

NORTH DUFFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Growing Learners for Life

Autumn 2

December 2017

MR RUSSELL'S UPDATES

Dear Parents

Welcome to the final letter of 2017, first my updates.

Reception and Mornings

The new arrangements for accessing the school have been successfully up and running for a few days and any minor issues will be sorted out by the time we start back in January. On the whole they have made accessing school more safe and secure for all. A reminder that as from January access to the school site will be through the pedestrian gates only, please do not use the vehicle gate.

As a staff we have been looking at the most effective way of starting the day; the new arrangements mean we have looked specifically at the children coming to school. As from January we are asking children to go straight to their classrooms where the teacher or member of staff will be available on the door to let them in and for parents to pass on messages. During the bad weather, we found that the children settled quickly into their morning work and were ready for the rest of the day.

Staffing

I would like to thank Mrs Hinchcliffe for all her hard work as a Kitchen Assistant as she leaves us this term. The children and staff have enjoyed being served their dinners by her every day.

We welcome Mr Richard McNally to the team in January. Richard will be joining us as the morning caretaker, looking after the site and buildings as well as making sure all the gates are open and locked at the correct times for the children when they arrive at school.

Christmas is always enjoyable in school; the children are ready for a holiday. It has been a successful but busy 2017 at North Duffield Primary School. We have been visited by Ofsted, had changes to the staff and welcomed many new reception children and parents to our community. Visitors to the school always comment on the family ethos we have and this would not be possible without the support of the staff, Governors, parents and especially the children. The children have been fantastic and a credit, to not only the school, but yourselves.

I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind Regards

Mr Russell

Christingle



The children, staff and community attended our annual Christingle Service at St Helen's Church Skipwith. As always it was a lovely service led by Rev Karen Gardiner and included readings and singing from the children, as well as the lighting of 150 Christingles. Thank you to all at St Helen's Church for supporting the school.

Nativity Play

Well done to all our children in Key Stage 1 and Early Years for a beautiful Nativity Play. The Little Angel Gets Her Wings was performed on Thursday 14 December to over 200 people during two performances. Thank you for the lovely comments about the play, we all thought the children were super.

Carol Concert

On Tuesday 12 December Key Stage Two children performed Carols in the school hall. There was a mixture of traditional and alternative versions. Thank you to the children and staff for an enjoyable evening with some super singing.

ROBINS

SCORE

2593

MALLARDS

SCORE

2692

TEALS

SCORE

2663

SUNBIRDS

SCORE

2690

House News

Well done to **Mallards** for winning the termly house point reward. The reward for the **Mallards** is an activity session with Mr Mathie on Friday 12 January.

Dinner Money

As we end the Autumn Term, please can I remind all parents to ensure that any arrears for dinners are paid. The school has a policy that states; any parents with balances in arrears for three weeks or more, will need to provide a packed lunch until the debt is paid.

If you have any concerns regarding payment, please contact the school to speak to myself or Mrs Oswald.

Sports News

Football

On Friday 8 December KS2 girls took part in a cluster football tournament against five other primary schools. Even though it was a really cold afternoon the girls' energy and enthusiasm was superb. In the end North Duffield finished 3rd having won one game and drawn two. I am extremely proud of the girls who have never played together before, but showed great team spirit. We are looking forward to more games in the new year.

Diary Dates

Autumn Term

Friday 22 December Last Day of Autumn Term

Spring Term

Monday 8 January Staff Training Day
Tuesday 9 January School Open for Spring Term
Thursday 25 January Young Voices Trip
Monday 12- Friday 16 February Half Term Holiday
Monday 19 February School open after holiday
Wednesday 28 February Firefighters Charity Collection
Thursday 15 March Skipwith & North Duffield 60's Club Concert -2pm
Thursday 29 March Last Day of Spring Term

Summer Term

Monday 16 April INSET Day
Tuesday 17 April School open for the summer term
Monday 14 May- Friday 18 May KS2 SATs week
Monday 29 May- Friday 1 June Half term holiday
Monday 4 June School Open after holiday
Monday 9 July- Wednesday 11 July Year 5 & 6 Residential
Friday 20 July Last Day of Term