



## Weekly Bulletin 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### Headteacher's Message

It was good for the school to be able to gather for Remembrance Day Worship this morning. We joined together as a school family and remembered conflicts past and present and to pray for peace. Our thanks to Year 6, Worship Choir and Fr Peter for preparing and leading our service.

In school this week a number of events to enrich the curriculum have taken place. Our Year 1 children have enjoyed a visit to Beamish Museum to support their learning in History and children in KS2 attended a Cross Country sports festival on Tuesday where they had the opportunity to compete against other schools in County Durham and further develop their PE skills. Next week we are marking both Inter-Faith and Anti-Bullying Weeks in school. Please do take the opportunity to talk to your children about what they have been doing.

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 Maths in KS2 and a special competition for children to participate in.

Best wishes,

Mr Rumbles

### Maths – Times Table Rockstars

Next week, KS2 will be celebrating **Maths Week England** by taking part in a friendly times-tables (and division) competition. The competition runs from 07:30 Monday 14th November to 19:30 Wednesday 16th November. It's all done online via Times Tables Rockstars.

Children can play in any game mode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, earning themselves, their class and school some points. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit (see below). Winning classes in the school and in the competition as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60-minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60-minutes between 07:30 and 19:30 on Monday 14th November to Wednesday 16th November. Once the player goes beyond 60-minutes of play on that day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition.

Please encourage and support your child to join in, have fun and keep rocking!

William and Ewan

School Council Chairperson and Secretary



### **Packed Lunches**

In order to ensure that packed lunches are suitably healthy and meet the guidelines set by Durham County Council, parents are reminded that they **should not contain** any of the following:

- Fizzy / sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans
- Chocolate-coated products / sweets / confectionary
- Chocolate spread as a filling for sandwiches
- Chewing gum
- Sugared / toffee and salted popcorn

Please also remember that we are a nut-free school - you're supporting in keeping all children safe is appreciated.

### **Noticeboard**

- Year 5 and 6 Discovery week to France 25th-29th June 2022 – if you would like your child to take part in the residential educational visit please return your form and deposit of £50.00 by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Diary Dates**

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

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Y4 Visit to the Great North Museum

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Y4 Durham University Computing Science Activity Day

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December – FOSS Christmas Fair – 2:30pm-4:30pm

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 9:05am – Advent Eucharist

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity Performance Reception and KS1 - 10am

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Y3 Visit to the Great North Museum

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Nativity Performance Reception and KS1 - 10am

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Singalong

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Community Worship – 10am

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – School closes for Christmas holiday

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January – School re-opens

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January – Y6 Residential Visit to Robinwood

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

### **Leave of Absence during Term Time - a reminder**

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 the school office or via the school website. 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.

### **FOSS Christmas Fair - Thursday 1st December 2:30 - 4.30pm**

Come join us for this year's Christmas fair for fun and games and of course a special visit from Father Christmas. Stalls will include, cakes, mystery bottles, guess the snowman's birthday, crafts to name but a few. There will be refreshments too.

If anyone can help with donations we are looking for the following:

- Cakes to sell at the cake stall - Please drop off at School on Wednesday 30th November or Thursday 1st December morning
- Kids Christmas jumpers - We are running a Xmas jumper stall at the fair
- Bottles and bottle bags for the mystery bottle stall
- Books for book stall

Any donations you can give would be much appreciated. We will also have our ever-popular raffle and whilst we already have some great prizes, we would be very grateful for some more prize donations. If you have a prize you would like to offer please email [FOSS.Shincliffe@gmail.com](mailto:FOSS.Shincliffe@gmail.com).

Also if anyone is available to help out on the day either with preparation or with any of the stalls please get in touch via the FOSS Facebook page or email us at [FOSS.Shincliffe@gmail.com](mailto:FOSS.Shincliffe@gmail.com).

Thank you so much from the FOSS team.

### **St. Mary's Church**

**Wild Church Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 4.00 p.m. Advent Eve.** Its Kingdom tide, which leads to Advent - join us on Advent Eve for refreshments, making giant balloon baubles, (2-3ft across) making hanging Christmas trees, cheese tree bread and an apple Christmas tree board, followed by our short service with live Music and a firepit.

**Hedgehog Care in November** -it is time to lift your pumpkins off the ground - they are bad for the stomach of hedgehogs - do keep them outside but out of reach of hedgehogs.

### **School Admissions 2023 – Will your child turn 5 between September 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024?**

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell Durham County Council which school you would like your child to attend from September 2023. Visit [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. We encourage you to apply online wherever possible as although restrictions have been lifted, staff will be in the main working from home due to the Coronavirus pandemic. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms and available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. Applications open 5 September 2022 and close midnight 15 January 2023. For more information please contact: School Places and Admissions Team: [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) Tel: 03000 2658966

## **Christian Values**

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

### *Further information on the values of Wisdom:*

Just like most faiths, the Christian tradition lays emphasis on the need to 'get wisdom' as a mark of spiritual maturity. Wisdom isn't about what you know (this is knowledge/information) but about what you do with what you know - the application of your knowledge. Being wise doesn't necessarily have anything to do with age or intellect. The Bible has specific books of wisdom in which, through poetry, story and proverbs, advice is given on how wisdom might be developed.

The Book of Proverbs says:

*'Wisdom is worth much more than precious jewels.'*

### *Some things to think about:*

- How do we gain wisdom?
- What helps you make a wise choice?
- Who do you think is a wise person and why?
- Wisdom is about being prepared to listen to the advice of others, thinking before you speak and choosing silence over words. Wisdom involves considering others, deliberating over the issues, reflecting on the long view and considering all possible consequences. How good are you at doing these things? What would help you do better?

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.