



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

EVENTS IN SCHOOL

LANTERN PARADE: Thank you to everyone who supported the Rothbury Lantern Parade and then the singing in the Church. It was a wonderful evening and it was amazing to see so many of our lanterns on the walk.

FRFS FILM NIGHT & CHRISTMAS FAIR: What superb events these were! We hope that you were able to come along to at least one of them. We raised the fantastic amount of £659. Our Friends of Rothbury First School will be using some of this to support the visit to Beamish on Thursday 20th December.

VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL: We have had so many offers of help and support this term - we really appreciate it! People have come for one-off events and others are able to commit to a more regular slot. **We thank you all !!!** Unfortunately we have not been able to move forward with our Reading Army quite as swiftly as we had hoped, but please keep a watch out for further details in the New Year.



NEW STARTERS: We wish a very warm welcome to Harry (Year 1). We hope that you and your family really enjoy your time with us at Rothbury First.

TRIDENT CHRISTMAS SPECIAL: Although the Trident Soccer after school club finishes this week, Ryan has organised a Trident Christmas Special for Wednesday 19th December. Please call into the Office for further details.

SPORT IN JANUARY: After Christmas Elephant Class will swim for five weeks, Gorilla Class will be taking part in forest school and Penguins and Giraffes will be taking part in PE led by Ryan (who leads the Trident Soccer after school club).

Social Media Links: For all the latest updates in school follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/rothburyfirst/> or on Twitter @rothburyfirst.



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE: Excitement is building in school as we reach the final stages of production of our **Animals' Christmas Tale**. We look forward to seeing you all at All Saints Church on **Monday 17th December**. The performance will start at **6pm** but details will come out to you this week about when the church will open, bringing/collecting children, what to wear, etc. The Friends will be serving refreshments beforehand and programmes will be on sale. The programme is also your raffle ticket, the proceeds of which will be split between the Church as a thank you for the use of their facilities and the school.

CHRISTMAS FILM: We will be showing the children a Christmas Film during the final week.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH & CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY: Our Christmas Lunch will be on **Wednesday 19th December** - please see the ParentMail already sent out to you. We will have our charity Christmas Jumper Day this day too. If you would like to support the Jumper Day, please send your child to school suitably attired and send £1 which we will forward to Save the Children.

CHRISTMAS TRIP TO BEAMISH: Thursday 20th December. We can't wait! Please see the information sent out by ParentMail for Years 1 to 4.

EARLY YEARS CHRISTMAS PARTY: So that our youngest children are not missing out on all the fun, our Early Years will be celebrating their Christmas Party on **Thursday 20th December**. A letter will be sent home with all the details.

CHRISTINGLE/CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: We will be having a whole school Christingle/Carols by Candlelight celebration on Friday 21st December but this year we will **not** be asking all the children to make a Christingle. So please, don't rush out to buy an orange.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

December:		
Wed 12 Dec	YR-4 Y1	Gazette Christmas performance photos & video Forest school Nativity - 2.30pm (Year 1 parents)
Mon 17 Dec	all	Christmas Performance at Rothbury All Saints Church 6pm
Tues 18 Dec	YR-4	Visitor Assembly - Rev. Ed
Wed 19 Dec	YR-4	Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
Thurs 20 Dec	EYFS	Early Years Christmas Party
Thurs 20 Dec	Y1-Y4	Trip to Beamish Museum
Fri 21 Dec	Whole School	Christingle/Carols by Candlelight
Mon 24 Dec to Fri 4 Jan: SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS BREAK		
Mon 7 Jan: SCHOOL OPENS AT 08.50		

Term dates for 2018-2019 are available on the Northumberland County Council website:
<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Holidays.aspx#schooltermdates>
 Please note that school will be closed for Teacher Training on the following dates:

Friday 28 June 2019

THE SCHOOL CAR PARK

A reminder that our school car park is primarily for the use of school staff, school transport and visitors to school.

If you wish to use our car park, follow our car park code:

- **School staff and school transport have priority** over the car park spaces
- **Drive slowly** – 5mph on the ramp and within the car park
- **Reverse into spaces** to reduce the chance of a child being knocked over
- **Accompany your children AT ALL TIMES.** If you are getting more than one child out of the car, take the other child to the fence to wait for you. Hold your child's hand whilst in the car park and walk them to the gate.

Staff and visitors have witnessed parents letting children out of the car to walk/run to the gate on their own whilst the car is still running. Children have also been seen running around cars both before and after school, and when attending a club.

- **Keep the centre aisle clear**

We have been sent photos of cars blocking the aisle and blocking the school entrance which is a safety hazard to school.

- **Keep the emergency gates clear AT ALL TIMES**
- **Switch engines off when waiting** to reduce air pollution

We do appreciate the difficulties of dropping children off/collecting them by car however the safety of our children must be foremost. Please consider other means of bringing children to school.

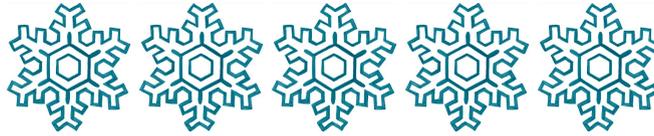
Something to think about: a recent survey of how our children come to school showed that most children who are driven to school would rather walk, cycle or scoot.

NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL PREMISES

A reminder that all of our school premises which include **the buildings, the school fields, the yards and the car park** are a NO SMOKING ZONE. This means that smoking is not permitted on any part of our school premises. **This restriction also applies to electronic cigarettes.**

Please make sure that these notices are passed on to whoever drops off/collects your child, including from after school clubs.

AND FINALLY...



SNOW CLOSURE

We will make every effort to keep the school open in bad weather conditions, however all of our teachers live outside Rothbury therefore we will be at the mercy of the road conditions into the village and the advice given to school about access.

Our school closure policy is on the website under the 'Our School' tab, and shows where school closures will be published. If bad conditions are forecast and we have to close early, please make sure that we have up-to-date contact numbers for you.

**In the event of any closure, either for the whole day or parts of the day, we will use ParentMail and text as our prime means of contacting you.
Closure will also be published on the school website.**



The Governors and Staff of Rothbury First School would like to wish you all a happy, safe and relaxing Christmas Break, with best wishes for the New Year!

