

14/12/20

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| **Dear Parents,**  Welcome to the latest newsletter.  We’ve almost reached the end of term and- despite all of the uncertainty and difficulty- it has absolutely flown by.  Two things that have really stood out are the way in which the children have adapted really quickly to all of the new arrangements in school and their fantastic attitudes to learning- in school or at home.  2020 has been a challenging year for us all. We have all had to adapt to new ways of working, build social distancing into our daily lives and follow ever-changing restrictions. I know that, over the past 9 months, there have been times when, as a school, we haven’t got things quite right and have had to change, adapt and respond to feedback and I apologise for this. More than anything though, I want to thank all of the parents for your fantastic continued support for the school.  I hope you all have a peaceful and happy Christmas. | |
| **Reporting positive coronavirus cases during the Christmas holiday**  If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December and subsequently tests positive, you need to let school know.  Please do this by emailing [admin@newbrough.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newbrough.northumberland.sch.uk).  We will check this email address every morning between 9 and 10am so would appreciate notification before this if possible.  If your child develops symptoms AFTER the 20th December, you do not need to let us know until the start of the new term.  Staff will be available up to and including Christmas Eve in order to respond to any potential cases. This is in case there is a delay in getting a test result through. | |
| **Spring Term**  Term starts for the children on **Tuesday 5th January.** | |
| **Stars of the week**  These are the children who have particularly impressed their teachers during the weeks beginning the 30th November and the 7th December.  Class 1: Annie and Hamish, Eve and all of Class 1 parents and children  Class 2: William, Leon, Callum and Libby  Class 3: Caitlin, Addison, Ailsa and Ruth  Class 4: the whole class and Olivia. | |
| **Christmas jumper money**  Thank you for all your donations for Christmas jumper day. We raised the fantastic sum of £60 for the foodbank which has bought lots of Christmas food and toiletries. We will post some photos on Facebook. | **Christmas with ‘The Hobs’.**  This week, all of the children will have the chance to watch an animation called ‘Christmas with the Hobs’. This has been produced by Queen’s Hall, Hexham, Alnwick Playhouse and the Maltings in Berwick.  The show features two elf-like characters called Hobs; they are friendly and funny and help the children to have a home-made Christmas, with some hilarious consequences. |
| **Breakfast/ After School club bookings**  It’s really helpful if we can have booking forms in by the Friday of the week before you need to use the breakfast/ after school club as this helps us to plan staffing and prepare activities.  Please could you send in your booking forms for January as soon as possible- even if the days your child/ren are using the club haven’t changed.  Thank you. | **Christmas Performances**  We hope to post your child’s class performance in Google classroom this week- technology allowing. You will receive a reminder set of instructions on how to access Google classroom and a notification when it has been posted. We would ask that you please don’t share your child’s log in details, take screenshots of the performance or share it beyond immediate family in any way.  **We will be deleting performances after 1 week.**  Class 4 have created an animation which will be posted on the school website. |
| **Staffing changes in January**  As you will know if you read the letter from Mary Pedley, Chair of Governors, I will be working at Greenhaugh Primary School 2 days per week in January. Mrs Houghton will be teaching in Class 2 on Thursdays and Fridays instead of me- and I know she is looking forward to getting to know all the parents. Mrs Stevens is taking on the role of Acting Deputy Head and is the first point of contact when I am not on site. | |
| **Mr Chapman’s recommended reads**  Looking for an idea for a last minute present?  How about:  Another Twist in the Tale – Catherine Burton:  Enthralling period spin off following Twill Twist, Sister of Oliver Twist, as she discovers mysteries in an atmospheric re-imagining of Charles Dickens’ London. Recommended for KS2. | **Mrs Stevens’ Marvellous maths**  Some Christmas themed games to try:  Test your memory with this matching game.  <https://www.mathplayground.com/holiday_games/holiday_christmas_memory.html>  Or the older children might like this place value game in the style of ‘Who wants to be a Millionaire?’  <http://www.math-play.com/Place-Value-Millionaire/place-value-millionaire-game_html5.html> |
| **Class 1 and 2 arriving at school in January**  From the start of next term, Class 1 and 2 will be coming into school through different doors. This is because the field is getting wet and muddy.  Class 2 will come in to school through the same door as Class 3 and 4 which will take them straight into their cloakroom area.  Please bring Nursery and Reception (Class 1) children along the path to their classroom door and return the same way.  At the end of the day, Class 1 children will be brought out to the tarmac area near the bike sheds.  We will continue to monitor this to make sure that we are still able to maintain suitable distance between the children and that there is enough space for parents to follow social distancing guidelines. | **Hats and gloves- and other warm clothes!**  We have been advised that we need to keep the classroom windows open as much as possible to allow for a circulation of fresh air. As the weather gets cooler, please could children remember hats and gloves for when they are outside. They may wear long sleeved t-shirts or other additional layers under their school uniform if they start to feel the cold- although we will obviously increase the amount of time the heating is on for. Please make sure everything is clearly named. |
| Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do get in touch or catch me outside before school. If I don’t know there’s a problem, I can’t sort it out.  Kind regards,  Mrs Trotter (Headteacher) | |

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| **Dates for your diary** |  |
| **December** |  |
| **Tuesday 15th December** | Class 1 Christmas party  Class 2 Christmas party |
| **Wednesday 16th December** | Class 3 Christmas party  Class 4 Christmas party |
| **Thursday 17th December** | Christmas performance - Christmas with The Hobs |
| 18.12.2020 | End of autumn term |
| **January** |  |
| 4.1.2021 | Teacher Training Day |
| 5.1.2021 | Start of spring term |
| **February** |  |
| 12.2.2021 | School closes for half term holiday |
| 22.2.2021 | School re-opens |
| **March** |  |
| 26.3.2021 | School closes for Easter holidays |
| **April** |  |
| 12.4.2021 | School re-opens |
| **May** |  |
| 3.5.2021 | May Bank Holiday |
| 28.5.2021 | School closes for half term holiday |
| **June** |  |
| 7.6.2021 | School re-opens |
| **July** |  |
| 16.7.2021 | End of summer term |