Weekly Bulletin –12th May 2017

Headteacher's Message

Firstly, we would like to congratulate our Year 6 children for the excellent effort and dedication they have shown during SATs assessments this week. We are delighted with their approach to their studies and they can be justly proud of their efforts. We look forward to the publication of results in July. Later in the bulletin is information about activities and events planned for Year 6 before they move onto their new schools in July.

Next week is *Walk to School Week*. We remain conscious of the congestion around the school at drop off and pick up times. With this in mind, we again request that parents exercise care and consideration when parking around the school. Please do make the most of this opportunity to walk to school and so reduce congestion.

There are a couple of events I wish to draw your attention to.

Earlier this week, our Year 5 pupils enjoyed an informative visit to the ISKCON Hindu Temple in Newcastle. This provided a valuable opportunity for them to learn about the Hindu religion and understand something of a different culture. Enriching pupils' cultural understanding is a vital part of our curriculum and we are delighted to be able to give pupils these opportunities. Together with the international work led by Mrs Morgan, these ensure that our pupils are well prepared to take their place in the world.

Next Friday our catering contractors, Taylor Shaw, will be preparing a 'British Day' lunch with traditional British themed food. This is at the request our School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG) who are working with Taylor Shaw to develop and improve our school food. The SNAG group is one of many ways in which pupil voice supports the work of the school.

Best wishes

Mr Tait

Diary Dates

Sunday 14th May	- Confirmation Service at St. Mary's Church (Confirmation Group)
Thursday 18th May 2017	- Girls' Football League
Friday 19th May 2017	- SNAG British Day (lunchtime)
Friday 19th May 2017	- Y5/Y6 Kwik Cricket Competition, Maiden Castle
Friday 19th May 2017	- School Disco
Monday 22nd May 2017	- Y6 Northern Saints (Y6), School
Friday 26th May – Friday 2nd June	- Half-Term Holidays (school finishes Thursday 25th May 2017)
Monday 5th June 2017	- School restarts for Summer Term 2
Monday 5th June 2017	- Y6 Yearbook Photographs
Tuesday 6th June 2017	- Y5/Y6 Athletics Competition, Riverside Stadium
Wednesday 7th June 2017	- Y3 Oriental Museum Visit - Egyptians
Thursday 8th June 2017	- School closed, General Election Polling Station
Thursday 8th June 2017	- Y6 Leavers' Service, Durham Cathedral

Tuesday 13th June 2013 - New Parents Evening (Reception intake September 2017)
Wednesday 5th July 2017 - School Open Evening
Monday 10th July 2017 - Sports Day (13:30)

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Christian Values

We continue to explore the value of thankfulness and worship will be led by Mr Tait, Mrs Matthews and our Key Stage Two pupils. We will be thinking about the story of the Ten Lepers and how it is important to remember to say thank you.

School Closure- General Election

School will be closed on Thursday 8th June as Durham County Council requires the school to be used as Polling Station for the General Election to be held that day. The reasons for a school closure are obviously of interest to parents and we have received a number of queries about this matter. We endeavour to keep the school open, but for the reasons outlined here it has been necessary to close. Under electoral law the school must comply with the council's request to make the school available for the purposes of polling. It is necessary to close the school to pupils as a review of all relevant risk assessments (school security, visitors', fire evacuation and emergency plan etc.) demonstrates that it would not be safe to open the school and that to do so would jeopardise safeguarding arrangements.

Birthday Invitations

A reminder. Key Stage One class teachers are willing to distribute party invitations where these are for the whole class. Where this is not the case, and invitations are only for selected pupils, we ask parents to distribute invitations outside of school. This is in order to prevent upsetting those children who have not been invited to a party which would inevitably occur when invitations are distributed in school.

Confirmation- Sunday 14th May

The Confirmation Service for those Year 6 pupils being confirmed this year will be held at St. Mary's Church Shincliffe Village this Sunday (14th May) at 4pm. All are welcome to support our Year 6 children at the service which will be led by Bishop Paul. We extend our thanks to Mrs Duell and Fr. Peter who have led our Confirmation Preparation Group.

Year 6 Leavers

Some diary dates for Year 6 leavers:

Monday 5th June 2017 – Yearbook photographs.
Thursday 8th June 2017 - Leavers' Service Durham Cathedral. Drop off children at school at 0900 and pick up from school at 12:45.
Thursday 20th July 2017 – Y6 Leavers' Assembly, School Hall, 14:45
Friday 21st July 2017 – Leavers' Service, St. Mary's Church, Shincliffe, 10:00.

School Events

We have a number of school trips and visits in Summer Term 2:

Y3 Oriental Museum – Wednesday 7th June 2017
Y6 Leavers' Service – Thursday 8th June 2017
Y4 Roman Potter – Monday 12th June 2017
Y3 Egyptian Potter – Tuesday 13th June 2017
Y4 Pilgrimage Durham Cathedral – Tuesday 13th June 2017
Y5 Beamish Museum - Friday 16th June 2017
Y4 Vindolanda – Wednesday 21st June 2017
Y2 St. Mary's Lighthouse – Tuesday 27th June 2017

Sunscreen and Hats

As we move into the summer term please remember sunhats and sunscreen. Please apply long-lasting sunscreen at the beginning of the day. School staff are not able to apply sunscreen.

Head lice

Further to our previous communications about headlice, the school nurse will be holding an assembly for the children on Monday 15th May to increase awareness on this issue.

Sport

This week Y3 participated in a **mini-tennis** competition at Durham Johnston School. There were other local schools at this event and our pupils came second overall. Well done to Year 3.

The **Girls' School Football Team** competed again in the league at Meadowfield on Tuesday night and continued their successful winning streak beating Esh CE 4-1 and Cassop 5-0. There is only one more week of matches left in the league. We wish the girls every success.

Next week the School Sports Organising Crew (SSOC) are running a **Kwik Cricket** competition for Y5 and Y6 at Maiden Castle with help from the School Sports Partnership (SSP). This is just one of the house competitions that the eight Year 6 SSOC members are running across the school.

Weekly Bulletin

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.