



Weekly Bulletin – 18th January 2019

Headteacher's Message

Together with Mrs Richardson and Mrs Caygill and all of Year 6 I am currently enjoying 3 days at the Robinwood Outdoor Activity Centre in Alston as part of our Year 6 class residential visit. It might be cold, but the children (and staff too!) have engaged in various activities including climbing, canoeing, problem solving, the giant swing and a piranha pool! It has been a rich opportunity not only to develop new skills and independence, but also to develop teamwork. I know that the younger children in school look forward to their opportunity to visit once they are in Year 6.

Best wishes
Mr Tait

Diary Dates

Wed 16th – Fri 18th January – Y6 Visit to Robin Wood Activity Centre
Wednesday 30th January 09:10am – Y1 Class Assembly (Parents welcome)
Tuesday 5th February – Safer Internet Day
Thursday 7th February 09:10am – Y5 Class Assembly – Chinese New Year (Parents welcome)
Friday 8th February – FOSS School Disco
Saturday 9th February – Y5 Chinese New Year celebrations – Durham Town Hall
Monday 11th – Tuesday 12th February – Parents' Consultation Evening
Friday 15th February – School closes for half-term holiday
Monday 25th February – School re-opens
Thursday 28th February – Y2 Great Fire of London Workshop (In-school event)
Thursday 7th March 10:00am – Eucharist for Lent (Parents welcome)

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

Noticeboard

- School holidays for 2019/2020 now available on the School website.

International Schools Award

We were very pleased to receive our reaccreditation certificate of the International Schools Award assessed by the International team at the British Council. It is in recognition of the scope of excellent international activities encompassed as part of our curriculum. We were delighted by the assessment comments and congratulated on the varied and engaging range of activities and events which are embraced by the whole school community. Special congratulations were given to our International Co-Ordinator, Mrs Morgan, who has co-ordinated such an impressive range of work.

Winter Weather

“Schools should, wherever possible, stay open in severe weather. They play a key role in their communities and by staying open help both their pupils and parents.” Department for Education

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service. As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However, schools may close due to ‘unavoidable’ circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite. We recognise that it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Shincliffe CE School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by gritting pathways and clearing access points.

However, if we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, we may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via the Durham Closures website. To determine whether Shincliffe CE School is open or closed please visit: www.durham.gov.uk/schoolclosures.

Search for the school in the search box. The Durham Closures website can also be used to find out if other services in Durham are open or closed, such as nurseries, children’s centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for text alerts with the school. This service will send an SMS alert to let parents know if school is closed.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit www.durham.gov.uk/winterroads for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Durham so you can plan your journey.
- Don’t forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.
- If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up, please could you put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform the school. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.

Many thanks for your support in helping Shincliffe CE School remain open during periods of severe snow/ice.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of hope this half term.

Worship will be led by Mr Tait, Fr. Bill, Fr. Peter and the pupils.

Some further information about this half term’s value:

This half term we are focussing on hope as our whole school Christian Value.

The Christian understanding of hope is much deeper than our everyday use of the word can be. We hope that it will not rain for the picnic, or that the car will start or that the plumber will come tomorrow.

Hope is a universal human phenomenon. People hope for peace in time of war; food in time of famine; justice in time of oppression. Where hope is lost there is despair and disintegration.

Hope generates energy and sustains people through difficult times.

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

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