procession Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

The consent form is now on the app to let us know if your child will be joining us for the procession on 29<sup>th</sup> November. It will be lovely to have a good group from our school to join the celebrations – especially as it is our responsibility to press the button to switch the lights on this year. We will leave St Luke's church at 4pm and children are asked to arrive at the church by 3.45pm. Staff from school will 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 Garden for carol singing and the big light switch-on.

### **Switch off fortnight 18<sup>th</sup> Nov – 29<sup>th</sup> November**

Although we are always trying our best to be 'switch-off' minded, taking part in curriculum activities during switch-off fortnight just gives us important reminders to be aware of wasting our resources. We will be extra careful to monitor our habits of turning devices and lights off - in and around school – and reminding parents and teachers to as well! Please join us to support our campaign to look after our world.



### **Year 6 Class Assembly – 20th November 2019**

After a busy week away at Grinton YHA this week, Year 6 are looking forward to sharing their adventures with you at their assembly on 20<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am. Please come along and join us if you can.

### **Parking outside of school**

After receiving a further complaint from one of our neighbours, I wanted again to put a reminder out about being aware and courteous when we are dropping off and collecting children. Our neighbour has raised it with our local police and I have to say that I am in full support of ensuring that we are respectful neighbours. Please park in areas that do not obstruct people's driveways or part on/off footpaths that would cause elderly people difficulties in getting by. The police have also been informed about the speed that people are driving in such narrow streets and about double parking, which makes it impossible for vehicles such as ambulances to access people that are in need.

We continue to promote walking to school as much as possible but of course do realise that it is impossible for all children to do this. If you do come by car, please consider parking a little farther away from school – a little extra fresh air and exercise is always a positive!



### Christmas dates

It will soon be here and we are trying very hard to help you plan by ensuring all of the upcoming events are on our school calendar. Please check it regularly as it will keep being added to as activities are confirmed. Dates already in place are outlined below:

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Lights Switch On/Carols
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Nursery AM Christmas Crafts 10 am EYFS (Nursery PM and Reception) Christmas Crafts 1.30pm
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Nursery Gala Theatre visit Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 Christmas Crafts 1.30pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Crafts 1.30pm
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Performances Nursery/Reception 9.30am School Performances 2 pm and 6 pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	School Performances 9.30 am – 6 pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Singing in Market Place
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS (Nursery/Reception) Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Toy Day – School Breaks up for Christmas



### New look website

We have been working behind the scenes over the last few weeks to update our school website. We wanted to make it easier for you to find the information you need and for us to be able to celebrate with you everything that is going on here at school. Our new address is [www.clevescrossprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.clevescrossprimaryschool.org.uk)

Please add it to your favourites – but don't worry, you will be redirected from our old address for the next few weeks.

### Sports update

**Judo Taster Sessions** - All of the children have enjoyed taking part in some taster sessions over the last couple of days provided by Ian from Destination Judo! I am sure some of them will be interested in attending some of the clubs that are provided locally.

**Ashley McKenzie Visit** - We were very lucky this morning to have a visit by Olympic hopeful Ashley McKenzie. He told us all about his success in his sport of Judo and also how he was preparing for the Olympics in Tokyo 2020. Good Luck from everyone here Ashley! Thank you for the signed photographs that the children will be bringing home today.

### New After School Club Opportunities

This week we launched two new after school clubs: Yoga and Boxercise. Both were well attended and the children really enjoyed the new opportunities available. We do still have some spaces left for Yoga (Y1-Y3) and if you would like your child to attend for the next 4 weeks please let the office know.

