



Allendale Primary School November 2018 Newsletter

Welcome back to school after the half term holiday. This week is Health and Well-being week; we have lots of different PE and health activities happening for each class throughout the week so children should wear their PE kits every day. On Friday we are hosting a visit from up and coming athlete, Markhim Lonsdale who is the European Junior Silver medallist at 800m ; following this, our sponsored walk will take place in the afternoon.

Poppy Appeal items (poppies, wrist bands, pencils etc.) are available for the children to buy in school throughout the week. The suggested donation for each item varies up to a maximum of £1.

There is a Y5/6 Hockey Tournament at QEHS that 2 teams will be taking part in on the afternoon of **Thursday 15th November**. A team of Y5/6 pupils will be taking part in a cross country competition at Ovingham on **Monday 3rd December** and the Y5/6 girls local football league starts this half term.

Just a reminder that we would appreciate as many children as possible ordering their dinners at home; this would save us time in a morning.

During this half term and into Spring, we are offering parents the opportunity to experience a lesson with your child in their class, starting with a maths lesson in Skylark Class. Parents will receive further information about when this will be and how to book a place.

Unfortunately, Miss Read left at the end of last half term, although she fully intends to come back for the Nativity and events in school. I will be teaching in Lapwing Class full time until we appoint a new teacher, so apologies in advance if I am not available to talk to during teaching hours.

As the schools our Y6 pupils go on to all teach French as their modern foreign language, we now teach this instead of Spanish. Miss Read was teaching French to Y2 - Y6 which I will now take over.



I took 4 of our Y6 pupils to Ponteland Leisure Centre where they met with officials from Northumberland County Council and councillors to present our plans for developing our playground. We have a £10,000 grant from NCC so the School Council will be heavily involved in planning what we do; they have a School Council suggestion box so any of the children can make suggestions.

There are all sorts of exciting Science, History, Geography, PE, IT and Arts projects that the children have taken part in or which are due to happen; updates on these feature on our website or Facebook page. We have just received a grant from the EMI Music Foundation which is enabling us to buy our own set of steel pans from the music service. We have registered as an Artsmark School and now have access to arts organisations and artists who can develop children's skills and enthusiasm for the arts. Izzy and Flora are our Y6 Arts ambassadors and they have lots of ideas for work we can do in school. They run an arts and crafts club for Golden time and have helped me write a bid for a funded artist's drawing workshop which was successful and will take place in Kestrel Class on **Tuesday 20th November** with the artist Daniel Weatheritt.

Christmas will soon be upon us, 49 more sleeps, I am reliably informed! And consequently this half term is a busy one.

On **Friday 16th November** we are holding Donation Day, where the children, (and staff), can choose to wear their pyjamas or onesies and in return we request a donation of chocolate and something in a bottle for our Christmas Fair. After school that day, Y4 will be running a film night from 3.30pm to 5.30pm to raise fund towards their Wastwater residential.

On **Tuesday 27th November** we have a theatre company performing for the whole school in the afternoon; this is funded by the PTFA.

There will be a Christmas Wreath making workshop on **Friday 30th November** from 7pm. This proved to be very popular last year.

The Christingle Celebration at St Cuthbert's church is on **Sunday 2nd December at 3pm**. We would love as many children as possible to attend as we take part in the service by performing one of the songs from our Nativity.

The PTFA Christmas Fair is on **Friday 7th December**. There will be lots more information about this event to follow but I'm sure that the PTFA would welcome your support by attending and any offers of help to set up or help on the night.

The PTFA will also be running the Christmas Elves shop for the Children to buy and wrap a present for a family member, from **Tuesday 11th December**.

There will be a Christmas Film Night on **Friday 14th December** from 3.30pm to 5.30pm.

The Nativity performances will be on **Monday 17th December at 1.45pm and 6.00pm**.

We also have Christmas parties, Christmas lunch and charity carol singing to fit in.

Please visit our website / facebook page to see what is going on at school - it's a very busy school, especially at this time of year.

Mrs A Hawkins
Headteacher