

# Shiremoor Primary School Newsletter

Autumn 2018

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Headteacher



## Dear Parents

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November

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Christmas  
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Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>  
December



Book Fayre was very successful and raised £809.38. The children really enjoyed dressing up in their costumes.

This half-term has flown by. We have packed a lot in with my favourite thing being the improvements to the Snowdrops garden area and also the new outdoor learning space for the Reception children. Both of these areas have been a huge hit with children! We are now trying to think of ways to improve our outdoor play spaces so that children can have even more productive unstructured times.

We are also investing heavily in resources for foundation subjects such as music, art and D.T, to ensure that our offer in these subjects is as strong as it is in other areas.

Thank you to those of you who attended our class assemblies or book looks. The children do very well with their public speaking, especially when they have been used to doing it all the way through school. Year 6 are the oldest in school and really lead the way with quality of performance. Their assembly was exceptional. It is really a big thank you to all staff across school who put a big effort into ensuring children can share learning with you whilst ensuring it doesn't disrupt their learning time. It was great to see so many parents there to support and encourage the children and enjoy looking at their books. We encourage them to have pride in their work.

A big welcome back to Mrs. Irving after the holidays although to many of you it will seem as if she has never been away as she has been in weekly contact.

Camping at Dilston has been the highlight for me this half-term. The Year 5 children were an absolute delight (other than at 1.00 a.m. the first night when excitement got the better of them) and we enjoyed walking, cooking over the fire, hanging out in the forest and paddling in the river. The weather was amazing and it was a lovely, if slightly cold, weekend. We even had a silent disco in the book shop in Corbridge.

I am really impressed as well by how excited the children are to share their achievements. We try to instil in them a motivation to be the best that they can be and the range of awards we offer really focus them. Many now have purchased an 'Excellence Sash' and we are looking to introduce a weekly 'Excellence' assembly where they can show them off. The new awards for attendance reward those who ensure they attend school regularly, should be a great incentive.

I do want to thank parents for their efforts with attendance towards the end of last year because, whilst the attendance was not quite as good as the year before, we did beat local and national attendance levels. We continue to support and challenge the very small number of parents who do not yet value their child's future enough to send them to school daily. The attendance slips in warning colours seemed more effective than the attendance letters. Thank you for your support in re-writing our policy.

I feel great pride when I walk around our school. The children are polite, friendly and helpful. I love to see them on the iPads in the corridors doing their times table games, or spelling practise or just having fun making music. The iPads are also essential for our approaches to reading in Key Stage 2. We are adding further investment into Accelerated Reader as we can see the benefit. We have also invested in Reading Plus for Year 6 which is a specific focus on fluency. We do need parents to ensure that children use these programmes at home too and do plenty of wider reading. To make good progress, children should be reading for 45 minutes daily.

I am still supporting at Backworth Park Primary with the support of our Governors as it is important that all children access a high-quality education. The Local Authority are impressed by the improvements made at the start of this term and are grateful to Shiremoor for its continued support.

I would like to wish you all a very happy half-term holiday. I am already looking forward to our Christmas extravaganzas!

Mrs. McNamara has been running 'The Solihull Parenting Course' in school.

The Aim - to deliver a framework of parent/child relationships which can develop into a lifelong skill.

Parent feedback has been positive.

## Dilston



Year 5 went camping at Dilston and had a wonderful time walking, paddling, climbing, cooking over the fire and singing.

Poppies and a range of stationery will be on sale at the school office to support The Poppy Appeal



Year 6 visited St. John's Church to lay wreaths for 31 men who died in WW1 from the local area.

## Visits

- Year 6 – Nissan
- Year 6 – Beacon of Light
- Year 5/6 Athletics

## ATTENDANCE

Our school attendance this half term is 96.3% with thanks to parents. We will be following up on children whose attendance has fallen below 90% next term. The LA Attendance and Placement Service has asked us to remind parents that failure to ensure your child's regular attendance can ultimately result in you being issued with a £60.00 Penalty Notice, or legal proceedings being taken against you in the Magistrates Court where a maximum fine is £2500.00. This can include holidays taken in term time.

## Extra-curricular Clubs

Cookery	Running	
Rugby	Lego	Yoga
Yr 3/4 Football		Book
Yr 5/6 Football		Choir
Church	Funky Fingers	
Basketball	Multi-skills	
Violins		Judo

**Seeing is Believing** – Nursery and Reception took place on 4<sup>th</sup> October – thank you to the parents who attended – I hope you enjoyed the session.

## COOLMILK

Our school milk scheme is administered by Cool Milk. To register your child for school milk, please visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/register>

## P.E. Healthy Food Bags

Each week veg bags go home with 3 children. Each bag contains 5 types of veg. Children are encouraged to create a recipe using the veg supplied and share this with school, which often includes photographs of their creations. We are hoping we will soon have enough recipes to create a 'Shiremoor Primary Recipe Book'.

The bags promote healthy eating and are in popular demand among the children.

Italian Pizza Day was held on 4<sup>th</sup> October - we saw lots of red, white and green clothing that day!

## Visitors

Stephen Ilderton-Judo

Father Tony has been speaking about Christianity.

Phil Andre has visited to teach multi-cultural facts.

Woodlands Trust

Tynemet College with Year 1 and Year 2

Skipping School with Year 4

Time Bandits- WW1 workshop - Year 6

*Thank you to all parents that donated food products at the Learning Assemblies - they will all be passed onto worthy causes.*



## Safe Week

SAFE week is an annual campaign to raise awareness in North Tyneside about protecting vulnerable children and adults from abuse and harm. We have raised awareness and highlighted ways in which children can keep safe in school and at home. Our focus this year has been online safety.

## Outdoor Equipment

As you will be aware we have installed a whole range of new outdoor equipment which the children are making good use of. The New Mile Track is encouraging a lot of playtime running and next term we will be doing a sponsored run (letters and sponsorship forms have been sent home) to raise more funds to develop outdoor areas further.

Mr. McConville hosted Behaviour Management Students from Northumbria University. We also hosted North Tyneside P.E. Scitt students - safeguarding and assessment.



Mr. Nicholson hosted a parent lesson for Year 5 parents to take part in a P.E lesson with their child - Mr. Nicholson put everyone through their paces !!

**I am afraid that we have been approached by local Councillors who have received complaints from residents in Whitton Road about parking. Please park considerately and avoid parking in front of people's driveways. We do have a large number of places to park in Shiremoor compared to other areas such as across from the church, the car park at the end of Stanton Road and any number of streets in the surrounding area which are all only 2 or 3 minutes walk from school. It is important that, if you are able to walk to collect your children that you encourage children to get fit and walk or cycle to school. Please consider if you are parking in the most appropriate place. We have various entrances to school. It would be great if we could be told by the Councillors that that matter was now resolved.**



Enjoy the break - Mrs. Middleton