



LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Weekly Bulletin 5 – Friday 7th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for your donations so far for our Reverse Advent Calendar. It is great at this time of the year that our children can think about how to help others. We have also had some donations in lieu of sending Christmas cards to the whole class – thank you for this. Any donations will be given to help fund Christmas meals for homeless people this Christmas so is again, an exceptionally worthy cause.

It has been lovely listening to some of our younger children on Lisa's Little Uns on Radio Newcastle this week. Our children always speak so eloquently and our youngest children are no exception! We are very proud of them all!

Recording and Photographs at Performances

The nativity performances will not be recorded again this year so that your enjoyment of the productions is not disturbed. However, we will still make sure there is the opportunity at the end for you all to take photographs if you would like to. This is provided that we do not receive any objections from any parents/carers. If we do, then it may be the case that no photographs are allowed to be taken which would be a shame for everyone involved as we do understand how lovely it is to have photographs of special times like this in your memory boxes. However, this is on the understanding that any photographs taken are for your family albums only and will **NOT** be uploaded to social media of any kind. If you have any objections to this, it is essential that you contact me before Tuesday 11th December. Many thanks.

Friends of the School Christmas Gifts

It has been delightful to see the faces of our children when they have been choosing gifts for their loved ones. Nursery, Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 have all chosen theirs this week and we have the following left to organise next week:

Tuesday 11th December – Reception Monday 10th December – Year 1 Thursday 13th December – Year 2

We will also be checking to ensure any children who have been absent are also fitted in next week too.

It is the small things like this that helps to make our school such a special place to be. I would like to thank everyone from the Friends of the School who have willingly given up their time to make this happen. The choosing of the gifts, wrapping of them and helping to man the stalls are all time consuming and so many of our parents have willingly given up their time so that this can be such a huge success – thank you all very much!

Friday 7th December – Girls Football Team in Durham County Finals

Our girls football team won the district league so have been chosen to take part in the county finals at the Riverside today. We wish them all the best and know that they will be great ambassadors for our school. Good luck girls – and Mr Taylor!

Saturday 8th December – Christmas Concert at Community Centre

All members of the choir should meet at the Community Centre around 6.50pm in time for the concert to begin at 7pm. Tickets are £5 and available from the School Office or on the door. Children should be in full school uniform and bring with them a good singing voice! I am sure it will be a very festive evening for us all. As usual, the children sounded wonderful when rehearsing this week.

Tuesday 11th December – Parents' Evening for children with Additional Support Plans

If you have had a letter to discuss your child's progress towards their individual targets on their support plans, please come to the main entrance and make your way to your child's classroom where teachers will be meeting with parents. Please just bear in mind that this is a drop in session so there may be a short wait. We look forward to seeing you there.

Wednesday 12th December – Foundation Stage Nativities

Our youngest children are very excited about their nativity on Wednesday and I am sure you will know the songs almost as well as them by now! They are to come to school dressed in any Christmas themed clothes – this might be a character from the nativity story, or a party dress or Christmas jumper. Some children feel happier in their uniforms which is also absolutely fine! The doors will not be open until 9.30 am for the 10 o'clock performance and 1.30pm for the 2pm performance.

The 10am performance is for Mrs Riddell's class with Nursery Monday – Wednesday Flamingo Group, the Giraffes and the Meerkats. The 2pm performance is for Mrs Burke's class with Nursery Wednesday – Friday Flamingo group and the Penguins. Nursery children can either go home after their performance or are obviously welcome to stay for their full session. Mrs Burke's Reception class will be able to go home immediately after their afternoon performance. Please note however, we are unable to allow siblings to go home early.

Wednesday 12th December – Year 6 at Newcastle Theatre Royal

Wednesday is one of the most exciting days for our Year 6 children. This trip is organised for our oldest children as a thank you for their great attitude, hard work and in appreciation of all the additional responsibilities they undertake. They are to wear comfortable footwear, trousers and their school jumpers please. We will leave around 10am to catch the train from Durham to Newcastle before walking up to see Fenwick's Window, walking back down to the Millennium Bridge, have lunch in Uno's Trattoria before going to the Theatre Royal to see the pantomime, Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We should arrive back at school at approximately 5.30pm but this is dependent upon traffic. We will tweet as we are leaving Newcastle to confirm timings.

Friday 14th December – Christmas Jumper Day

We are asking children to come to school in a Christmas Jumper/t-shirt/festive attire on Friday 14th December in exchange for £1. This is a full non-uniform day so please don't send your children in school uniform. All donations will go towards The Rainbow Trust which is a charity who provide emotional and practical support to families who have a child with a terminal or life-threatening illness. This is a cause close to our hearts as one of our families recently had great support from them so we are keen to show our support by raising money to help them carry on with this essential work.

Friday 14th December – Nativity Puppet Show

Our Nursery and Reception children have a treat on Friday morning when St Nic's Puppet Theatre will treat them to a puppet show of the Nativity Story. They join us every year and the children absolutely love the show! If your Nursery child usually comes just at the start of the week, they would be very welcome to come along for this as long as they are accompanied by an adult. It is due to start at 9.30am so please make your way to the Main Office in good time.

Friday 14th December – New College Theatre Group in School

On Friday morning, our Year 1 to Year 6 children will enjoy a very special drama group who will present Dr Seuss stories. Again, New College Performing Arts students join us every year and are a fantastic group of incredibly talented young people.

Friday 14th December – Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas dinner will be served on Friday 14th December. I am sure that Friday will be a very special and festive day for the whole school!

Foundation Stage News

Please make sure that you return any Nursery clothes your child has borrowed when they have been changed. We have NO boys socks or trousers left at all. If your Reception aged boy has any outgrown socks or trousers, please think of us in Nursery! Please also remember to restock your child's change bag regularly.

We have a lot of children coming to school feeling poorly at the moment. Please consider whether school is the right place for your child to be if they are poorly. We are very active in Nursery and Reception and have access to both indoors and outdoors. If your child is too poorly to play outside then they are not well enough to be in school. Please help us to stop germs spreading to other children and staff wherever possible.

Our EYFS Nativity performances are next Wednesday. Your child is welcome to come either in a Christmas/Nativity themed costume or in party clothes. The performance can be very overwhelming for some of our children and they may see you and just want to come and sit with you. If this is the case, that is fine by us! We want the event to be as relaxed, fun and enjoyable as it can be. You will get the opportunity to take photographs of your child at the end of the performance, but please remember you should not take any photos or videos of other children.

Advance Notices

Monday 17th December – 10am and 2pm - KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 18th December – Year 1&2 and Year 3&4 Parties

Tuesday 18th December – Carols and Hot Chocolate Round the Christmas Tree at 3.30pm

Wednesday 19th December – Foundation Stage (Nursery & Reception) and Year 5&6 Parties

Thursday 20th December – Christingle and KS2 Nativity at 10am and 1.30pm

Friday 21st December – School Closed for Christmas Holiday

Friday 21st December – Holiday Club with Mr Graham – forms available from Office

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher