



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Ofsted
Outstanding
2011/2012

unicef
UNITED KINGDOM
GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Dear Parents,

With Harvest, Halloween and then Remembrance Day this soon after our return from half-term, our Rights Respecting reference this time is aptly Article 30 **'Children have the Right to learn and use customs of their families'**

Harvest Celebrations

Thank you for all of the kind donations for Harvest. We took them to St Luke's Foodbank this morning where they were very gratefully received. It is still a very challenging time for many of our community and I know the food will be very welcome.

We held the raffle draw this morning. First prize of the fantastic food hamper was won by Cruz and Kai's mum. Second and third prizes of a bottle of wine and a bottle of prosecco were won by Thomas and Ruby's mum and Stephen's mum. I think we will let you choose - whoever gets to school first to claim their prize, can have their choice of bottle! We managed to raise £157 in the raffle so thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets.

Our Harvest Celebration video will be on the website for you to watch from this afternoon. All classes have been involved and we hope you enjoy it!



Start times - a reminder

We have been trialling the 'soft start' this half-term and it seems to be working well. We will continue with this next half-term but just wanted to remind everyone that children should be in school at 8.55am - this is when school starts. We are going to ring the bell in school and this will remind staff of the time as well. If you arrive after 8.55am, then please go to the main entrance and sign your child in.

Nursery children - start times are different for Nursery compared to the rest of the school so there would be no need for you to bring your child to the main entrance unless they were significantly later than their arrival time e.g. had attended a medical appointment.

Flu vaccinations

Have you completed the vaccination form for your child yet? Please remember to complete it - whether or not you want them to receive the vaccine. We have sent the letter out again on the app this morning.

Individual photographs - 2nd November

As mentioned in the last newsletter, individual photographs will take place on the first day back after half-term. Children will be able to have their photographs taken with their siblings in school but unfortunately, we will not be able to have siblings not of school age included in the photographs as we have pre-covid. Children with siblings will also have an individual photo taken.



Parent Discussions

Thank you to everyone who has responded through the app about parent discussions with your child's class teacher. I have looked at the responses and the majority would like to have these discussions in school. You will have received another app form today regarding which day and time you prefer. You only need to complete this form if you have asked for an in-school discussion. On our return to school, staff will then send you an invite for the discussion. We do try and make sure that siblings have times close together.

For virtual discussions, staff will send an invite for a Teams meeting.

These discussions are really important and we would encourage you all to make an appointment either virtually or in-school if possible. If you are unable to attend the 2 dates given, then please email your child's class teacher.



Armistice Day 11th November

Ferryhill Town Council have invited us to their service to commemorate Armistice Day. Our school council will represent our school at the service and will place a small wooden cross at the cenotaph.



Christmas procession - Friday 26th November



The consent form is now on the app to let us know if your child will be joining us for the procession on 26th 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.

Children in Need – Friday 12th November

Children in Need are again using our school motto of 'Together we can' for their event this year. We will, of course, be joining in and details of how we are getting involved will be on the next newsletter.

On Wednesday in our Eco Assembly, we discussed with the children a new and exciting project we are going to start after half term!



Recycle to Read is a ground-breaking new Pod campaign that rewards schools for collecting unwanted plastic toys and tech for recycling and reuse, in exchange for books.

Did you know?

- Plastic toys and tech can be valuable for reuse and recycling but can have a negative impact on the environment if they are not disposed of correctly.
- Over 318 million toys are sold in the UK every year, of which the majority are manufactured from plastic or contain plastic components. However, there is currently limited infrastructure to collect and recycle plastic toys.
- Currently, a large amount of tech is either hoarded in homes or thrown out with household waste. It is estimated households across the UK throw away 155,000 tonnes of small electricals every year – this would be worth an estimated £17 billion if reused or recycled!

We really need your help! We will be collecting plastic and tech right up to the Christmas holidays. If you have any of the following, please bring them in to school and help us with our recycle to read challenge:

- Broken or old plastic toys (no batteries or electrical elements)
- Any old tech, which is still working: e.g. mobile phones, wireless speakers, tablets, MP3 players, wearable tech (fit bits etc) and digital cameras. Items can be donated without chargers and cables and it isn't a problem if they have a cracked screen. Please can we ask that batteries are removed before they come into school. If they are part of the device, they are still fine to hand in.

Thank you to everyone in advance – we really appreciate all your help!

The poster features a large, stylized jack-o'-lantern with triangular eyes and a wide, toothy grin, set against a glowing orange background. Below the main jack-o'-lantern is a row of smaller, silhouetted jack-o'-lanterns. The text is in a playful, slightly irregular font.

Pumpkin Carving Competition

Hosted by Cleves Cross Learning
Trust.

Open to individuals and families between the 15th
and 31st October. Design and create your
masterpieces then share them with us through your
child's class email. The winners will be announced
the week commencing 1st November. *Good luck!*

1st, 2nd, & 3rd place will receive prizes!