



## Allendale Primary School November 2017 Newsletter

Firstly we have some very exciting news about a member of staff. Miss White had been shortlisted for a national award, one of 3 teachers across England. Last week at the awards ceremony at the National Theatre in London, she was announced as the overall winner of the Renaissance Learning Project Manager of the Year for her work in implementing and monitoring the Accelerated Reader Programme which has increased children's independent reading and raised standards in reading from Year 2 to Year 6. This is an amazing achievement for her personally but the school as well and much deserved.

We have three trainee teachers working in school for the next 4 weeks. Miss Martin and Mr McKeever are teaching some lessons in Curlew Class and Mr Small is teaching in Kestrel Class.

Before half term, the children designed and made their Christmas cards which have been scanned into the system, ready for any orders you wish to place. The children's work has been sent home for you to see. There is a label on the back with details of the website and how to order. Orders should be made online by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

We will be supporting the poppy appeal and have poppies, bracelets and badges for sale. These will be available from Thursday. Friendship bracelets and slap rulers are priced at £1.00, wristbands and reflectors at 50p.

The school nurses are in school on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November to administer the flu vaccine to children in Pipit, Skylark and Lapwing Classes; this is administered via a nasal spray and no injections are necessary.

Many thanks to those people who have brought in donations of unwanted clothing for the bags2school collection; although the collection is not until 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018, bags are very welcome at any time.

We had a great turnout for our Harvest Festival celebration and raised £144.61 for the MOET, (Mangochi Orphans Education Training) School in Malawi. For anyone who is interested in finding out more about the MOET School, there is a short documentary by Josh Edwards which can be found on You Tube.

Our school holds the Healthy Schools Award and as a commitment to that we hold an annual Health and well-being event which is taking place this week. There are various activities including health talks, yoga sessions, PE sessions and healthy eating activities as well as PSHE lessons. Our school meals have to meet nutritional standards and packed lunches should be healthy. We do not allow fizzy drinks, sweets or bars of chocolate in packed lunches.

The School Council have made some great contributions about issues they would like to be involved with. They have suggested creating some considerate parking leaflets which they would like to give out to parents. They are also looking at improving the resurfaced playground and creating an exciting area which can be used for playtime and lessons. They will be consulting with the other children and working on a plan which we can then cost; the PTFA are very keen on fundraising but if there are any funding opportunities or matched funding schemes which parents know of, we would be grateful if you could let us know.

We need your help to make our Christmas fair a huge success. On **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November** we are having a non uniform day - always a good excuse to come to school in pyjamas or onesie! In return we would ask all the children to bring in a donation of chocolate or a bottle of something - wine, lemonade, shampoo - can be anything in a bottle; these are then used for the tombolas. If you are

feeling very generous a donation of each would be gratefully received. Please do not wrap donations as we need to check sell by dates and please do not donate anything already part used or open.

WOW, (Walk on Wednesday) returns in November, although children can walk to school or do extra walking in the playground on any day. The children record their walking and can earn badges each month. Biking or scootering to school will also count towards the badge.

On **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November**, we are hosting a visit from Tree of Knowledge who are running 2 workshops with Curlew and Kestrel Classes around the theme of superheroes focusing on developing / celebrating determination and effort. They come highly recommended and we are really looking forward to their visit.

There are a few sporting events this half term. Yesterday the Y3/4 rugby team went to the Tynedale Rugby Tournament; we're just waiting for confirmation that they were the overall winners. Today the local schools KS2 Cross Country event is here at 10am.

Next Tuesday afternoon, **7<sup>th</sup> November**, there is a seven-a-side Y5 football tournament at Prudhoe High School. On **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November** in the afternoon, Shaftoe Trust Primary are bringing their Y5/6 football team to play Allendale.

The Year 6 children will be undertaking some peer leader training with Mr Ricketts which will equip them to run some lunchtime clubs and sports competitions. Their training will take place on the afternoons of **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November**.

During the week beginning **13<sup>th</sup> November**, Curlew Class are taking part in a dance project with Priory School. There will be workshops each day, leading to a shared performance on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** to which parents of children in Curlew are welcome to attend.

On **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** there is a Y5/6 Hockey Tournament at QEHS.

The PTFA have funded a whole school theatre performance of Wizard William on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November**.

The Christingle will take place on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** at 3pm at St Cuthbert's Church. Our children do sing a song from our Nativity as part of the service which is always very well attended.

The Christmas Fair will take place on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** 6pm - 8pm, everyone welcome. The PTFA organise and run this event and I know that they would welcome some volunteers to help in setting up on the afternoon or volunteering some time to help on the night.

The PTFA Christmas Film night will take place on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**.

The whole school Nativity performance will be held on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** at 2pm and 6pm.

A very busy term!