



March 16th 2018 Issue 23

Thank you Mrs Bartoli

Mrs Bartoli has many roles in school and lots of you will have met and worked with her either as a teacher, Early Years Lead, SENDCO or Deputy Head Teacher. As well as these roles, Mrs Bartoli is also English Subject Lead and organised World Book Day for us. On top of that, I asked her to organise Mother's Day and that was superb too! She is an outstanding teacher who always makes time for others and for that we are very grateful. Her latest project involves the Meet Procession so watch this space!

New Menu Choices

New menu choices have been sent home this week and the new menus will start after Easter. Please could menu choices be returned to the School Office as soon as possible?

I understand there have been some alternative dinner choices this week due to Taylor Shaw's usual menu and deliveries being disrupted by the snow. The children were still offered five choices but I appreciate that it might not have been what you/they expected. I have been assured that this will return to normal on Monday. Apologies for this.

Science Day

As part of British Science Week, we had a science day in school on Wednesday. Our Science Lead, Dr Greenwell captured the children's imagination with some super experiments in assembly involving dry ice. The children got to collect bubbles to make a tower on their fingers, see experiments and much more. After that, the children from Y1-Y6 went to different classrooms with different teachers to learn aspects of science on the theme of 'discovery'. This was a great experience for the children and staff and I know that the children enjoyed the sessions greatly. I hope parents who received the 'poo' enjoyed dissecting it! Dr Greenwell is leading our school towards the Primary Science Quality Mark which is a nationally recognised accreditation and I thank her for her work on this.

Shakespeare Week

This week Dr Greenwell's class have been reading Romeo and Juliet (the children's version!) as part of Shakespeare week. Part of the activities involved the class hiding a book by William Shakespeare in the town with the idea that someone will find it, read it and hide it somewhere else. There are instructions alongside which show how we can track the book's location. I wonder where it will end up?

Edinburgh Residential

The Y5/6 children are looking forward to their Summer Residential to Edinburgh alongside other Y5/6s from Cothelstone Primary School. Some parents are paying amounts in instalments and some have paid off the full amount, which needs to be paid in full by May 25th. Please could those parents/carers who have not returned the EV4 forms return them as soon as possible? Thank you. I have added the PowerPoint from the parents meeting to the latest news section of the website for parents who were unable to attend the meeting earlier in the term.

Mother's Day

Last Friday was a great afternoon in school where we welcomed so many visitors. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was so nice for us to see Mums/Grandmothers and other special guests playing and enjoying themselves with their children in the different areas. Thank you to all of the staff who helped out to make this a memorable afternoon.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening was very well attended and it was nice to have a chance to talk to many of you about your child's progress.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a Parent Governor vacancy and I would like to ask anyone who may be interested in the vacancy to express an interest either by phone, at the school office or by emailing Mrs Cole, Chair of Governors at l.cole400@durhamlearning.net

If you would like to find out more on the role of a school governor then please contact myself or the Mrs Cole to find out more. If there is then more than one interested party, then an election will follow. The Governing Body is very strong and it plays an important role in the life of the school.

Sports Events next week

Sports Relief is next week and coincidentally there are many different festivals for different classes next week (have a look at dates for the diary). Please ensure that your child has the Montalbo PE kit in school. On the days they are going to a festival, children can come to school in their PE Kit with suitable PE clothing over the top.

Easter Egg Raffle

On Wednesday 28th, FOMS are raising money with an Easter Egg Raffle. We have had quite a few donations of eggs so far and are very grateful.

Miss Lauder's Class Assembly

We have changed the order of class assemblies a little and Miss Lauder's Class will be the next one on Wednesday 28th March at 9am. Parents/carers and grandparents are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you then.

30 Hour Provision and Open Afternoon for Nursery

From September, we will be able to offer 30 hour childcare for eligible 3-4 year olds.

We would like to invite any parents who may be interested seeing our Nursery provision for their 3 year olds to an Open Afternoon on Tuesday April 24th. Mrs Bartoli and Mrs Patterson will set up some activities for your child to enjoy and you can talk to the staff about the provision.

Attendance for w.b. 12.3.18

| Class | Present |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Mrs Bartoli's Reception | 92.5% |
| Miss Lauder's Class | 98% |
| Miss Blackburn's Class | 99.7% |
| Dr Greenwell's Class | 97.6% |
| Miss Richardson's Class | 97.1% |
| School Total | 97.4% |

Dates for the diary

| | |
|---|--|
| March 19 th -23 rd | Sports Relief activities in school throughout the week |
| March 19 th | Miss Lauder's Class Football at the Alun Armstrong Centre 9.30-11.30am |
| March 20 th | Miss Richardson's Class Multiskills at Staindrop Academy 9.30-11.30am |
| March 22 nd | Reception Festival at Staindrop Academy 9.30-11.30am |
| March 22 nd | Football League Matches (KS2) at Staindrop Academy |
| March 23 rd | Clarinetists to Teesdale for a Music Workshop |
| March 26 th | EYFS and Key Stage 1 to GlaxoSmithKline |
| March 27 th | Y3-Y6 to GlaxoSmithKline |
| March 28 th | Miss Lauder's Class Assembly at 9am |
| March 28 th | Easter Egg Raffle for children |
| March 29 th | Teacher Training Day |
| March 30 th – April 13 th | Easter Holidays |
| April 16 th | Start of Summer Term |
| April 18 th | FOMS meeting 5pm |

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m. Two hours of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Mr Minikin,

Head Teacher