



December 10th 2021

Light Up Barnard Castle

Thank you to the children and parents/carers who helped with the lantern parade. It was a nice event and I hope that all who attended had an enjoyable evening, Mrs Gent from The Hub commented on our pupil's good behaviour and the lanterns that they had made.

Well done Jack and Katie

I have received a couple more lovely emails over the last two weeks. Jack in Year 6 has been extremely thoughtful and caring as he has needed to help out a great deal at home recently.

Following on from Archie's success in the Key Stage 1 Barnard Castle Library competition, Katie in Year 6 has won 2nd prize in the Key Stage 2 competition. Katie is a very keen reader and I am sure she will put her book voucher prize to good use. Well done Katie.

Cooking inside and outside the classroom

This week it has been amazing to see the variety and ambition of our curriculum, particularly within the Design and Technology curriculum and the Outdoor Learning sessions. The smell of smoky children and staff has been wafting through the corridors as well as the smell of curries, kebabs, hotdogs, bread and much more! To cook outdoors in such inclement weather was a great achievement and I know these are very memorable sessions. Well done to all the children and staff!

Zak from Babuls visited school and was entertained in the Y6 restaurant, complimenting the children for their lovely dishes.

Dancing Reindeers!

Nursery had the mystery to solve this week of who or what had made a mess in the kitchen as there were bits of carrots all over the floor. Some children thought I was responsible or perhaps animals had sneaked in, however, on checking the security camera footage the culprits were found to be "dancing reindeers"! The recording of the reindeers is on Weduc for you to watch and enjoy.

Christmas Tree Festival

The Christmas Tree Festival is taking place now and finishes on Sunday 12th December. We have decorated a tree again this year – why not visit the festival and see if you can spot it?

Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will take place during the last week of term. Please see Diary Dates below for details. Children can come to school in their party clothes and we will provide refreshments.

Christmas Carols

The classes have been busy over the last few weeks preparing for a Christmas Carol concert which will be similar to last years. Rather than being uploaded on to Vimeo, we will upload it to Weduc this time.

Thank you to Dr Greenwell and the choir for singing at the Christmas Tree Festival this week – it was a real pleasure to accompany them. We received some lovely comments from the visitors at the festival.

Strictly Dance Off

I hope that you enjoyed the Dance Off videos last week – thank you to Miss Richardson for producing these. I thought all of the children did a great job.

FOMS

Thank you very much to FOMS for their work to organise the Christmas Raffle. They have sold tickets, collected and wrapped prizes and conducted the draw this week. There were once again brilliant prizes and hope you were lucky! The funds raised go directly to supporting children in school and we are grateful to everyone who bought tickets. Thank you also to Mrs Hauxwell and Mrs Collin for helping with tickets and prizes.

One of FOMs major projects this year, the Roundhouse installation, has been delayed slightly and is now planned for January.

Tea towels have been handed out and there are some additional ones in the school office if you would like to purchase more. Nursery Tea towels cost £6.50 and School Tea Towels cost £5 – cash or cheque payable to “Friends of Montalbo School”. Christmas card orders have been distributed today.

Reception School Places September 2022

The window for applying for Reception places is still open and runs until January 15th 2022.

If you would like to visit school, please contact the School Office who will arrange this with you.

Parent/Carers of all children eligible to start Reception must submit an application.

Further details on the process can be found [here](#).

Flu Immunisation

The Influenza Childhood Immunisation Programme will be undertaken in school on December 15th.

Parents/carers wishing for their child to have the nasal influenza vaccination need to give consent by following the instructions below: -

1. Go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/>
2. Enter the school code 114115 and click ‘find school.’
3. Complete the form
4. Click the green submit button

For those parents/carers who have declined nasal spray due to porcine content, please visit hdft.immunisationteam@nhs.net to book via a community clinic for the injectable flu vaccination.

Vaccinations will not take place without prior consent.

Diary dates

December 8 th – 12 th	Christmas Tree Festival at St. Mary’s Church
December 13 th	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party
December 14 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
December 15 th	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
December 15 th	Flu Immunisation
December 15 th	Christmas Lunch
December 16 th	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party
December 16 th	End of term
December 17 th	Teacher Training Day
January 4 th	Teacher Training Day
January 5 th	Children return to school

Mr. C Minikin, Head Teacher