



## **Weekly Bulletin – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

### **Headteacher's Message**

We are looking forward to the FOSS Christmas Fair on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2:00 – 4:00 pm in the school hall. The FOSS team put a considerable amount of effort into preparing and organising this annual event and if any parent/carer can spare a few hours to help support the team, we would all be most grateful. Please get in touch with FOSS, or contact the school office if you are able to assist.

We are delighted to announce the birth of Mr & Mrs Anderson's child, a girl named Grace. Mrs Anderson gave birth on Wednesday and we wish the family all the best as they begin this exciting new chapter in their lives.

I draw also your attention to our Advent Eucharist on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 9:10am. This will be led by Fr. Peter and children from the Year 6 Worship Group. The Worship Choir will be singing. You are warmly invited to attend.

Best wishes  
Mr Tait

### **Diary Dates**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9:10am – Advent Eucharist – All Welcome

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Tree delivery from Grange Farm

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2:00pm – 4:00pm – FOSS Christmas Fair

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10:00am – KS1 Nativity

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 6:00pm – KS1 Nativity

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch in school incorporating Christmas Jumper Day

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**

- FOSS require volunteers for the upcoming Christmas Fair. Please help if you are able.
- Donations of cakes for the Christmas Fair should be sent to the school office on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December or brought to the fair on the Saturday.
- We are delighted that Mr and Mrs Laing of Grange Farm High Shincliffe will be delivering our school Christmas tree once again this year. We thank them for their generosity.

### **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](http://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](http://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.

### **St Mary’s Shincliffe Christmas Services**

Sunday 23rd December *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

9:30am Parish Eucharist

4:00pm Carol Service

Monday 24th December: *Christmas Eve*

3:00pm Christingle

4:15pm Christingle

11:00pm Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25th December: *Christmas Day*

8:00am Holy Communion

9:30am Parish Communion

### **Christian Values**

We are exploring the value of compassion and worship next week will be led by Mr Tait, Fr Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils. We will be continuing to think about the meaning of Advent and how it helps Christians to prepare for the birth of Jesus.

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

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