



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL



Newsletter Autumn 4: October 2018



Dear Parents

Welcome back for a busy half-term as we enjoy the excitement of Christmas plays and lots of lovely activities during the next two months.

Year 4 - have embraced their **Egyptian** topic this term. Historians from the Museum's Department of Durham University came and delivered a range of activities as part of our Egyptian Day bringing the topic to life in the classroom. They were very impressed with our children, who certainly looked the part in costume.



Congratulations - to our rugby teams in Year 4 . 20 children represented our school in the Whitley Bay Schools Tournament. Our team were impressive, coming in second place. Mr Harrington and Ms Young were delighted with the result but were also impressed by the children's positive attitude and sportsmanship. All our children are offered the chance to represent the school in a sporting fixture by the end of their time in Year 4.

Year 1 Visit to Northern Stage— Just before half-term Year 1 saw a production of animotronic dinosaurs, 'Dinosaur—Live' - they were certainly life-like! This was followed by an enjoyable exploration of the Hancock Museum.

Year 1 Pirate Day— Yesterday the children dressed as pirates to launch this half-term's topic. They had to crack pirate codes, make pirate flags and escape from Shark island in P.E.



Remembrance Assembly - Our Key Stage 2 children made poppies which we displayed during our Remembrance Assembly today Friday 9th November. We were very impressed with the respectful and thoughtful way that our children marked this occasion.

Friends of Southridge—Thank you to the PTA and those volunteers who helped at the Autumn Disco.



Christmas Fair Day (7th Dec) is non-uniform. Wear Christmas Jumper and / or Christmas accessories e.g. hats, tinsel etc. and make a donation to the Tombola and Bottle Stall. **Please leave school bags at home on the day of the Fair.**

Reminder: Bags 2 School - will take place on 12th November. Please bring bags on the day and leave them outside the front of the school office by 9am

Reminder: Mr Harrington's Class will complete their Bikeability training on 14th November. Children must have a helmet and bike to take part. Please wear non -uniform and wrap up warm— jogging bottoms, fleece, hats, gloves etc.

Anti - Bullying Week - (12th - 16th November) The national theme this year is 'Choose Respect'. Next week staff will be working with the children exploring our core values of respect, friendship and kindness. Children will have class assemblies, circle time and complete activities as part of their PSHE curriculum. We work hard to ensure that our children feel safe, happy and secure in our school. If you ever have any concerns please speak to your child's class teacher - who are always available to help.



Odd Socks Day—Monday 12th November. To launch Anti-Bullying Week Andy from CBeebies is asking all children to wear odd socks to school, to promote the fact that we are all different but unique!

Children in Need — Mr Harrington and Mr O'Hara

would like to invite you to a

'SPOTACULAR SPORTATHON'

on Friday 16th November

Wear spots/ fancy dress or sports kit and bring a small donation for Children in Need.

You will go to the hall with your class and take part in a sporty challenge in the morning.

Remember your trainers!



School Development Plan Priorities 2018-19 - School self-evaluation is a continuous process in our school. We collect information and evidence about the standards in our school in a number of different ways. These are then analysed, collated and the findings are used to appraise achievements and identify priorities to be pursued to improve the quality of teaching and learning. Southridge First School involves all stakeholders in the school self-evaluation process.

Priorities for this year

All the evidence show that Southridge is an excellent school. The school used evidence from its self-evaluation to identify key steps that will enable the school to maintain our high standards. These are as follows:

1. Ensure specific and focussed monitoring takes place which is effective, enabling us to maintain our high standards and school ethos.
2. Develop Talk 4 Writing strategy to improve confidence of boys in writing and increase the percentage of boys exceeding year group expectations in writing at the end of Reception, KS1 and Year 4
3. ensure that we offer an 'inspirational, broad and balanced' curriculum that meets the needs of Southridge children.
4. Improve the resilience and independence of our children and develop the importance of learning from mistakes! Continue to focus on our Core Values.

A synopsis of the School Development Plan which details our key actions for 2018 -19 is on our school website at www.southridgefirst.org.uk

Governor update- This term we welcome Mr Ben Box as our parent governor. The governors will review our data looking at the high standards of attainment achieved last year and our performance tables which can be found on our school website. They will also be working with staff to deliver priorities for this academic year - your responses from the parent questionnaire last year and reply slips from annual reports have informed this.



Diary dates for this half- term:



November	HALF-TERM
12 th	Anti-Bullying Week - 'Choose Respect'
14 th	First Aid Session for Year 1 Bikeability for Mr Harrington's Class
16 th	Children in Need Day Year 3 Football Tournament
29 th	Flu Immunisation Programme
December	
6 th	Year 4 Christmas Performance 2pm After School Clubs finish
7 th	Christmas Fair 3.30pm
10 th	Reception - Party Day and Theatre Visit
11 th	Year 3 Christmas Performance 2pm
12 th	Year 2 Christmas Performance 2pm
13 th	Year 3 last swim
14 th	Early Years Performance - Reception and Morning Nursery 9.30am Reception and Afternoon Nursery 2pm
18 th	Year 1 Christmas Performance Christmas Disco Disco Year 1 & 2 - 5pm - 6pm Disco Year 3 & 4 - 6.15pm - 7.15pm
19 th	Christmas Lunch
20 th	Christmas Party Day - Year 1 - 4 Nursery break up
21 st	School closes for Christmas 3.15pm (Reception) 3.20pm (Year 1 - 4)
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS return to school on Tuesday 8th January	