 29.11.19

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| **Dear Parents,**  Welcome to the latest newsletter- which is full of all things Christmas!  There is lots happening in the remaining three weeks of term- as always at this time of year- so please ask if you are unsure about anything. | | |
| **Mini Police**  Each year, children in Class 4 are enrolled as Mini Police in the Northumbria police force. Our current cohort had their first official engagement in Hexham helping at the ceremony to switch on the Christmas lights on Friday.  It was a bitterly cold afternoon- but they were an absolute credit to the school and looked very smart in their uniforms. Well done to you all! | | |
| **Film Night**  The PTA are holding a Christmas Film Night on Wednesday 4th December. This will run from 5.00-6.30 pm for children in Class 2, 3 and 4 and **5.00 – 5.45 pm for children in Nursery and Reception.**  Teddies and pyjamas optional!  There will be a charge of £3 per child. Hot chocolate and popcorn is included in the price. | | **Advent service in church**  On Tuesday 3rd December, we will be attending an Advent service at St Aidan’s church (the green church) led by Reverend Thompson. We will be leaving school at around 9.15am and the service will start at around 9.30am. Parents are warmly invited to join us on the walk to the church and for the service itself. |
| **Early Years Open morning**  **We are holding an Early Years open morning from 9.30-11.30 on Friday 6th December.**  Come along and find out what makes our Early Years so special.  **Please spread the word amongst anyone you know who might currently be looking for a nursery or reception place**.  We currently have a few spaces left for September 2020 in both nursery and reception. | | |
| **Christmas Play**  Our Christmas Play this year is… ‘I’m Gonna Shine’ and we are going to be performing it on the stage in **Newbrough Town Hall**.  The dress rehearsal is on **Monday 16th December at 10am**. Parents with toddlers are welcome to come to this.  There will be an afternoon performance at **2pm on** **Tuesday 17th December** and an evening performance at **6pm on Wednesday 17th December.** You will shortly receive a letter with information about tickets and an order form. | | |
| **Christmas Dinner**  Our Christmas dinner is on Thursday 12th December.  If your child would like a Christmas dinner **AND THEY DON’T NORMALLY HAVE A SCHOOL DINNER** then  please let us know by Wednesday of this week. The cost for children in Nursery, Class 3 and Class 4 is £2.30. | | |
| **Christmas Party**  We will be holding a Christmas party for the children on the morning of Thursday 19th December. Mrs Bridges will be providing party food for lunch. The children can come to school in party clothes on that day- bearing in mind that they will still be going outside and there will still be PE in the afternoon. | | **End of term**  School finishes on Friday 20th December and the Spring term begins for the children on Tuesday 7th January. |
| **After School Club activities**  Mrs Johnson has planned some lovely activities for the remainder of this term. They include making bookmarks, iced biscuits, junk modelling and making Christmas garlands. Lots of fun and games in the run up to Christmas! | | |
| **Weather warnings and school closure**  We have already sent home advice regarding procedures for advising parents of any closure due to severe weather. The forecast for next week is indicating there may be some snow, we will keep you updated via email, school website, facebook and twitter.  Please ensure pupils are sensibly dressed for the colder weather. | | |
| **Mr Chapman’s Recommended Reads:**  Mr Chapman is our lead teacher for English in school and he is always looking for ways to engage and excite the children through books.  He has recommended the following book for children  in KS2.  Max and the Millions by Ross Montgomery - A creative story about a boy who is sent to a grim boarding school and discovers a miniature world filled with tiny people in a dusty caretaker’s storeroom. A world Max finds out only he can save! | **Mrs Stevens’ Motivating Maths:**  Mrs Stevens is our lead teacher for Maths in school and she is passionate about all things mathematical.  She has recommended the following app for children to have a look at: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/christmas-patterns> | |
| **Keeping children safe online:**  If you are worried about how to talk to your child about online safety, there has been some useful guidance published recently by Childnet.  They have updated their parent and carer toolkit that will help parents have conversations about online safety. Their booklet 'Let's talk about life online' includes ten key messages that should be shared with children:   1. "You can always come to me if you need help." 2. "What would you do if this happened…?" 3. "Remember that not everyone is who they say they are online." 4. "Keep your personal information safe, and other people’s too." 5. "Be respectful to others online." 6. "Think before you post." 7. "Remember to ask if it’s okay." 8. "Remember not everything is true online." 9. "The things other people post online might not always show what their life is really like." 10. "Recognise how going online makes you feel and take a break when you need to."   The Parent and Carer Toolkit can be found here: [https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit](http://briefing.safeguardinginschools.co.uk/lt.php?s=4f778ef11c3401b21dfbd5c57551f49a&i=81A108A5A798) | | |
| **Attendance for the Autumn term so far:**   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | **% auth** | **% unauth** | | **Reception** | **97.05** | **2.95** | **0** | | **Y1** | **96.86** | **2.8** | **0.34** | | **Y2** | **96.32** | **5.54** | **1.14** | | **Y3** | **98.0** | **1.88** | **0.12** | | **Y4** | **97.22** | **2.78** | **0** | | **Y5** | **93.15** | **4.77** | **2.07** | | **Y6** | **89.83** | **9.04** | **1.13** |   Good attendance at school is vital for your child’s education.  If your child’s attendance is below 90%, this is classed as persistent absence. | | |
| Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do get in touch or catch me on the playground 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 3rd | Advent Service at church- all welcome |
| Wednesday 4th | Christmas Film Night |
| Wednesday 11th | Class 1 at Queen’ s Hall, Hexham |
| Thursday 12th | Christmas dinner |
| Monday 16th | Christmas Play- dress rehearsal |
| Tuesday 17th | Christmas Play pm performance |
| Wednesday 18th | Christmas Play evening performance |
| Thursday 19th | Christmas party |
| Friday 20th December | School closes for Christmas |
| **Monday 6th January** | **Teacher training day** |
| **Tuesday 7th January** | **Children return to school** |