



October Newsletter

HARVEST Thank you to everyone who came and supported our Harvest Celebration and Food Bank collection. The children gave a wonderful performance with their singing, artwork, poetry and written pieces. We are very proud of them! The Wansbeck Valley Food Bank team came to school that afternoon and asked us to pass on their heartfelt thanks for your continued support:
<http://wansbeckvalleyfoodbank.org/2017/09/28/magnificent-helping-hand-heros-from-rothbury/>

PARENT CONSULTATIONS Our parent consultations were very well attended and Mrs Mathewson says that it was lovely to catch up with so many of you. If she didn't get the chance to speak to you and you would like to talk to her on any matter, please either call school or drop in to the school office to make an appointment.

BOOK SALE Our book sale raised £71 for school funds. Thank you!

PARENTAL QUESTIONNAIRES Thank you to all those who have returned a questionnaire (purple form). If you would like to return a questionnaire or if you did not receive one, please see your class teacher or phone/call into the office. The deadline for receipt of questionnaires is Thursday 19 October. We will collate the responses after this date and share the results with you and on our website.



OPEN AFTERNOON Our next Open Afternoon for new Nursery and Reception children will be in November. Please pass this on to any parents who may be interested in joining our school. We will put the date on our website when it is arranged and send it out to you in ParentMail.

FRIENDS OF ROTHBURY FIRST SCHOOL AGM The FRFS AGM will be held in school on Tuesday 7 November at 7.15pm. All are invited. We really would encourage you to attend this event as we would like your input into how we can work together to build on the success of the past to help raise funds for the future.

eSAFETY FOR PARENTS MEETING Please come to our Parent Meeting in school on Tuesday 31 October at 5.30pm where we will share with you the latest guidance on eSafety for children. Mrs Brotherton, our CEOP Ambassador, and Mr Grimes, our IT Coordinator, will do their best to answer any queries you may have about keeping our children safe online. We request that children are not brought to this meeting.



RECEPTION & YEAR 2 PARENTS/CARERS: We will be arranging meetings in November for parents of Reception children and parents of Year 2 children. The Reception meeting will look at ways to “continue the learning at home”. The Year 2 meeting will be to introduce you to the DfE formal assessments in Year 2. We will put the dates on our website and send them out to you in ParentMail when they are arranged.

PARENT GOVERNOR We received one nomination and we are pleased to announce that David Sant has been elected as our new Parent Governor. We wish him well in the post.

READERS IN SCHOOL: Our volunteer readers are a tremendous help to us by helping children to practice their reading skills and develop their fluency. A number of people are already volunteering in school. If you would like to join them and can offer an afternoon to help, please call into the School Office. Thank you!



VIOLIN We have one place available for violin tuition with Mrs Hedley. If you would like to take up this place, please call into the office for further details.

FOREST SCHOOL/SWIMMING After half term, Year 1 will be starting Forest School on Wednesdays for three weeks then swimming for three weeks. Year 2 will be swimming for three weeks then Forest School for three weeks. Please can all children in these classes make sure that they have a pair of wellies to keep in school, and wear long trousers and a long-sleeved top on their Forest School days, and a swimming costume and towel on Swimming days. Please see the note that went home last week for further details. Parental help for swimming would be welcome.

PE KITS After half term, Year 3 and Year 4 children will have PE on Wednesday afternoons. Please make sure that your child has a suitable PE kit in school on their PE days – this should be a t-shirt, shorts/tracksuit bottoms and sandshoes/trainers.

MILE A DAY Please make sure that your child in Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 have suitable footwear in school to run our “mile-a-day”.

TAEKWONDO for Reception and Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 restarts Monday 30 October from 3.15pm to 4pm. Price is £10 for 5 sessions.

SINGING CLUB for Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 has been very successful with 20 children in our club/choir. The club will continue after half term and we have been asked to sing with Thropton First School at the Rothbury Christmas Lights/Lantern Parade evening in All Saints Church. If your child would like to join the club, it restarts on Tuesday 31 October from 3.15pm to 4pm. Price is £10 for 5 sessions.

TRIDENT FOOTBALL for Reception and Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 restarts Thursday 2 November from 3.15pm to 4.15pm. Price is £15 for 5 sessions. Please would parents assist with tying bootlaces at 3.15pm in the Nursery covered area.

Please note that all children are to be collected from the After-School Club provider.



Dates for your diary:

Thurs 19 Oct	Year 4	Visit to the Rothbury World War 1 practice trenches.
Thurs 19 Oct	-	School closes at 3.15pm for half term break.
Fri 20 Oct	Whole School	SCHOOL CLOSED – TEACHER TRAINING DAY
Mon 30 Oct	-	School opens at 8.50am
Mon 30 Oct	R,1,2,3,4	Taekwondo starts for 5 sessions 3.15pm to 4pm
Tues 31 Oct	1,2,3,4	Singing Club starts for 5 sessions 3.15pm to 4pm
Tues 31 Oct	Parents	eSafety Meeting at 5.30pm
Thurs 2 Nov	R,1,2,3,4	Trident Football starts for 5 sessions 3.15pm to 4.15pm
Tues 7 Nov	Parents	FRFS AGM 7.15pm in school
to be arranged	-	New Nursery & Reception Open Afternoon
to be arranged	Parents	Reception parents meeting – ReadWriteInc Phonics
to be arranged	Parents	Year 2 parents meeting – 2018 Formal Assessments
Sat 25 Nov	Singing Club	Rothbury Christmas Lights/Lantern parade/singing in church
Thurs 14 Dec	all	Bingo Night! Further details to come
Mon 18 Dec	all	Lantern Parade from school and Christmas Carols at Rothbury All Saints Church
Fri 22 Dec	Whole School	School closes at 3.15pm for Christmas break.
Mon 8 Jan 2018	-	School opens at 8.50am



Term dates for 2017-2018 are available on the Northumberland County Council website:
<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Holidays.aspx#schooltermdates>

Please note that school will be closed for Teacher Training on the following dates:

Friday 20 October 2017
Friday 29 June 2018

THE SCHOOL CAR PARK

We continue to be very concerned about the usage of our car park. The car park is primarily for the use of school staff, school transport and visitors to school. Our Governors will be reviewing the usage of the facility and how safety may be further improved.

Until this review is completed, 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 our school premises which include the buildings, the school fields, the yard 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.