



9th February 2018 Newsletter

Swimming

We will be swimming for the second half of the term. The session and routine will be exactly the same as previously. Every Thursday children must bring a swimming costume/trunks, a towel and goggles. As it will still be chilly, please ensure your child has a warm coat. We also would request that girls avoid wearing tights on swimming days as they are tricky to get on after swimming. Trousers or longs socks with skirts are preferable.

Pennines Wildlife Trust Charity

We had a visit from the Wildlife Trust yesterday and the School Council presented them with an amazing £185.37 donation. This is a combination of the Christmas Hamper Raffle and the Smartie Tube Challenge. A massive thank you to all parents and children who donated. Also a big thank you to Mrs Carney and the School Council for working so hard to raise money for such a worthwhile charity. The Hexham Courant came and took a picture of the School Council so keep an eye out in the next few weeks.

Artist in Residence

We are delighted to be invited to take part in an Art project with the National Parks and The Sill. The children will go to Wallstown for a session with a Park Ranger and then back to The Sill for an Art Workshop. Later on in March, we will have a visit from an Artist to continue the Art session. The date of the trip will be Monday 19th March and permission letters will be sent out after half term. You will need to provide your child/children with a packed lunch.

Green Monkey Photos

Green Monkey photos will be coming to school on Monday 12th March. They will be taking individual photos, sibling photos and a whole school photo.

Year 4 Lunchtime Clubs

After half term, the three Year 4 pupils, Tess, Immy and Jamie will be starting Lunchtime Clubs. All children will get the chance to attend a Sports, Art or Maths club on a rotation system through the remaining three half terms.

After School Club Information

- Outdoor Adventure-Mondays-**3.05-4.15pm**
- Messy Church-Tuesdays- **3.05-4.15pm (NO MESSY CHURCH ON TUESDAY 27TH MARCH)**
- Zumba-Thursdays-**3.05-4.15pm** NB. There are 3 sessions before half term and 5 after half term (**NO ZUMBA ON THURSDAY 29TH MARCH**)

Writers of the Week

One of our main priorities on our School Development Plan is to raise standards in writing. Every week, teachers will award pencils to children who have demonstrated improved skills such as use of ambitious vocabulary, paragraphs or a range of punctuation. We want to celebrate all children's success as writers and hope to display more writing around the school for parents and visitors to see. Today we presented pencils to Callum, Maya, Lloyd, Sophie, Thea, Lily, Abbie, Rowan and Tess who have all had two or three writer stickers this half term.

Easter Service Wednesday 28th March –school hall-9.15am

We are holding an Easter Service at school. It starts at 9.15am for approximately 30 minutes and everyone is welcome to attend. There will be a 'Decorated egg' and 'Easter bonnet' competition which will be judged prior to the Service.

Prizes will be organised for each year group and the winners will be announced at the end of the Service.

If your child would like to participate please send entries into school no later than Tuesday 27th March, clearly labelling the name on entry.

Entries can be placed in the hall on the tables provided.

Looking forward to seeing the eggciting entries!

Palm Sunday Service-St Peter's Church-9.15am

Everyone is welcome to attend this Service which should last approximately 20-30 minutes. The children will be delivering Easter gifts to the local pensioners after the Service.

World Book Day-Thursday 1st March

Children are welcome to come dressed up as their favourite book character (although please be mindful that we will be swimming!!). If possible, please allow your child to bring in their favourite book to share with their classmates.

Free School Meals information for parents

If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, you can apply for this benefit

*online www.northumberland.gov.uk/fsm,

*over the telephone on FSM 01670 623592 or

*by completing a paper application form which is available from our school office or FSM office, Wansbeck Square, Ashington NE63 9XL

Email: FSM@northumberland.gov.uk

To be eligible for help you need to be in one of the following categories:

- Receive Income Support (IS) or Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Receive Income Related Employment Allowance (IREA).
- Have an entitlement to Child Tax Credit (CTC), but not Working Tax Credit (WTC) and the family's annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) is not more than £16,190
- Receive support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Receive the guarantee credit element of Pension Credit.

Reception, Years 1 and 2 – why you should still apply for Free School Meals - Since September 2014, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have been eligible for free school meals. If you are entitled to claim for FSM as detailed below, no matter what year group your child is in, it is important to our school that you register for this benefit.

Where a child is entitled to and claims FSM we can register them for Pupil Premium funding – this is currently worth £1,300 a year per pupil for our school.

Slippers

Last year we invited children to bring in a pair of slippers to wear during the day. It proved to be very popular and apparently enables children to feel more relaxed in school therefore more ready to learn. You are very welcome to send in a pair of practical slippers that children can change into. This will be until Easter. After Easter, slippers will be sent home.

Attendance

Please ensure your child is in school every day unless unwell. Parents must contact the school office or leave a message on the answer machine giving a reason for absence.

Routines

Please remember to arrive promptly to school in the morning. **The bell is rung for school to start at 8.50am.**

Parents should bring their children into the playground **for 8.45am (no earlier)** where they will be escorted into school by Mrs Phillips.

Late book-we have had **2 entries** in the late book this week. Children who come into class late are missing vital instructions which delay them starting their activities.

Other dates for your diary.

Monday 19th February: Spring 2nd term starts

Monday 26th February/Wednesday 28th February: Parent consultations (Times were sent out this week)

Thursday 1st March: World Book Day-come dressed as your favourite character (optional)

Friday 16th March: Tynedale Music Festival (Years 1-4) Queens Hall (10am for the first category-be in seats by 9.30am)

*Reception children will come to watch the performance rather than perform on stage.

Monday 19th March: Art trip (Letters will be sent out after half term)

Wednesday 21st March: Palm Sunday service-St Peter's Church 9.15am- everyone welcome (delivering Easter gifts to pensioners afterwards)

Friday 23rd March: Art Gallery Open Day for parents (9.00-9.45am) and (2.15-3.00pm)-more information to follow.

Wednesday 28th March: Easter service-in school 9.15am –everyone welcome

Thursday 29th March: Break up for Easter holidays

Friday 30th March: Good Friday (Bank Holiday-school closed)

Monday 16th April: Summer 1st term starts

Happy Half Term!

