



## Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 21 November 2014

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### Headteacher's Notices

Thank you to all those who got involved with our Children in Need event last Friday. Everyone had a lovely day in school and we raised a grand total of **£131.00** for Children in Need.

The month of November seems to have flown by and our thoughts in school now turn to Christmas and all the lovely events and activities that the season brings. Although we have lots organised during the next four weeks, we still work very hard to ensure high quality learning is taking place in classrooms, particularly in the core areas of reading, writing and maths. This year we finish for the end of term on Friday 19 December, which gives us lots of time to fit in all the events we have planned.

This year we have chosen to perform a musical play called Baubles. The play contains some very catchy songs, involves all children in school and I am sure will be great fun! There will be two performances of the play this year. Both performances will take place on **Wednesday 10 December - one at 1.45pm, the other at 6pm**. Due to fire regulations we have space for 100 people for each performance in the main hall, therefore I would like to offer initially two tickets per family for each of the performances. Once initial tickets have been allocated, any remaining tickets will be distributed amongst those who have requested them. Please complete the attached form to request tickets, stating clearly the total number of tickets you would like and the performances you wish to attend. Please return this slip to the main school office as soon as possible and tickets will be distributed over the next few weeks. Please note, you must have a ticket to be able to watch the performance. Thank you for your co-operation with this and we look forward to an excellent Christmas performance this year!

The Christmas Fair is only weeks away and we are holding a Friends of the School meeting on Thursday 27 November at 9am to agree final arrangements. We would like have as many people as possible helping out, so if you have some time spare next week, please come along to the meeting and see how you can join in. We are also now accepting donations of raffle and competition prizes for the Fayre. If you would like to donate bottles, toiletries, biscuits, cakes, prizes etc please bring them to Mrs Campbell in the main school entrance.

Over the last few weeks we have had a number of children absent from school where no reason has been given. Could parents please take the time to phone school on the first morning of absence to let us know why the child is not in school and a predicted day for their return. Unfortunately any unexplained absences will have to be recorded as unauthorised if no reason is provided.

Thank you to the many people who have kindly donated Morrison's vouchers to school as part of the Let's Grow campaign. Overall we collected over 1800 vouchers and have ordered a range of resources from watering cans to compost and seeds that we will plant in early Spring.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr C Baines,  
Headteacher

For the most up to date information about what is going on in our school including dates for your diaries, parental information and school performance information, please visit our website at:

**<http://www.howden-le-wear.durham.sch.uk>**

Please scan your smartphone device over the QR code to the right to be taken straight to our school website!



### Internet Safety Briefing

Recently we have had a couple of parents let us know of issues they are dealing with linked to their children being safe online when in their homes. As I am sure you are aware, new 'apps', games and online technologies are being created every day and it is important that parents keep up to date with these technologies and monitor what their children are accessing online in the home. In school we work very hard to ensure children are taught how to be safe when using all aspects of technology. This is done discretely during all Computing sessions as well as having dedicated, stand alone lessons that reinforce how to be e-safe both at home and school and what to do if you feel you are having a problem with e-safety.

To help support this further I would like to hold a parents briefing in school on **Monday 1 December at 2pm**. The aims of the session will be to look at how your children use the Internet; to raise your awareness of online safety; to provide guidance on online safety and privacy for your children and to answer any questions you might have. Tea and coffee will be served at the briefing which will take about an hour and we will be finished for the end of the school day.

**We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible a week on Monday.**

### Salvation Army Toy Appeal

We have been contacted recently to promote the Crook Salvation Army Toy Appeal. Each year Crook Salvation Army hold a toy appeal for children in the local area who may not receive many Christmas presents on Christmas morning.

If you have any toys that are boxed and have not been played with, then the Salvation Army would love to receive donations from you. They also would happily accept gifts of new toys, stationary, clothing such as hats, scarves and gloves; as well as bathroom essential gift sets etc.

Donations can be brought into school or taken directly to Crook Salvation Army at Queen Street, Crook, DL15 8QQ.

**Thank you for your support with this.**



### 50/50 Draw for November next Friday!

We encourage as many people as possible to take part in our monthly 50/50 draw in school. The more people that take part, the bigger the monthly prize fund becomes! Next Friday we will be making the draw for November with half of the money raised going to the school and half to the winner. Tickets cost £1.00 from Mrs Campbell in the school office.

### Children's Achievements In School

Every Friday teachers choose a child from their class to be recognised for something special they have achieved that week. This week's chosen children are:

#### Mrs Wheatley's Nursery Class



Mrs Wheatley in Nursery would like to congratulate **William Grafton** for settling really well into Nursery. William has been working hard and really trying his best. Well done William!

#### Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Mrs Craig has been really impressed with **Emily** for recognising all her shapes this week in Maths. Well done Emily!

#### Ms Simons' Year 1/2 Class



Ms Simons would like to say a huge well done to **Chloe Demeyre** for her fantastic work in Maths. Chloe has fully understood her learning this week and this really shows in her Maths book. Well done Chloe!

#### Mrs Lowden and Mrs Salkeld's Year 3/4 Class



Mrs Lowden and Mrs Salkeld are really pleased with **Lucy Johnson** for learning her times tables. Lucy is working really hard and this week got all her questions right. Great work Lucy!

#### Mrs Clark's Year 5/6 Class

Mrs Clark would like a special mention this week to **Abbie Keneford** for her brilliant attitude toward her learning and for always trying her best. Abbie is making great progress in school. Keep up the hard work!

