



Weekly Bulletin –28th February 2020

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back!

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. I would also like to use this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support.

I also thank all who have returned the recent parental survey. We are currently analysing the responses and I will share with you the school's response next week.

It was a delight to welcome parents and friends to our Ash Wednesday service this week. A thank you to all who attended and to the Y6 Worship Group, Fr Peter and Rev. Di for helping us to mark the beginning of Lent.

Yesterday our History Timeline was installed in the playground. It sequences significant national, international and local historical events linked to our school History Curriculum, and will be a valuable teaching resource. The children have certainly been impressed! Our thanks go to FOSS for their donation towards the cost.

In other work to support the wider curriculum, Y2 and Y5 have been working with Dance Coaches to prepare for their upcoming Dance Festival performances. It is proving to be a really worthwhile experience for the children to work with professional dance instructors and is one of the many ways in which we make use of our Sports Premium funding.

Best wishes

Mr Tait

Diary Dates

Friday 6th March – World Book Day and World Book Day Lunch

Friday 6th March – Y2 Great Fire of London Workshop

Friday 13th March – Y5 Viking Village Day

Monday 23rd March – Y2 and Y5 Dance Festival at the Gala Theatre

Wednesday 25th March – Y5 Visit to ICKSON Hindu Temple

Thursday 26th March 09:10am – Y3 and Y4 Easter Worship – Parents Welcome

Monday 30th March 09:00-10:00am – Reception Zoolab

Wednesday 1st April – FOSS Easter Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 2nd April 09:15am – Easter Eucharist – Parents Welcome
Friday 3rd April – Final day of Spring Term 2 - Easter holiday
Monday 20th April – School re-opens for Summer Term 1
Thursday 7th May – **SCHOOL CLOSURE** - Police and Crime Commissioner Election
Friday 8th May – May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 15th May – FOSS School Disco

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

World Book Day – Friday 6th March

It is World Book Day on Friday the 6th of March and we would like to give the children the opportunity to come to school dressed as a character from a book. This doesn't mean that you need to go out specially and buy a costume as we would like to avoid any unnecessary expense – please re-use or up-cycle any costumes you may already have. Children should still come to school wearing appropriate footwear (no high-heels please).

During World Book Day we will be sharing favourite books, characters and authors, and taking part in a “sharing a story” session with different classes across the school.

Thank you, Mrs Short



Police and Crime Commissioner Election - School Closure

Durham County Council have confirmed that they will require use of the school hall as a polling station for the Police and Crime Commissioner Election on Thursday 7th May. School will, therefore, be closed on 7th May as we will be unable to safely open the school. We do not take the decision to close the school lightly. We have again requested that the Council seeks alternative polling venues, but this has not been possible. As the owners of the school building, the Council have the right to request the use of the school premises. Safeguarding is our first priority. The school hall is to be used for voting and we have no way of safely opening the building in a way that can separate pupils and the voting public. The decision to close is therefore the only available option.

Traffic in the Vicinity of the School

We have received a number of complaints from residents and parents that cars are driving along the pavements. I ask all parents to consider the safety of our children and drive responsibly when using the roads within Shincliffe. This is in order to ensure the safety of all of our children.

Noticeboard

- School holidays for 2020/2021/2022 now available on the School website.

- After-School Clubs will continue next half term. Places still available for KS1 Fit & Fun and Tatty Bumpkin Yoga. Please contact the School office if you are interested in a place. Additional ad-hoc club will be confirmed by individual letter. The Summer term clubs will be published before Easter. For further information on School clubs please go to the school website.
- IMPORTANT - If your child is wishing to change to *Packed Lunches* please inform the school office with one week's notice. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need any assistance. Thank you.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of justice and worship will be led by Mr Tait, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Peter and the pupils.

Some further information on this half term's value:

Justice is

Looking after each other so that everyone has a fair share of what they need.

Justice and mercy are key themes of the writings of the Old Testament prophets. Biblical justice is **more** than fairness and equality, it is a strong bias towards the weak, the poor and the socially disadvantaged are cared for, whether they 'deserve' it or not. In God's eyes every person is precious and oppression or discrimination, on any grounds, has no place. God's justice is gracious—He always acts justly and he calls on people to do the same.

Some things to think about:

- *How can we take responsibility for one another?*
- *How can we ensure all are treated fairly?*
- *How and why do we support charities in our school?*
- *How can we be inspired to recognise injustice in the world and think about our own role in fighting it?*

'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' Martin Luther King, Jr.

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.