

# FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

**Only 5 Fridays after today until Christmas!...**

Unfortunately as much as we have to celebrate and good news to share with you, we also have some bad news. We have received an increased number of calls into school regarding inconsiderate parking from our neighbours. Please, please can we ask that all parents/carers driving children to and from school park with consideration for the residents. We are coming up to a very busy time when school productions will mean cars are in the surrounding streets for a little longer than usual. Therefore, with this in mind can everyone make a double check when parking a vehicle that they are not obstructing a driveway or footpath access. Your co-operation and support is appreciated.

\*To keep updated with school events, please use our app.

Scan the QR code or search in your app/play store for our school and download accordingly.

To register, please click on the cog in the top right corner of the app. The unique school code for the school is **8764**.

You will be asked to enter an email address so we can verify you. When you have



registered you will be able to select your preferences, choosing the year groups from which you wish to receive notifications. You can choose more than one preference. This is a handy parent/carer tool we would love to be utilised more.

-  NO BIKES
-  NO SKATES
-  NO SCOOTERS

## FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER—

the Christmas Holywell Village light competition will be announced in our Family Assembly by Seaton Valley Councillors.

After school, there will be a ceremony to switch on the lights in the village. The winner of the competition gets to push the official 'turn on' button. We hope as many of you as possible will turn out to support the event and the competition winners. We are told that festivities commence at 4pm but more details to follow.



*Please note the use of mobile phones on the school site is not permitted. Please ensure phones are turned off when entering school.*



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## Save the Date....

• 11th to 14th December will be Christmas Performance week

11th—Years 1-4 pm

12th—EVFS am

13th—Years 1-4 am

14th—EVFS am

Please be aware that these are preliminary dates/times so may change if required - we just wanted to give you early warning.

## Governor Information

I am Sandra Hogarth, non-teaching staff governor. I have worked for Northumberland County Council for the past nineteen years. The first five of these at Seaton Sluice First School.

My current employment is at Holywell Village First School where I work as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA). I am very passionate about the school and really enjoy making school an enjoyable and safe place for all

of the children, parents and carers.



## Important Dates:

01.12.17—Village Lights switch on  
 07.12.17 4pm —Christmas Extravaganza  
 18.12.17—Special Visitor  
 20.12.17—Christmas Dinner  
 22.12.17—School breaks for Christmas holiday.  
 08.01.18—Teacher Training Day  
 09.01.18—School resumes for the Children  
 09.02.18—School breaks for half-term  
 19.02.18—School resumes for the children  
 29.03.18—School breaks for Easter  
 16.04.18—School resumes  
 07.05.18—School closed—MAY DAY  
 25.05.18—School closes for half-term  
 04.06.18—School resumes for the children



09.11.17—James W, Mason H & Darcey  
 17.11.17—Millie, Mollie, Bethany C



W/E 09.11.17  
 Year 4 — 99.4% attendance  
 W/E 17.11.17  
 Year 1 — 99.3% attendance  
 Well Done everyone!

## Shoebboxes—Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who donated a shoebox to the appeal, they were delivered to the collections centre this afternoon and gratefully received. As we are sure you can appreciate, it isn't possible to support every charity that needs assistance. However, as a small school, we support those we can without applying too much pressure on parent/carer purse strings. On behalf of Samaritan's Purse—Thank you very much for your kindness.



## School Photograph Orders

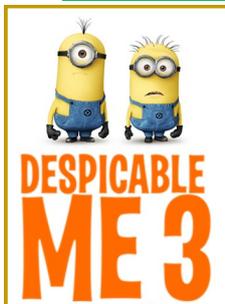
Please remember to return your school photograph orders next week to ensure delivery in time for Christmas.

## Reception Applications

The online admissions portal for First and Primary schools opens on **6th November 2017** and will close on **15th January 2018**. This is for September 2018 Reception places.



**KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR SOME EXCITING FACEBOOK NEWS! WE ARE CURRENTLY TRIALING AND TESTING A SCHOOL PAGE AND WILL HOPEFULLY LAUNCH IT SOON.**



**PAF FILM NIGHT—TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 3-5PM (Reception to Year 4 only)**  
 Tickets on sale from **Monday 20th November**.

Please send £3 into school in a named envelope and tickets will be distributed by PAF Association.

## PAF SOCIAL NIGHT—Movie themed

Our PAF Association have arranged a social night for the ladies of the PAF and female parents/carers on Friday 24th November at the Fat Ox public house. An evening of fun and cocktails including a movie themed quiz is promised.

Entry is £2 for more information please contact the PAF members directly.



*A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU MUST BE EXPRESSED TO MRS. SNAITH AND HER TODDLER GROUPS. THIS WEEK THEY HAVE DONATED INTO SCHOOL £513.39, WHICH HAS BEEN USED TO PURCHASE MUCH NEEDED CLASSROOM RESOURCES FOR THE CHILDREN THROUGHOUT SCHOOL. THANK YOU SO MUCH.*

## Message from the Governing Body regarding pursuit of Penalty Notices for unauthorised holiday absences

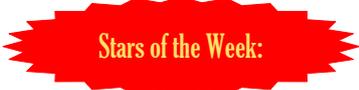
### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Our school Attendance Policy states 'Excellent attendance promotes excellent learning. Regular school attendance is essential if children are to achieve their full potential. In the year 2016-2017 our school's attendance % fell below the national average for the first time. After analysing the data it has become apparent that school is not affected by higher than average illness (we are below average for this) but holiday taken in term time.

The relevant governing body committee discussed this issue at great length and reluctantly agreed to instruct Northumberland County Council to issue Penalty Notices to all parents/carers of pupils who take unauthorised holiday during term-time and meet the relevant criteria.

The Governing Body's expectations for attendance are clearly expressed in the Attendance Policy issued to all parents/carers in September 2017 but a copy is available on the school website in the 'Policies' section.

[http://www.holywell.northumberland.sch.uk/website/attendance\\_registration\\_/103284](http://www.holywell.northumberland.sch.uk/website/attendance_registration_/103284)



W/E: 09.11.17 Emmy, Mollie, Bobby, Rose, Chloe, Sophie  
 W/E: 17.11.17 Thomas, Archie, Shaun, Bethany H, Peter, Joe.