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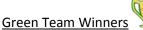






Newsletter - November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,



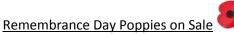
Well done to Green Team who achieved the highest overall total of stars last half term. The team were rewarded with a non-uniform day on the last day.



Our school disco for Infants and Juniors is on Monday 7th November. Children can come in non-uniform that day and are all invited to our free disco. The Junior disco is after school (3.15pm-4.30pm) so if your child does not want to attend please let the office know. Infant children will go home at 3.15pm after their afternoon disco has finished.

Parents' Evening

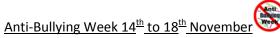
Just a reminder that our Parents' Evenings are on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th November. If you haven't already arranged an appointment to see your child's class teacher then please contact the office.



Following an assembly in school, we are currently selling poppies to mark Remembrance Day on Friday 11th
November and all donations are appreciated. Members of the School Council have been selling them and all
donations go to the British Legion. There will be a Remembrance Service at Shiney Row Methodist Church from
10.30am followed by wreath laying at the Cenotaph. Pupil representatives from school will have been invited to lay
the wreath.

Supporting Local Projects

We aim to support our local community and one of the ways we do this is by gathering donations for the Food Bank. If you have any spare dried goods (i.e. pasta or rice) or any tins of food then we would be pleased to accept them and pass them onto this local service. Food can be brought in at any time leading up to Christmas.



The theme for this year is 'Power for Good' with the idea being that children understand they are powerful and make a difference. We will supporting this campaign on the week beginning Monday 14th November with a range of activities focusing on the theme of bullying. PCSO Mark Lumsden will be in school to talk to children about difference and tolerance for others.



The theme for this year's Children in Need is 'Do your Thing' i.e. be proud of what you are good at. We have already had some experience of this as some children have prepared and presented assemblies about what they are passionate about. Only this morning a Year 4 pupil presented a fantastic assembly about his ability to build and

design LEGO cars. If your child would like to support this charity they can dress up for the day in non-uniform on Friday 18th November. This will mark the end of our Anti-Bullying week. Donations are warmly welcomed.



We are very pleased to welcome Mr Gowland and Mrs Carr to our governing body. Mr Gowland is our new parent govenor and has many years teaching experience. Mrs Carr has joined as our community governor and as a retired headteacher, is able to take on the mantle of governor very well. We still have one vacancy for a parent governor and would like to hear from you if you are keen to become involved in strategic leadership of the school. Please contact the office for further information.

Year 4/5 Class Assembly and the date for Year 2's Assembly



Many thanks to Mr Seaton's class for a fabulous class assembly last half term. The children showed off their many talents when they acted, sang and spoke about their experiences in school and their aspirations for the future. They made an excellent team and worked extremely well together to produce a lively and entertaining assembly. Our next class assembly will be performed by Year 2 and a date will follow soon. We look forward to inviting parents/carers of Year 2 children along to that.

Christmas Performances



Christmas is fast approaching now and we have organised the dates for our Christmas shows as follows:

Grandparent performance – Monday 12th December at 1.30pm

Infant performance – Tuesday 13th December at 1.30pm

Junior performance – Wednesday 14th December at 1.30pm

Letters with more information and tickets will follow closer to the time.

Christmas lunch



Each year we like to invite families in to share a Christmas lunch with their child(ren). The dates for this are as follows:

Infant lunch (with Junior siblings) – Tuesday 13th December at 1.30pm Junior lunch – Wednesday 14th December at 1.30pm

A letter will follow in due course. In order to ensure that every child can have an adult with them we can only allow one adult per family. By doing this we can continue to offer a family Christmas lunch even with our growing pupil numbers. Your understanding with this is appreciated.



Year 5 and 6 have been working with the Bikeability staff from Durham County Council. During the four weekly sessions, pupils learn aspects of road safety so they can be safe and confident bike riders.

7

Christmas Card Competition

Many thanks for the entries to the Durham Constabulary Police colouring competition. We have received some lovely Christmas card designs and we will be sending them off very soon and hopefully we will have a winner. We wish everyone who entered the best of luck.

School will be closed on Friday 25th November for our staff training day – we re-open as normal on Monday 28th

November 2016