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Donations, driving and developing opportunities...



20 really is plenty...

Many of our parents (and quite rightly so) have shown concern with regards to the vehicles that speed past our school on a daily basis. I have held meetings in the past with the local council which resulted in the rumble strips being put in place. Last week I also had a positive meeting with our County Councillor - Robbie Moore. Whilst he completes further investigations into the issues that we face, he will be launching a competition in January for the children which will also link with several assemblies on the subject.

Before taking the headship at Hipsburn I had many years' experience working in primary schools and in particular with the transition of children from primary to secondary school. I am currently using this experience and knowledge whilst working with Mr Hall at the Duchess Community High School and a small group of headteachers to further develop the opportunities available to prepare our children for the future.

Have a good term!
Kevin Moloney

This second half of the autumn term is 34 days long meaning we break up on Friday 21st December. Ho, ho, ho.



Some Upcoming Events

- ◆ Etal Class to Film Festival, 15th November
- ◆ Children in Need 16th November
Non-uniform, £1 donation
- ◆ Reception/KS1 to Film Festival, 22nd November
- ◆ Duns/Ford to Film Festival, 23rd November
- ◆ Lindisfarne Class Assembly
29th November, 9.15am
- ◆ Christmas Play Alnwick/Lindisfarne
Wednesday 12th December, 9.30-10.30am and 5.30-6.30pm
- ◆ Christmas Play KS2
Thursday 13th December, 9.30-10.30am & 5.30-6.30pm
- ◆ Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 14th December, £1 to Save the Children
- ◆ Christmas Lunch
Friday 14th December, all pupils welcome!
- ◆ Christmas Fair
Wednesday 19th December, 3.15-4.15pm
- ◆ Carols around the tree
Friday 21st December, 2.30-3.15pm, everyone welcome!

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school we rely on the generosity of others with their time, their skills and their enthusiasm to help make the school a better place. You can see in this newsletter how all of these come together - from our fantastic new trim trail in the woodland area, the bounty of food donations at Harvest to our brightly decorated sheds in the early years playground.

Sometimes we also receive donations of money and we have recently been given a generous donation by the Appleby Trust and this will support three different projects. Firstly, the money will help fund some of the updates to our computers and will make our **I.T. facilities** even better in our Log Cabin. These changes will benefit all of the children and also those who attend our exciting Computer Clubs that take place after school. Secondly, the money will be used to renew our computer licence for **Education City** which again is used by all our children across the school. In December our teachers are going to receive further training in using this interactive programme. Thirdly, the money will be used to pay for **games and activities** to be painted on our schoolyards. With further money that is raised in school it is hoped we can pay for more of these activities. Watch out for these appearing!

What's been going on....



Following an impressive interview process, we have appointed our new team of Junior Librarians. The successful pupils were **Annabelle, Islay, Grace, Izzy and Henriette**. Congratulations to all of them and we know they'll do a superb job!

On a quest to read...

Last half term Key Stage 2 were lucky enough to be visited by the author of 'Rainbow Quest', Colin Gibbons. Colin read an extract from his novel and then answered our burning questions all about writing and being an author. He also told us about an exciting art competition that we are all keen to enter! At the end of the talk Colin signed some copies of his book for us. What a great experience for all of our budding authors.



Ford Class would like to say a big thank you to everyone who baked and bought their spooky treats at the end of last term. They raised £134.85 which was spent on hiring fantastic topic resources from Bailiffgate Museum.



Thank you also to Mrs Hilary Waugh who volunteered to paint our blackboards and sheds to make them a bit more jazzy!! If you think there is any thing you would like to get involved in to develop our outdoor are, no matter how big or how small then please get in touch.

A bumper harvest

Parents and families were treated to a wonderful Harvest Assembly with songs and entertainment from the whole school. Well done everyone! A big thank you to parents and staff for your generous donations for our 'Harvest Appeal'. We have once again chosen to support the valuable work of the Alnwick Food Bank by collecting the items they need to support vulnerable people within the community. John Knight, representing the Alnwick Food Bank, visited us to collect our donations. He was absolutely delighted with the response to our appeal and sends his sincere thanks to families and staff for their kind support.



Thank you also to Cherie for providing refreshments which raised a super £46 for school.

Keeping in trim...

You may have noticed that things have been busy in the playground over half term...firstly we had the building of the Trim Trail Climbing Frame in the KS2 yard funded by the Primary PE and Sports Premium funding; somewhere for lots of acrobatic tricks to be explored so people can keep active at playtimes. Some new bike stands were also created so there is plenty of room for everyone to get busy cycling to school.



