South Gosforth First School Newsletter Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

As we enter the last week of this half term everyone

is looking forward to the week off next week in which the children can rest and prepare themselves for the very busy half term that encompasses the Christmas Celebrations.

This half term has been extremely busy with 60 new Reception children settling into school alongside their new friends. They have settled very well indeed but do look a little tired!

The rest of the school has also settled quickly to work and prospective parents who are coming to look around have commented on how calm and focused everyone is. Well done

## **Educational Visits**

children!

First of all, can we thank all those parents and family members who read our newsletters and emails and respond appropriately to the health and safety requests within them. We have noticed the change in the 'behaviours' of our children in the yard and the pathways approaching school last week and appreciate the support that this implies.

We always appreciate that there are a small number of families who for whatever reason cannot comply with certain requests from school due to personal circumstances. Thank you for keeping us informed.

# What has been going on?

Week 4 saw Year Three and Year Four going to The Great North Museum in Newcastle to support their Topic work; Year Four to the exhibition about The Egyptians and Year Three to learn more about The Stone Age. The children were kept busy throughout the visit and absorbed a great deal of information. Staff were pleased with their behaviour when out of school and we were delighted that so many parents could accompany the groups.

### **Parents into School**

#### MacMillan

A group of parents popped into school to share coffee and cake in aid of the MacMillan charity. We hope that they enjoyed a quick catch up with friends and appreciate the £170.00 raised.



#### **Bike it Breakfast**

At least 80 people came into school early on 9<sup>th</sup> of October and shared their breakfast with friends. As ever this was a lovely event and a great way to start the day. Staff in the hall commented on the friendly atmosphere and I do enjoy meeting and greeting all those who cycle or scooter to school.

### **Parents Evening and Book Fair**

Thank you everyone who managed to come into school for Parents Evening. We hope you found it useful to see how your child/children are settling into their new class. We know that a small number of you could not make an appointment on either evening and I would urge you to get in touch with your class teacher and have that conversation. Your support at home is



invaluable and it is through those conversations that we can keep you informed about their attainment and the progress they are making.

Another huge thank you for all your support during the book fair. As we have said many times – the books are not cheap but we do get 60% of the final sales to spend on books in school. As you raised an amazing £1,500 that means we can spend £900 on new material. Thank you everyone!

## **SATS Information Evening**

On Monday evening and Tuesday morning this week Year Two parents came in to hear about the Reading and Maths tests that Year Two children take in the summer term. We do appreciate the

involvement of so many parents and hope they found the session useful.

#### **Harvest Festival**

We held an enjoyable Harvest Festival Assembly in school on 10<sup>th</sup> October and were delighted to see so many donations both to the Food Bank and to Shelter. I am sure we all wish that these donations were not needed by anyone in Newcastle but they were very gratefully received and school has received thanks. Well done everyone.



### National Poetry Day and our poetry competition.

Mr. Mullick did a special assembly all about National Poetry Day and asked the children if they would like to submit poems to him – closing date Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. We have been sharing some of these during Celebration Assembly this week. There is a winner in each class and three overall winners across the school. The poems we received were wonderful and well done to everyone who took the time at home to compose them.

## Goodbye to a member of staff

We are all saying goodbye to Mrs. Cruddas this Thursday and wish her a fabulous, relaxing retirement. She has worked in school for many years and has made a significant contribution to the learning and pastoral care of so many children. We know many of you will miss her, and appreciate the support she has given to our school community.

# **Up and coming events**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October: Halloween Disco

Friday 26<sup>th</sup>: Teacher Training Day. Staff in school but children do not attend.

Return to school: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Tuesday 6th November: Year 4 visit Alphabetti Theatre for a WW1

Theatre Workshop.

Thursday 8th November: Year Two coffee morning

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November: Flu Immunisation Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November: Children In Need