



Dear Parents and Carers,

NEWS

Gosforth Schools' Trust – World War One Poppies and Poetry Display

During the run up to the Centenary for the end of World War One, we spent the week remembering the brave deeds of the armed forces around the world, with a particular focus on WW1. All schools across the Trust spent the week producing poetry and art work linked to the topic and a selection of their work will be displayed at Trinity Church in Gosforth from 9:30am on Wednesday 21st November until 3:30pm on Thursday 22nd November. If you do get an opportunity to visit Trinity Church, we are sure you will be impressed with the effort and skill the children have put into their art work and poetry.



Golf at Sandyford



We had a great afternoon at Sandyford Park last week with Tom and Rookie Sports. The BEFS golf team took on their rivals for a rematch and everyone had a great time. Tom devised a history quiz too and the children and residents worked together in small teams. We are hoping to develop some further intergenerational work with Rookie for more children in school to benefit.

Basketball at Brunton

A team of Y2 children represented the school last week at Brunton First where they played basketball against other teams from first schools in the Gosforth Schools' Trust. Mrs Mingoia took the team and was really impressed with their team work and sporting values, including competitiveness. We were so proud to see them winning first place – Congratulations to them all!



Robinwood Residential



It's that time of year again when The Y4s venture over to Alston for three action packed days of adventure and fun. We know they will have a great time and will come home braver, more confident, more resilient and absolutely exhausted! Parents and carers can keep up-to-date with Team Robinwood via Twitter. There is an account especially for the group,

@AtBefs, so that Mrs Wingate, Mrs Jones and Mr Burnett can hopefully tweet pictures and news easily (WiFi permitting) and we will also retweet from the school account. We will send a couple of texts too so that everyone knows they've arrived safely as well as what time we are expecting them back. Currently the arrival time for Friday is between 3.00 and 3.30pm but we'll be more specific on Friday when we know what time they set off. Have fun everyone and thanks to our staff for giving up their own time to make the visit possible.

Y3 Adventure and Creative Curriculum

While the Y4 children are at Robinwood, the Y3s have their own adventures planned from forest school curriculum to felting, walks and fire building! The Y4 children who are not at Robinwood will be joining in too and we know that they are going to really enjoy doing some different and exciting activities with staff and visitors. Mrs Walker and Mrs Tawn will tweet lots of pictures so that you can see what they have been up to!

Yoga Bugs

Blue and Red Classes were visited by Yoga Bugs last week and each had a session of yoga in the hall. They impressed us with their flexibility, strength and concentration. Well done Reception!

Let's do Lunch

It's the turn of Class 2 pupils to welcome their parents/carers/friends to school this week. We hope that you all enjoy the opportunity to share some time and a tasty lunch with your children. The dates for all other classes are on the school website calendar and Mrs Dickie will be in touch nearer the time to let you know how to book your place.

Discovery Museum

Thanks to the team of parents and carers who helped us to take all of Key Stage 2 to the Discovery Museum. The children all had a great time and learned so much.



Christmas Performances

Please see the calendar and the dates list below for information regarding Christmas performances. For Reception and Key Stage 1 we do not have a limit on the number of guests because these concerts take place during the school day and this has never been a problem in the past. However, for safety reasons, we have to limit the number of people attending the evening performance for Key Stage 2. We will issue each family with two tickets for the performance and you will need to bring these on the evening. If you do not need your tickets then please return them to the school office so that we can redistribute them. If you would like more than two tickets then you will be able to put your name on a list, once the tickets have been sent home, and we will try to get some returned tickets to you. Tickets will be sent home next week. Please note that siblings in school will have the opportunity to see each other's performances on the Monday at the Dress Rehearsals.

Everyone is invited to the Christmas Carol Concert on the Friday afternoon of 21st December, it's a squash and a squeeze but there will be lots of Christmas cheer and standing room too.

Harvest Thanks

Thanks to everyone who supported harvest last half term, we had a mountain of food for the Salvation Army and St Oswald's hospice. It was a lovely occasion thanks to the hard work of the Y4 children and your generosity.

PTFA News

Thanks to Judith Devlin and Sarah Baylis who have now taken on the roles of co-chairs for the PTFA. This is great news for school as they will be able to plan the activities and keep us all up to date with what is going on. The disco was a great success again thanks to the PTFA, lots of parent helpers and the staff who stayed to make sure that the children had a great time. The next big event is the Christmas Fair on Wednesday 5th December straight after school. Please come if you are able to. There is also a non-uniform day on Friday 30th November when each child is asked to bring in a donation for the chocolate tombola for the fair.

Great North Road Crossing Patrol

The City Council has made us aware that the lollipop man on the Great North Road retired on the 16th November. He will be replaced as soon as an appointment is made, but please be aware that there may be some time when there is no crossing patrol on duty.



Parents' Evenings

Thanks to everyone who has signed up for Parents' Evenings. Teachers now have the sign-up sheets, so please ring the office if you haven't yet made an appointment.

Traditional Tales in Reception

On Friday 23rd November, the parents and carers of children in Red and Blue Class are welcome in school to join in with some reading activities around traditional tales. We hope that you can come along and start your weekend early at 2.50pm!

Staffing Update

Class 7 parents and carers are already aware that Mrs Tawn will be leaving us at the end of this term. We are currently advertising for a teacher to work for two days in Mr Burnett's class and we will keep you up to date with the appointment news.

Dates

There are some new dates added to the list below and the school website calendar is also up to date, please keep checking to make sure that you don't miss anything important.

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd Nov	Class 2 Let's do Lunch week
Wednesday 21st – Friday 23rd Nov	Y4 Robinwood Residential/Y3 adventurous curriculum days
Thursday 22nd November	No Outsiders workshop for Parents/Carers in Class 4 2.30pm
Friday 23 rd November	Parents/Carers in Reception for Traditional Tales 2.50pm
Monday 26th November	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
	No Outsiders workshop for Parents/Carers in Red Class 2.30pm
Tuesday 27th November	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
	No Outsiders workshop for Parents/Carers in Blue Class 2.30pm
Wednesday 28th November	No Outsiders workshop for Parents/Carers in Class 5 2.30pm
Wednesday 28th November	Gosforth Voices
Thursday 29 th November	No Outsiders workshop for Parents/Carers in Class 3 2.30pm
Friday 30 th November	PTFA non uniform day – please donate chocolate for the fair
Monday 3 rd December	Governors' Meeting 5.00pm
Wednesday 5 th December	Christmas Fair 3.30-5.00pm
Friday 7 th December	Stay and Play for Reception Parents 8.55am
Monday 10 th December	Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal Day
Tuesday 11 th December	Reception Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers 9.15am
Wednesday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers 2.00pm
	KS2 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers 6.30pm
Tuesday 18th December	Snow Bear in school for R and KS1 with Chris Bostock
Friday 21st December	Christmas Carols and mince pies 1.30pm
Friday 21st December	Break up for Christmas Holidays
Monday 7th January	Back to School

Best wishes,

Helen McKenna
Headteacher