



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 7 December 2018

Vol: 9 Issue: 13

In this week's newsletter:

- ◆ Thank you for attending the Christmas Fair;
- ◆ Organisation for Christmas performances;
- ◆ After-School Clubs.

Important dates / information for next week:

- ◆ Christmas performances next Tuesday (KS2) / Wed (EYFS/KS1);
- ◆ Year 6 Ukulele Performance 9.15am;
- ◆ Snow Bear performance next Friday afternoon.

Where does the term go? It doesn't seem that long ago since we returned to school after the summer holidays and today we find ourselves with two weeks to go until we break up for Christmas. Preparations for Christmas are well underway in school and we are really looking forward to a busy festive fortnight ahead!

Today, we held the Friends of the School Christmas Fair which took place in the school hall. The event was a huge success and a big 'thank you' to all those who came to support it. I hope you really enjoyed the cake stalls, tombola, raffles, prizes, games and the traditional opportunity to visit Santa. As the fair has just taken place, we don't have an overall total raised at the moment, but we'll let you know in next week's newsletter. Finally, a very big thank you to the Friends of the School, in particular Mrs Allport and Mrs Wood, along with Mrs Campbell and Mr Reed in the School Office for organising and preparing for the event.

Children throughout school have been working hard this week practising for the Christmas performances. By now, everyone has been allocated at least two tickets if they have requested them. Any remaining tickets will be distributed early next week. If you need tickets and have not informed us, please call into the school office on Monday to ensure you receive them. Key Stage 2 performances will start promptly on Tuesday at 1.45pm and 6pm; whilst Nursery, Reception and Year 1/2 will show two performances at 9.45am and 1.45pm on Wednesday. Before each performance, we will be selling raffle tickets to win a selection of prizes that will be drawn at the end of each performance. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to support the Christmas parties in school. Finally, for the Key Stage 2 evening performance, could we please request that children come back to school to the main entrance for 5.30pm on Tuesday, giving staff time to organise costumes and props for children. We look forward to seeing you all next week.

Next Friday 14 December, we welcome Chris Bostock into school, who you may remember has visited us on two previous occasions as part of our World Book Day celebrations in recent years. Chris and his team will be performing a wonderful wintry tale entitled 'The Snow Bear' to our younger children. Thank you to those parents who have supported us with a donation of £3.00 towards this event, as outlined in a letter I sent out in recent weeks. The performance will take place on Friday morning and don't forget, all children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are asked to bring their favourite teddy bear or soft toy with them to watch the performance!

Finally, thank you to all those parents who have purchased Christmas cards, mugs and coasters as part of the Christmas Cards for Schools initiative. We are aware that people's orders have not yet arrived in school. We spoke with the company who produce the cards earlier this week and they assure us that all orders will be returned to school by Monday 10th December. As soon as they arrive in school, we will distribute them to children that day. Thank you for your patience and apologies for the delay, as they are normally returned to school much quicker than this.

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!



After School Clubs

We have had a tough time with After School Clubs this half term that has resulted in a number of them having to be cancelled or postponed over a number of weeks. As an example, the after school swimming club that we run every Thursday has only taken place on 3 out of 8 weeks this half term, as a result of pool closures and swim instructor issues that are outside of our control. Also, clubs that we run in school have had to be cancelled due to poor weather and staffing issues. We hope to get things back to normal in the New Year and the pupil sign up sheet for the first half of the Spring term will be coming out shortly. We would like to offer our swimmers who have only attended two sessions this half term the opportunity to sign up again after Christmas if they would like to.

Due to the wide range of Christmas events, the following after school club arrangements will be in place:

Monday 10th December - No Multiskills Club

Tuesday 11th December - No Circus Skills club

Wednesday 12th December - KS2 Football Club is on.

Thursday 13th December - Gym Club, KS1 Construction Club and swimming club are all on.

There will be no after school clubs in the last week of term, week beginning Monday 17th December.



Thank you for supporting our After School Clubs over the Autumn term.

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



Mrs Hardy would like to congratulate **Millie Franklin** for her wonderful singing and actions during our Christmas rehearsals this week. Well done Millie!

Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Mrs Craig has nominated **Leon Waggott** for his fantastic work with his letter sounds and shape names this week. Great work, Leon!

Miss Barton's Year 1 Class



Miss Barton would like to say well done to **Lacey Slater** for her fantastic effort and hard work in maths this week. Fabulous job, Lacey!

Mrs Gray's Year 2 Class



Mrs Gray would like a special mention for **Amelia Todd** for always going out of her way to be kind and help others. Excellent effort, Amelia!

Miss Natrass' Year 3/4 Class



Miss Natrass is delighted with **Chloe Underwood** for amazing determination to improve her writing and great performances in the play practices this week. Well done Chloe!

Mrs Salkeld's Year 4/5 Class



Mrs Salkeld is really pleased with **Alfie Proud** for being helpful, kind and a good friend to everyone. Well done Alfie!

Mrs Clark's Year 6 Class



Mrs Clark would like to congratulate **Megan Johnson** for her amazingly positive attitude to everything and for being a fabulous class member. Great job, Megan!



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

