



November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019 Issue 11

### **Mrs Leonard's Class Assembly**

Parents/families of our Year 5 children are invited to the next class assembly, which will take place at 9am on Friday November 29th. We hope that you are able to join us.

### **Christmas Fair**

FOMS, staff and I are busy arranging some lovely stalls and activities for the Christmas Fair on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 5pm-7pm. There are now well over 20 stalls in attendance not including the school stalls, selling a wide variety of items that will make excellent Christmas gifts. Father Christmas will also be in the Goods Wagon! The event will be in the school hall with stalls and activities outside on the yard and in the garden too. If you know anyone in the wider community who may like to come, please invite them!

Friends are running various activities such as a bottle tombola and raffle. If you have any prizes that you would be willing to donate please bring them to the School Office. Thank you.

### **Christmas Lunch**

A letter was sent out this week to parents of children who usually have a packed lunch to see if your child would like a Christmas Dinner on December 10th. Please return the form by November 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

### **Library help needed**

In order to have a proper lending library for our children of reference and fiction books, to compliment the class libraries, there is quite a lot of work to do. We have started adding stickers to the books in the relevant colours and numbering to categorise the books although this is not complete and we could do with some help. If you enjoy books and helping out, please could you contact the School Office. It need not be a regular commitment, but any help would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

### **Reading helpers**

Miss Lauder wondered if anyone would like to come into school and listen to the children read in her class. If you are interested in this please contact the School Office. Thank you.

### **Athlete Visit**

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November, GB Athlete Charlie Myers is visiting our school. Charlie is a professional Pole Vaulter and this year he came 5<sup>th</sup> at the European U23 Athletics Championships. Charlie will be running a fitness activity circuit for all children to take part in. We hope that you can support and encourage your child by sponsoring them to complete the activities. The money raised will provide school with some new sports equipment and support Charlie Myers on his journey towards the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. We look forward to this fantastic event!

Children will need their PE kits in school on Thursday.

### **Swimming**

Please note that there will no more sessions of swimming for Year 4 children until after Christmas – we attend 30 swimming sessions a year or 10 sessions each team. The sessions will start again on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Safety Carousel**

Next week the Year 6 children will take part in the Safety Carousel which gives the children important messages about road safety, keeping safe online, water safety and much more.

### **Christmas Performances**

It has been lovely to see and hear Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 practising for the Christmas Performances in the hall this week. Information about tickets will be in next week's newsletter.

## Newcastle University Outreach

Today we were visited by the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) team from Newcastle University. Year 6 were treated to a workshop where they asked the question 'How can we change the world with engineering?' They learnt about the different kinds of engineering and how it impacts on our world. They had a fantastic time building a mini robot, creating a car and designing a water filter. Year 5 had a workshop with a different focus, 'amazing adaptations', where they looked at how different species have evolved to cope with their environments. They created their own species and considered how humans are impacting on species survival. Thank you to Dr Greenwell for arranging this.

## Children in Need

On Friday last week, with the non-uniform and book sale, we raised £257.21 for Children in Need. Thank you for your donations.

## Headlice

We have had a case of head lice reported. Please could all parents check their children and treat their hair if necessary.

## Letterjoin

Some teachers at Parents' Evening may have shared the fact that we follow a handwriting scheme called Letterjoin which you can access at home. The home user name is lj0107 and the password is home.

If you are using an Ipad, you may need a swipe code which is a capital L starting at the top left.

## Absences

Please remember to telephone the School Office if your child is unwell, preferably before school. Advice from the school nurse, which we follow, states that if a child has been sick or has had diarrhoea, then they need to have been clear for 48 hours before returning to school.

## Reception 2020

Please remember to visit [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) if you have not already completed applications for a Reception place.

## Attendance for w.b. 18.11.19

Class	Present
Reception	92.8%
Year 1	95.3%
Year 2	93.3%
Year 3	94.2%
Year 4	96.9%
Year 5	95.25%
Year 6	94.8%

School overall attendance is 94.7%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons.

**1 hour and 25 minutes** of learning was lost to lateness this week

## Dates for the diary

November 25 <sup>th</sup>	Safety Carousel Y6
November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Athlete visit
November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Class Assembly
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	FOMS Christmas Fair 5-7pm
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery and Reception Nativity Play 2.30pm
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Music Concert at Teesdale 4.30 -6.30pm
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Multiskills Festival at Staindrop (am)
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Dinner Day
December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Multiskills Festival at Aycliffe
December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Performance by Year 1 and Year 2 at 1.45pm
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Performance by Year 1 and Year 2 at 6pm
December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service in St Mary's Church at 2pm (wear your Christmas jumpers!)
December 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas parties – dates tbc
December 20 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term
January 6 <sup>th</sup>	Teacher training day
January 7 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school

Mr Minikin  
Head Teacher