



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Dear Parents,

Christmas is in full swing here at school with lots of things coming up, so please keep out on the app and on our website, twitter and the reminders on this newsletter so that you are up to date.

Our children are definitely getting their fair share of Article 31 of the UNCRC – ‘Children have the right to join in a wide range of activities’.



Christmas Performance (Year 1- Year 6) – ‘It’s Chr-i-i-stmas!’ – next Wednesday and Thursday

Final rehearsals are well underway and we look forward to welcoming you to the show next week.

There are a handful of tickets left for a couple of the performances so just let us know if you would like to come along and haven’t got tickets yet.

Just a further reminder that in order to put on the evening shows, we do need **all children** to come back to school to perform on both evenings. Parents are welcome to wait in classrooms with the children if they are not watching the show. Thank you for your support in this.



Christmas Parties – please note changes to organisation this year

We are always (*too!*) well supported by parents sending ample food for the party tea and it results in lots of food often being wasted and of course lots of plastic packaging that we want to cut down on. We have talked to our working groups of children and have decided that this year we won’t be having a huge party tea, but will spend more time playing party games and enjoying the fun. We know the children enjoy a snack though, and school will be providing drinks and an ice-cream/lolly for them to enjoy. We would however love to support our local community foodbank at this special time of year, so we invite you to send in a small food contribution that we can donate to them on behalf of our school. Please send in any donations by Friday 13th December so that we can pass them on in good time. Thank you.

Party clothes

Children are very welcome to come to school on party day dressed in their party clothes. Alternatively, they are also welcome to bring along a change of clothing if they wish to. This year though, to avoid upset for children whose parents are unable to come to school to help with dressing, staff will assist with any changes of clothing that are needed rather than parents coming along for some children and others feeling left out. Staff will enjoy helping with the finer touches needed to party hair, shoes or ties etc!

Parents are welcome into the school hall for 3 p.m. just in case we have a special visitor with gifts for the children. Nursery and Reception class party will also be in the school hall, with a special visitor at 3pm too.



Flu immunisations!

I was told by the nurses yesterday that we had an exceptionally good take-up of the immunisations yesterday so thank you for supporting this. I have had a very small number of parents ring this morning to say that they had filled in the consent form but their child hadn’t been immunised. I have followed this up with the Health Team and they have said this could have happened for a number of reasons. There is however an opportunity for you to take your child to one of the ‘catch-up’ clinics that they are running:

Sat 7th Dec at Spennymoor Leisure Centre or Sat 14th Dec at Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre. Both sessions run from 9.00am until 12.00pm.

Sun Book tokens

‘EVERY child should know the joy of losing themselves in a fantastic book.’ – and we agree!

The Sun have teamed up with HarperCollins to give away up to £12million worth of brilliant books to primary schools absolutely FREE. We need 3,500 tokens to get our free books worth £600. Please collect tokens from the newspaper and send them into school. Thanks.



Carols in the Market Place Friday 13th December



Don't forget next Friday we will be singing our carols in the Town Hall gardens. Please join us to give the children your support. The infants will aim to sing at 9.45am and then the juniors will aim to arrive at the market place to sing at 10.00am. Y6 will go on to sing for the residents of Tenlands when they have finished in the market place and Y5 will sing to the residents of Denehurst on Tuesday 17th December

Carols on the School Field and Fairtrade refreshments 2.45pm

We will also all sing the carols together on our school field on the Friday afternoon. The singing will begin at 2.45pm. We will also have hot chocolate, tea, coffee and mince pies available to keep us all warm!



School Christmas lunch and jumper day! Friday 13th December

We will all enjoy Christmas lunch together next Friday, with crackers, paper hats and of course, turkey and all the trimmings. Even children who normally bring a packed lunch are encouraged to join us for the special day – and almost everyone does. The cost is the normal lunch price of just £2.05. We will have drinks provided too. Please pay dinner money as normal, or if your child usually has a packed lunch, please just send in the £2.05 on Monday 10th

Children are encouraged to wear a **Christmas jumper** on this day too.....and it's definitely a requirement for staff if they want their lunch!



Christmas Crafts

Thank you to everyone who came along and took part. The children loved it – and I'm sure many of the grown-ups got into the Christmas spirit too!



'A Miracle in Town' – a Christmas nativity

Reception Class and Nursery performances this year are on Tuesday 10th December at 2pm and Wednesday 11th December at 9.30am.

Tickets are on sale now for what will be a delightful Christmas tradition – it just wouldn't be the same without a school nativity!



'The Jingle Belles' – in concert

We are looking forward to being entertained by the Durham Music Services own group – The Jingle Belles on the morning of Monday 16th December. I am sure it will put everybody in the festive mood to really enjoy our last week before Christmas.

Parking around school

Can I thank the large majority of parents who recognise the need to be respectful and courteous to our neighbours around school when parking their cars to drop off and collect children. Unfortunately, there have been a number of occasions recently when cars have been parked blocking driveways and on pathways, which make it difficult for residents and pedestrians to pass by. Please help us teach our children to be respectful and considerate members of our community by setting a good example to them ourselves.

Our PCSO Louise and her colleagues are supporting us and local residents to ensure our school area remains safe for everyone.



Friends of School – 2020 Calendar

Great presents for grandparents etc. at Christmas - our School Calendars. They will be on sale at each of our concerts and are also available from the school office next week at a bargain price of just £3.50.



Friday 20th December – Toy Day

One of the most eagerly awaited days that the children look forward to in our school calendar but not surprisingly, not the staff's favourite day! Children are welcome to bring in a toy for the last day, but please nothing of high value or that has lots of little parts that can be lost. Thanks.