**Weekly Bulletin**

**Headteacher's Message**

As we approach the end of this half term and the mid-way point in this school year, it is a good time to reflect on our children's successes and achievements to date. Working in partnership with parents, and with the dedication and support of the staff, we have been able to achieve much. Working together is vital in ensuring that each and every child achieves their full potential. I thank you, as parents, for your commitment and support and look forward to continuing to work with you for the rest of the school year.

Best wishes

Mr Tait

**Diary Dates**

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| Monday 27th February 2017 | – School re-opens for Spring Term2 |
| Wednesday 1st March 2017 | – 10am School Eucharist for Ash Wednesday |
| Wednesday 1st March 2017 | – Mixed Football League starts (4 weeks) |
| Thursday 2nd March 2017 | - World Book Day |
| Thursday 2nd March 2017 | – Zambia Fun Run (KS2) |
| Friday 10th March 2017 | – Y4 Football Trophy |
| Monday 13th March 2017 | – Dance Festival (Y2 and Y5) |
| Friday 7th April 2017 | – School closes for Easter Holidays |
| Monday 24th April 2017 | – School re-opens for Summer Term 1 |
| Monday 1st May 2017 | – May Day Bank Holiday |
| Thursday 4th May 2017 | – School Closure, Parish and County Council Elections |

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

**Christian Values**

After half term we will be exploring the value of humility and worship will be led by Mr Tait, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill, our Key Stage Two pupils and Mark McKnight, the Methodist Circuit Lay Worker. Wednesday, 1st March is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, and Community Worship takes place at 10am. This Eucharist will be led by Fr. Peter, Fr. Bill and pupils from Year 6. All are welcome.

**Sport**

Congratulations to our two gymnastics teams who competed in the Key Steps Gymnastics Competition at the Louisa Centre Stanley on Tuesday 14th February. The gymnasts worked hard learning their floor and vault exercises at the Gymnastics Club in readiness for the competition and came 2nd and 4th. Even more importantly, they had a fabulous time!

At the beginning of next term we have the Mixed Football League, which starts on March 1st for the Y5/Y6 Football Team, and representatives from Key Stage 2 will participate in the Zambia Fun Run on March 2nd 2017.

**School Medication Policy / Procedures- reminders**

The following are useful reminders for parents:

- All ***prescribed*** medications can be given in school providing they are in the original container & box displaying the pharmacy label & administration instructions. An 'Administration of Medications' form **MUST** be completed by parents/carers in order for us to administer medications. Children **MUST NOT** bring medications to school themselves. It is required that medications are delivered by an adult to the school office each morning & collected from the office at the end of each day. It is parents' responsibility to collect and dispose of medicines at the end of the course. Please note herbal and alternative medicines cannot be administered.
- Prescribed lotions and creams must be applied by pupils *themselves,* under supervision, and follow the same procedure as explained above.
- Lip balms are not permitted in school. In extreme cases medicated lip balms may be kept in the medicine cupboard in the school office for self-application. This requires a letter from parents and a staff signature. Pupils must not carry lip balm on their person.
- Non-prescribed paracetamol can be given to children on completion of a medicine form but for no longer than stated by manufacture's guidance. (48hrs).
- Children are only permitted to wear bandages or dressings that have been applied by a healthcare professional in a medical setting e.g. Dr, nurse, physiotherapist, surgery, hospital, clinic. Homemade bandages are not permitted.

**World Book Day**

World Book Day is on 2nd March and the children will be celebrating in school by dressing up as characters from a favourite book. Our pupil librarians have asked that the children bring a small donation to contribute towards the cost of the new books they are selecting for school. Reading is a healthy habit to acquire for life and as a school it is good to value opportunities to promote the love of reading.

**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.

We have now been publishing the weekly bulletin for half a term and are interested in parents' experiences of this as a method of communication from school. We will be issuing short survey after half term and value your feedback. Please do look out for this and respond if you are able.