



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6 November 2015

Vol: 6 Issue: 9

Headteacher's Notices

Welcome back to school for what promises to be a very busy half term in the run up to Christmas! I know from speaking to our children how much they have enjoyed their break with all the fun of Halloween and bonfire night too!

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week we welcomed Adam Bushnall into school to work with children and staff in all classes to support our whole school development of writing. Adam is a specialist literacy teacher who works in schools locally, nationally and internationally. He brought with him a range of weird and wonderful objects to use with children (including a tortoise!!) to stimulate creative writing. He spent half a day in each class and commented how positive children had been towards their learning and what excellent writing they had produced. Thank you to Adam for visiting our school and well done to our children for their effort during these sessions. We will hopefully have Adam back into school later this academic year to work with children and staff again.



The First World War officially ended on the eleventh hour on the eleventh day on the eleventh month, 1918 - Armistice Day. The act of a two minute silence began on the anniversary of Armistice Day in 1919 by those who did not want to forget the millions killed, injured and affected. Now generally called Remembrance Day, millions of people stop what they are doing and observe a two minute silence at 11am on 11 November each year in the memory of those who have been affected in all conflicts. As a school we intend to honour this occasion next Wednesday by holding a two minute silence in school at 11am.

Coupled with this, there are a number of events taking place this weekend in the village to commemorate Remembrance Day. The History Society have organised an event in the chapel on Saturday and Sunday from 10 am—4pm and our children will have some work on display. On Sunday there will be a Remembrance Service in the Methodist Church starting at 10am and from there, people will head to the War Memorial where wreathes will be laid at around 11am. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Christmas will soon be upon us and very quickly after returning from half term we start to prepare for our Christmas performances in school. Historically we have always put on one school production that has included all children. However, because of our rising school roll with nearly 100 children in main school and 26 children in Nursery, we have decided that Nursery and Reception children will host their own nativity/Christmas performance for parents and family members that will take place at **10am on Thursday 10 December**. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children will then have their Christmas performances on the same day - Thursday 10 December - at 1.45pm and 6pm respectively. Tickets and further information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Finally can I remind children of parents attending Robinwood Activity Centre in early December that we have a Parents Meeting on Wednesday next week at 3.15pm in Mrs Clark's classroom to provide you with more information in advance of the visit.

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!



Mrs Craig has a Baby Boy!

We are delighted to let you know that Mrs Craig, our Reception teacher, had a baby boy on Friday 30 October. Finn Peter Craig weighed in at 9lb 8 oz and both mum and baby are doing fine.

I know you will join me and the staff in wishing Mrs Craig well and we look forward to meeting Finn in school very soon.



Children in Needs Day Events

Next Friday 13 November is Children in Need day and events will be organised up and down the country along with the television marathon on Friday night, to raise money for this worthy cause.

To support this in school we will be holding a non uniform day where children and staff can pay a donation of £1.00 to attend school in clothes of their choosing. We are not having a specific theme this year, simply a non uniform day. Also, Mrs Newton will be baking cupcakes for sale at playtime at a cost of 40p per cake. Please ensure children bring money to school securely in an envelope.

Thank you for supporting Children in Need!

Dates for this Half Term

We have already pencilled in key events for this half term and an outline of these for your diary are listed below.

Thursday 19 November - Year 1/2 visit to The Bowes Museum.

Wednesday 2 - Friday 4 December - Robinwood Activity Centre visit for children in Year 4, 5 and 6.

Wednesday 9 December - Dress Rehearsal for Christmas production. All children involved.

Thursday 10 December - Christmas Productions in school.

- Nursery/Reception - 10am.
- Key Stage 1/2 - Two performances at 1.45pm and 6pm.

Friday 11 December - The Snow Bear performance in school for Early Years /Key Stage 1 pupils.

Tuesday 15 December - Whole school visit to the Gala Theatre Durham to watch this year's pantomime.

Wednesday 16 December - Christmas Dinner in school for all children.

Thursday 17 December—Christmas parties.

Friday 18 December - School closes for the Christmas holidays at 3.05pm and reopens on **Monday 4 January at 8.50am.**

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 recognising lots of shapes during his firework shape hunt this week. Great work William!

Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Miss Knaggs has this week nominated **Sam McGow** for his much improved confidence when climbing and using apparatus in school. Well done Sam!

Ms Simons' Year 1/2 Class



Ms Simons would like to say a huge well done to **Emily Barratt** for her fantastic listening skills in all her learning and for the lovely work she has Produced. Well done Emily!

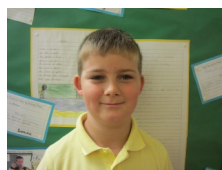
Mr Clarke's Year 3 Class



Mr Clarke would like a special mention this week for **Lillie Allport** for the wonderful writing she has produced this week linked to the Romans topic. Keep up the hard work Lillie!

Mrs Lowden and Mrs Salkeld's Year 4 Class

Mrs Lowden and Mrs Salkeld are really pleased with **Thomas Kershaw** for some amazing writing and artwork linked to the theme of Remembrance. Well done Thomas!



Mrs Clark's Year 5/6 Class

Mrs Clark would like a special mention this week for **Harry Thompson** for his brilliant contributions to the lesson during Adam Bushnell's visit to school. Harry joined in at every opportunity and had a great time. Well done Harry!



Well done to all our children this week for their fabulous effort and hard work in school.

