



## **Weekly Bulletin – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**

### **Headteacher's Message**

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a restful half term.

By today, you will have received a home-school links sheet from your child's class teacher. This details the ways in which you can support your child with their studies as well as informing you of the curriculum content to be covered during this half term in each subject area. I encourage you to read it and to use it as a basis for discussing with your child what they are learning about in school.

Next Friday we mark Remembrance Day in school with Community Worship at 10am. All are welcome to come and share in our act of remembrance as we join together as a school family. As we approach the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War, this year's remembrance commemorations will have a particular significance. Poppies will be available in school next week.

Best wishes

Mr Tait

### **Diary Dates**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Russian Teacher in School  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Y6 Safer Futures Live Workshop at The Work Place, Heighington  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Bonfire Lunch  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 5:30pm – Y6 Robinwood Meeting  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 10:00am – Remembrance Service – All Welcome  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November – FOSS Disco  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Y5 Architecture Workshop (Anglo Saxons)  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Y3 Horrible Histories (Egyptians) – Sunderland Empire  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – FOSS Christmas Shopping Evening  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – R-Y5 NHS FLU Immunisations  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Y1 Trip to Beamish  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9:10am – Advent Eucharist – All Welcome  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10:00am – KS1 Nativity  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 6:00pm – KS1 Nativity  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2:45pm – KS2 Christmas Singalong  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 10:00am – Christmas Service  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> – Fri 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Y6 Visit to Robin Wood Activity Centre

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

## Noticeboard

- **BRASS LESSON CHANGES** – There will be NO brass lesson on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. This has been re-arranged to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November.
- Please remember to arrive promptly to collect your child at the end of the school day. Once you have collected your child, please ensure they are carefully supervised. Children must not be in the car park and access road area unsupervised at any time. This is in order to safeguard the wellbeing of all.
- Please remember to inform the school office if your child is being collected from school by someone else. For safeguarding, we cannot allow a child to go home with someone else without parental consent.

## International Schools

We are delighted to be hosting a visiting Russian teacher in school for three days this week and two days next week. Following an introduction to the school by our Very International people (VIP) Committee she has had the opportunity to visit each class, share aspects of Russian life and answer questions. We are grateful to Mrs Morgan, our International Schools Lead, for co-ordinating the visit and accommodating our visitor. More information will follow in the next VIP newsletter.

## Leave of Absence during Term Time

There was since a change in the law concerning term time leave of absence from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013. Head Teachers **are not able to grant any** leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Where leave is granted, Head Teachers must decide the number of school days a child can be away from school.

If you wish to make an application for your child's term time leave of absence, you must fill out an application form, which can be requested from school reception. The application form asks you to outline the reasons why you feel your application for leave of absence during term time should be regarded as 'exceptional.' Following the submission of your application, you will be notified as soon as possible of the School's decision.

Parents / carers should be aware that if you take leave of absence during term time without making a prior application to the school, or if you make an application but your requested leave of absence is not authorised and still take the child out of school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Similarly, if you keep your child away from school for longer than agreed / authorised, the excess absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

## Packed Lunch Reminder

To ensure consistency and to keep packed lunches in line with food standards for school meals within Durham County Council, packed lunches **should not** contain the following:

- Fizzy / sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans
- Chocolate-coated products / sweets / confectionary
- Sugared / toffee and salted popcorn
- **ANY NUTS OR FOODS CONTAINING NUTS**

## **School Clubs- Autumn 2**

All outdoor after school activities have now ceased for the duration of the winter months. Places are available on the continuing clubs. Please contact the School Office for information.

## **Christian Values**

This half term we will be exploring the value of compassion. Worship will be led by Mr Tait, Fr Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

*Some further information about next half term's value:*

Compassion' and 'sympathy' have much in common and both are stronger in meaning than simply 'feeling sorry for' someone.

The words have their roots in the idea of 'suffering with' someone, putting yourself in someone else's shoes and experiencing what they experience. This leads to a desire to act, to do something. It is not about 'doing good' from a position of strength or 'remembering those less fortunate than ourselves'. Compassion requires an act of imagination and humility to share in the lives of others

In Colossians 3:12 Paul says: *'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'*

In the Gospels we find many stories of Jesus showing compassion to the sick and the downtrodden of society. Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone. In the school community this means showing kindness and respect to each other. It is related to the way in which new people are welcomed into the school family and nurtured and supported. It is reflected in the ways in which members of the community support each other through difficult times, such as bereavement. In a church school the idea of community will always be a strong one— schools share a common life and common goals— we aim to nurture and sustain all our members.

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- In what ways do we encourage members of the school community to show kindness and respect to one another?
- How do we foster links with charities for those in need?
- How are new members of the school community nurtured and supported?
- How does the school help, and encourage pupils to understand and empathise with members of their community who have suffered traumatic experiences, e.g. bereavement?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. [Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net](mailto:Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net)

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