



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 15 October 2021

In this week's newsletter:

- ◆ **Christmas card competition for children to complete at home;**
- ◆ **Parentview Survey.**

Important dates / information for next week:

- ◆ **Please order Tempest School photos by the end of next week;**
- ◆ **Complete ParentView survey for school;**
- ◆ **Donations for Harvest;**
- ◆ **Return Christmas card designs for competition by Tuesday.**

Thank you to everyone who attended our parent consultation evenings on School Cloud this week. I hope you found the meetings with your child's class teacher useful and feel that you have an understanding of the progress they have made since returning to school in September and their areas for development. For those who were unable to attend, please get in touch and we will be pleased to offer you a chance to meet with your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time in the next week.

We have been delighted to hear the positive feedback from the individual and family photographs that were taken by Tempest Photography last Friday, with parents being really pleased with the quality of the 'proof' pictures they received. As mentioned last week, ordering the packs of photos is easy through the Tempest Website at www.tempest-orders.co.uk if you order in the next week, you will benefit from free delivery to school and all orders will be completed by the second/ third week in November.

We were contacted this week by Richard Holden MP, the Member of Parliament for North West Durham, to let us know about his annual Christmas card design competition. Children across North West Durham have been challenged to design a Christmas card that will see the winning entry become Richard's official Christmas card for 2021, that will be sent to over 1000 people and also be presented to the Prime Minister. The lucky winner will also receive a small prize of congratulations for their efforts. Today, your child will be bringing home a template for them to design their card on and we kindly ask that they are returned to school by **Tuesday 19 October**. We will then send all the designs to Richard's office to be entered into the competition. Children are encouraged to make their designs Christmassy, creative and colourful to give them the best chance of success. Good luck to everyone who chooses to take part!

Feedback about the work we do in school is really important to us and I am always keen to hear comments that parents and carers have and use these to look at how we can improve our offer to all our families. ParentView is another way you can have your say on our school and is available to complete on the Ofsted website. ParentView was set up to give parents/carers the chance to tell Ofsted what they think about the school their child attends. The online questionnaire asks for views on 14 aspects of our school from the quality of teaching to children's safety in school. Ofsted will then use the information you provide to make decisions about school inspections and overall school performance. I would be most grateful if over the coming days, as many parents/carers as possible sign up and complete the questionnaire. The ParentView website can be found at:

<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Throughout this half term, our School Council have been meeting regularly to set out the things they would like to focus on this academic year and they would like their first event of the year to be linked to Halloween. Over the last few years, Halloween has fallen in the half term holiday and this year is no different with it being on the Sunday before we return to school. So, on Monday 1st November we are going to host a 'spooky afternoon' in school. For a small donation of £1, children can bring their Halloween costumes into school to change into at lunchtime and take part in a spooky treasure hunt around our school site and then enjoy a small Halloween disco in the school hall with refreshments. This will all happen during the day with children leaving school at their usual time of 3.05pm.

Finally as a reminder, school closes for the half term holiday next Friday 22nd October and reopens for children on **Monday 1 November** at 8.45am.

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!



School Notices

Year 6 Parents - With the deadline for secondary school admission places fast approaching (31st October), could all parents /carers of Year 6 children ensure they have completed the online application process by this time. This will ensure that your child has the best chance of getting their first choice school place for September 2022. If you require any help completing the application process, please do not hesitate to visit school where we can assist you with this.

Harvest Food Collection - Thank you to everyone who has provided donations for our Harvest Food collection. There is still time to send non-perishable food items into school next week, which will be delivered to The Salvation Army in Crook on Thursday to help with their food bank appeal. Please pass any donations you have to Mrs Campbell in our school office.

Playgroup Appeal - Many of you will know that before the Covid-19 pandemic hit, we had a well-established and much needed playgroup in our village that met every week in the Village Hall, to bring together young children and their parents. Sadly, Jaclyn Morton who organised this group is unable to continue running it due to increasing work commitments and she has been in touch asking if anyone would be interested in taking over the running of the group. If you feel you have a few hours to spare each week to do this and would like to know more, please get in touch with Jaclyn via email at jtmorton33@gmail.com

Pantomime Visit - A letter was sent to your emails yesterday regarding this year's school pantomime visit to the Gala Theatre on Tuesday 14 December. Please complete the google form to give your consent and money for the trip should be paid via Parentpay.

Uniform / PE Tracksuit Orders - We are aware that a number of families are still awaiting the arrival of uniform / PE tracksuits from our uniform supplier, Emblematic due to a delay in the garments arriving from Emblematic's own suppliers. To establish exactly how many orders are outstanding, we would be grateful if parents still awaiting orders could complete the Google form at the link below so we can create a comprehensive list to send on to Emblematic. Thank you for your help and patience with this.

<https://forms.gle/BmXf3eXD8VK43gyEA>

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:

Miss Atkinson's Nursery



Miss Atkinson would like to congratulate **Noah** for super participation when singing our Autumn rhyme 'Leaves are Falling'. Miss Atkinson is really proud of you, Noah!

Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Mrs Craig has nominated **Bradison** for super vocabulary and discussion in our work on Harvest foods. Keep up the good work, Bradison!

Mrs Sheard's Year 1 Class



Mrs Sheard would like to say a huge congratulations to **James** for concentrating well in class, joining in and working really hard. Congratulations James for a great week in school!

Mrs Gray's Year 2/3 Class



Mrs Gray would like a special mention for **Eden** for being a great role model to other children, helping others and for always trying her best in all that she does. Wonderful news, Eden!

Mrs Salkeld's Year 3/4 Class



Mrs Salkeld is really pleased with **Ronnie** for writing a great letter in English this week and always choosing to do the right thing in school. Well done, Ronnie!

Miss Nattrass' Year 4/5 Class



Miss Nattrass is delighted with **Megan** for having a conscientious attitude towards all her work. Her long multiplication this week was super and beautifully presented. Great effort, Megan!

Mrs Clark's Year 5/6 Class



Congratulations to **Finley** for huge effort and determination in all lessons, but particularly for his diary entry writing this week. Great work, Finley!



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