Then a group of volunteer parents helped to transform our Early Years woodland area by building and installing a wonderful new "trim trail". It includes a rope "bridge of doom", zig-zag beams, stilt steps and a rustic sleeper bridge that connects to our existing tyre trail. The materials for this project were funded by a generous donation from the [Burgage Holders of Alnmouth Common](#), to whom we are very grateful.

Huge thanks also go to our handy parents for all their efforts in some cold and sleety weather! **Andy Dennis, Andrew Martin, David Youll and Neil Blackwell-Brown.**

Well done and thank you!"

SCHOOL GAMES

A sporting round-up...

The **Northumberland School Games** is a celebration of sport which aims to motivate and inspire young people to take part in competitive sport across the country. Throughout the academic year, teams from the 6 county areas of Northumberland will compete in a whole host of events such as football, hockey and athletics. The winning teams will meet at the Cramlington Learning Village at the end of June for a fun filled 'Finals Day!'

The first fixture of the event was a **Year 5/6 girls football tournament** played at Westfield Park in Longhoughton. The girls played really well, winning 5 games, losing 3 and drawing 1. They really came together as a team, showing some fantastic football skills as well as super sportsmanship!



Inter-Crew Basket Ball

At the end of Autumn 1 half term KS2 celebrated the development of their skills by having an inter-crew basket tournament with Mrs Burroughs. It was an afternoon of team play and fantastic basketball play. All the points were collated and the overall winners were...**South Crew!**

School Games Awards

Some of our KS2 pupils have been working towards their awards and each half term we will present awards to individual winners of these awards. This half term the winners are (drum roll please.....):

Stay safe online

Virtually everything these days can connect to the internet - make sure your child is safe when using their smartphone, tablet or gaming device. The link below has some good advice for parents.....

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>

Student placements - we have a number of students coming in to school over the coming months. Currently, you may see Miss Lydia Allen who is teaching with Miss Jones in Ford class for the next 4 weeks as part of her final placement. She will come back to Ford to complete her placement in April.

YEAR 6 AWARDS:

Teamwork: Ruaridh Batley
Self Belief: Archie Middlemist
Respect: Henriette Vea
Passion: Charlie Costello
Honesty: Sylvie Hunter
Determination Oliver Rutherford

YEAR 5 AWARDS:

Teamwork: Finn Currie
Self Belief: Lyla Melkerts
Respect: Anna Paine
Passion: Harry Fannon
Honesty: Phoebe Hughes
Determination Jack Wright

YEAR 4 AWARDS:

Teamwork: Ben King
Self Belief: Indie Driscoll
Respect: Evie Etches
Passion: Matilda Costello
Honesty: Max Kearns
Determination Wilf Maloney



School Council

We have been very impressed with the amount of interest in places for the school council this year. Well done to all children who prepared and delivered fantastic speeches and ideas during elections. We are very much looking forward to continuing to improve our school with the help of our new school council.



We would like to congratulate:

- **Finley Waugh and Halle Sykes** (Year 1 representatives)
- **Connie Blackwell-Brown and Flynn Driscoll** (Year 2 representatives)
- **Hannah Rennie, Emelia Waugh and James Dodds** (Year 3 representatives)
- **Eleanor Robinson, Ellie Middlemist and Toby Stubbings** (Year 4 representatives)
- **Taylor Straughan and Fin Currie** (Year 5 representatives)
- **Henriette Vea and Ruaridh Batley** (Year 6 representatives)



A school dinner costs £2.30
34 days @£2.30 = £78.20
Winter menus are on the
school website

Swimming on Wednesdays
for year 5s
Starts 7th November



A swimming lesson costs
£4.50
7 sessions @£4.50 = £31.50



Lest We Forget

Alnwick Castle Class had the pleasure of a special visit from Mrs Hilary Waugh who came to talk to them about the significance of the poppy in time for Remembrance Day. They found out about the lives of evacuee children with lots of exciting props to investigate.



On Friday 9th November, Etal Class had clear silhouettes on some of the chairs in our classroom to help us remember those who died in World War 1. They "loved, and were loved", and with all of their bravery they fought and sacrificed their own futures to protect ours. We made black out poems and read some poems from the war, and it made us think about those who died.

By Toby Stevens



Please pay promptly - we
accept cash and cheques
payable to NCC. Thank you.