



Weekly Bulletin 17th November 2023

Headteacher's Message

This week we marked Anti-Bullying and Inter-Faith Week in school. This provided us with the opportunity to discuss respect, tolerance and understanding, the impact of the words we use to one another and how this links to our Christian value for this half-term of compassion. All of these are vital qualities for our children as we work in partnership to prepare them for life in modern Britain. My thanks go to Y5 for leading a wonderful assembly looking at the story of the Good Samaritan and for further developing the themes of the week. It is important to talk about anti-bullying messages and whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, you need to reach out to someone you trust if you need to talk. Please do take the opportunity to continue discussions at home.

I draw your attention to the FOSS Christmas Fair taking place on Thursday 7th December at school (3:30pm-5pm). The FOSS team are putting a considerable amount of effort into preparing for, and organising, the Fair and it would be good to see a high level of support. Events such as these, demonstrate the high level of commitment to supporting the school and my thanks go to our FOSS volunteers. Further details are shared below.

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things that the children are doing 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 RE and Mrs Wells has shared an update below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

RE

This week has been 'Interfaith' week. In school, we have thought about the different religious and non-religious beliefs in our community. We talked in assembly about how people of all beliefs come together for events such as Remembrance services across the country and the different ways people serve their communities. We thought about how we can show respect to one another and how everyone has the right to their own opinions and beliefs and this is what makes our school, and our world, a special place.

FOSS Christmas Fair - Thursday 7th December 3:30 - 5pm

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 6th December or Thursday 7th 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.

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.

Thank you so much from the FOSS team.

Diary Dates

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

Tuesday 5th December – Y3 Visit to the Great North Museum

Thursday 7th December - Advent Eucharist – 9.05am

Thursday 7th December 3:30-5:00pm – FOSS Christmas Fair

Tuesday 12th December - Nativity Performance Reception and KS1 - 10am

Wednesday 13th December - Nativity Performance Reception and KS1 - 10am

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December – KS2 Christmas Singalong – 2.45pm

Friday 15th December - Christmas Community Worship – 10am

Tuesday 19th December – School closes for Christmas holiday

Thursday 4th January 2024 – School reopens after Christmas holiday

January 10th-12th – Robinwood Residential Y6

Medical

- A reminder that we are only able to administer prescribed medications at school once parents have completed the required consent form. All medication must be delivered to and collected from the office by an adult.
- Parents and carers can access NHS guidance to help them when decide when their child is well enough to attend school or when their child is too ill to attend school and the link is here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>
- Packed Lunch Children – please ensure your child’s packed lunch is **NUT FREE** as we have children in the school who have an allergy to nuts.
- Medicated lozenges/throat sweets are not permitted
- School Uniform Reminder - No jewellery except for a watch is allowed in school. Earrings and nail varnish must be removed for school.

Noticeboard

- **All Brass:** There is no brass lesson on Monday 11th December but it will be on Thursday 14th December instead.
- **FOSS Tuckshop** - There will be a tuck shop held after school on Friday 17th November. Bring along some pennies to get a sweet treat.

Wild Church

SAT 25th NOV: CHRIST THE KING PARTY (in Church Hall) – Jesus’ Kingdom includes the everyone and overlooked people, e.g. the poor and also the natural world. Children’s party today, King Crowns and preparation for Advent and Tree Festival (e.g. Choc money tree, why we choose Wild Church Sustainable Tree.) Table-top toasting mallows if it rains, Christ the King activities and Short Service: Foodbank donations welcome.

SUNDAY 3RD DEC: ADVENT SUNDAY P.M. FESTIVAL

9.30 Holy Communion with special focus on children and Advent activities

5.00 pm - 6.30 **Christmas Tree Festival at St. Mary's (Fundraiser for Church Hall Heating.)**

Come to St. Mary's church where there will be over twenty different festive themed trees. Its £2.50 for adults, free for children. You can pay on the door. There will also be a craft stall so you might want to bring some cash or a card.

Later, on 3rd Dec, at 6.00 pm there begins a Wine and Cheese in the Church Hall - £10 per head - tickets from Julie Goodhart, Margaret Charters, Eileen Marchant or at the door. (inc. Tree Festival)

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.

School Holidays 2023/2024

2023/2024	Holiday	Last Day of Term	Teaching Resumes
			Tuesday 5 th September 2023
Autumn Half Term 2023	1 week	Friday 27 th October 2023	Monday 6 th November 2023
Christmas 2023	2 weeks	Tuesday 19 th December 2023	Thursday 4 th January 2024
Spring Half Term 2024	1 week	Friday 16 th February 2024	Monday 26 th February 2024
Easter 2024	2 weeks, 1 day	Thursday 28 th March 2024	Monday 15 th April 2024
May Day 2024	1 day	Friday 3 rd May 2024	Tuesday 7 th May 2024
Summer Half Term 2024	1 week, 1 day	Friday 24 th May 2024	Tuesday 4 th June 2024
Summer 2024		Friday 19 th July 2024	Wednesday 4 th September 2024

Staff PD Days 2023-2024

Monday 4th September 2023, Wednesday 3rd January 2024, Monday 3rd June 2024, Monday 22nd July 2024 and Tuesday 23rd July 2024.

School Holidays 2024/2025

2024/2025	Holiday	Last Day of Term	Teaching Resumes
			Wednesday 4 th September 2024
Autumn Half Term 2024	1 week	Friday 25 th October 2024	Monday 4 th November 2024
Christmas 2024	2 weeks	Friday 20 th December 2024	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
Spring Half Term 2025	1 week	Friday 21 st February 2025	Monday 3 rd March 2025
Easter 2025	2 weeks	Friday 11 th April 2025	Monday 28 th April 2025
May Day 2025	1 day	Friday 2 nd May 2025	Tuesday 6 th May 2025
Summer Half Term 2025	1 week, 1 day	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Tuesday 3 rd June 2025
Summer 2025		Friday 18 th July 2025	TBC

Staff PD Days 2024-2025

Monday 2nd September 2024, Tuesday 3rd September 2024, Monday 4th January 2025, Monday 2nd June 2025 plus 1 day to be taken as twilights.



Christmas Tree Festival

Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church
5pm Sunday 3rd December

All welcome to this heating fundraiser.
£2.50 donation for adults and children free

Followed by CHEESE AND WINE

£10 donation inc. the Christmas Tree Festival
5.30pm in the Hall

TREE TICKETS and CHEESE AND WINE TICKETS

from Julie Goodhart, Margaret Charters and Eileen Marchant or on the night.



DECORATING A TREE

If you want to join in by decorating a tree - let us know - so that we can plan tables/spaces.

juliannegoodhart@hotmail.co.uk
or mscharters@hotmail.com

Open to all groups and all ages, get your tree and let your creativity roam - go freestyle or do one around anything ending in tree or try or y e.g. Christmas Tree, country, book tree, shoe tree, entry, community etc.

Church is Open 2.00pm - 3.30 pm on 3rd Dec to set up the trees.

