



Weekly Bulletin 17th December 2021

Headteacher's Message

After a term when life was meant to return to 'normal' the impact of the pandemic still filters through into school life. Despite the challenges that Covid continues to bring we have enjoyed a fun filled and productive week in school. We were able to perform and share a recorded version of our Christmas Nativity, hold Class Parties and Class Christmas Worship which have been real occasions for celebration. They have been an uplifting end to the school term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their hard work and dedication and for the way in which they consistently go above and beyond to provide rich, stimulating and enjoyable learning experiences for the children. I extend my thanks too to FOSS for supplying the refreshments and gifts for each child for the Christmas parties and for the FOSS Christmas Fair. It is much appreciated.

I again thank parents for supporting us in keeping children, staff and the community safe by following all of our Covid measures during the course of the term. By continuing to follow the measures we have been able to prevent the virus spreading as far as is possible. Effective partnership has kept the whole community safe.

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things going on in school. For example, news from our ECO team, Worship group, V.I.P. (Very International People) and SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group). This week our focus is on our Music in school and an update on this is shared below.

On behalf of all at school, I wish you and all whom you love a joyful and peaceful Christmas:

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas.

I look forward to seeing you all when we return on Thursday 6th January.

Mr Rumbles

Music

Many children have been involved in different music lessons and activities this term. Durham Music Service provide Brass and Violin lessons to children in KS2 who choose to participate in addition to guitar lessons provided by Music Works. Pupils can also join our Worship Choir, which is an after-school club, led by Dr Fleming. Usually, the Worship Choir perform at various Worships and events throughout the year in school.

We also have a specialist Music teacher from Durham Music Service who has taught ukulele in Year 4 this term. A recording of their efforts has been shown to other pupils in class this week.

Last Friday, children learning brass instruments and the violin performed in our Celebration Assembly and were presented with certificates rewarding them for their hard work this term, particularly the new starters in Year 3 and 4. It was wonderful to see the talent and progression of skills of our musicians in school.

Dates

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

Thursday 6th January 2022 – School re-opens for Spring Term 1

Wednesday 12th – Friday 14th January 2022 – Y6 Residential to Robin Wood Activity Centre

Parent Governor Vacancy

Thank you to everyone who completed ballot papers for the governor vacancy posts. I am delighted to announce that Clair Barbour and Lisa Clerk have been elected as governors and we look forward to working with them in the coming months.

A Parent Governor will hold office for four years from the date of appointment (notified by the LA) unless he or she resigns or is disqualified. A Parent Governor does not have to relinquish the post when his/her child/ren leave the school.

FOSS

A huge Thank you - £900 Raised!

Here is a list of our raffle prize and games winners drawn at the school Christmas fair last week-

Marks and Spencer hamper - Claire Little

Sweets hamper - Jayne

Chocolate box donated by La Chocolatrice - Florence Pexton

Voucher for Coffee and Cake for two donated by Betty Bees - Emily Duile

Voucher for soft play session donated by Dragonflies - Kathryn Robson

Voucher for a Christmas tree donated by East Grange Farm - Gillian Wilds

Voucher for an Alpaca Experience donated by the Little family

Voucher for a holiday camp session donated by Team Durham at Durham University - Lucy Mirley

Voucher for 1 years gym membership donated by Durham University - Lisa Clerk

Voucher for day entry donated by Durham Botanic Gardens - Helen Berriman

Voucher for a family climbing session donated by Durham Climbing Centre - Janet Piatt

Voucher for £20 donated by the Seven Stars - Vanessa McEwan

Voucher for £20 donated by Amaani Restaurant - Jenny O'Sullivan


Voucher for £10 donated by Mugwump - Rich Glass

Gin Gift Set - L Hodgson

Whisky - Peart

Name the elf - Ben Moreels

Guess the number of sweets - Esme

Congratulations to all of our winners  those who weren't handed prizes on the day have been contacted regarding how to collect your prize.

A HUGE thank you to the generosity of our amazing local businesses for donating such wonderful prizes and supporting our school.

Parental Support for SEND

There are a number of organisations and support networks for children with SEND. If you would like further information please do get in touch with the School office or Mrs Richardson who is our SENCO.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Extra Bank Holiday

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday has been announced for 3 June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As on previous similar occasions (e.g. the 2012 Diamond Jubilee or 2011 Royal Wedding), the DfE has therefore amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the school year 2021/22 for maintained schools to a minimum of 189 days, in order to allow schools to close that day or on another day.

Schools not already on half term break on the day of the bank holiday will be able to close that day. Most schools will, however, be on half term at the time of the bank holiday. This change to the Regulations will allow maintained schools to be able to close at another time to give staff and students an extra day off.

In line with other Durham County Council schools, Shincliffe CE Primary School are taking Tuesday 4th January as their extra Bank Holiday. Our INSET day will move to Wednesday 5th January 2022. Children will return to school on Thursday 6th January 2022.

For more information please go to our website:

<https://www.shincliffe.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/>

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of compassion this half term and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Fr. Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

More information on this 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 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. Christians would say that God Himself is the perfect example of community—the three persons of the Trinity are bound together in the ultimate closeness which makes them one. 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. Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net

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