

Dear Parents/Carers,

November 2018



Well it has been a very busy few weeks. If you follow us on Twitter you will have got a great idea of all the exciting things the children have been doing for example science experiments, story retelling, persuasive writing, shape walks, Growth Mindset challenges, smile multiplication, story buddies and of course our termly fundraising too. The School Council, following guidance from their classes, decided to support Help for Heroes this term and thanks to everyone's generosity we raised £145.77 for this cause. It was timely as well, linking with the various events remembering the end of the First World War. Many children have worked on the mosaic we commissioned which commemorates this. The children also worked on two further mosaics to celebrate reading and all the adventures we can go on when we get lost in a book. They are now installed in the Upper School and look fabulous. This work was funded through school fund and contributions from a member of the community and our local councillors.

The public have expressed great interest our poppy display. One man actually turned his car round to come and speak to staff who were putting the poppies in position to express his astonishment and appreciation that the children had taken the time and care to produce this. Thanks for the plastic bottles – simple but very effective.

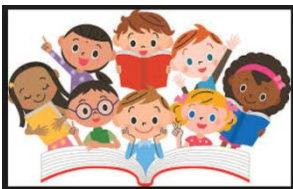
The children learnt a lot when they took part in our Disability Week – this was to give them the opportunity to experience what it might be like to have a disability. They experienced a range of activities including braille reading, sign language, volley ball (from a sitting position), lack of sight, using their less dominant hand etc. It really helped them to empathise and showed them how challenging simple activities could be. Next term we'll have a focus of Healthy Eating.

Within this newsletter we are asking for some help – the Friends are looking for new members, we need some 'muscle' to help clear an area of the school grounds and, if indoors is more your preference, then we're hoping to recruit some volunteers to hear some of our younger children read.

We've got a lot to look forward to in the weeks leading up to the Christmas break, the Dates for your Diary gives the dates you will need – you'll already have received the letter about Christmas Dinner and the theatre visit (for Y1 to Y6). You'll be receiving a letter regarding arrangements for our Carol Service soon. The choir will have their first engagement on Sunday 9th December at the Ecumenical Carol Service outside Tanfield Lea Club. It starts at 5:30 if you would like to join us.

Read on for further updates from this half term.

Kay Hemmings
(Head Teacher)



Could you spare 30 minutes a week to help us strengthen our reading community?

We have a number of volunteers who come in and support in school and the time they give is invaluable. Our younger children are working on their phonics, at the start of their reading journey, and are beginning to apply their knowledge to short books. The more they are heard read the more confident and fluent they will become. It is vital that parents hear their children read regularly at home and it's great that this happens, but in order to further support the children it would be greatly beneficial if we had a team of volunteers who could spare 30 minutes in a day to come in to school and hear individual children read. We appreciate that you may want some guidance with this and plan to do some training for volunteers in the near future.

I am sure it would be very satisfying if you were able to give some time. If you feel you could do this, for example by coming at 2:30 p.m., to hear children read, please let us know and we'll discuss what we would need to put in place to enable this to happen.

Art Exhibition

If you were able to join us for our Art Exhibition just before half term you will have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the variety of children's art work on display. From 3 years old to 11, the children produced some great pieces of art work inspired by the theme of plastic pollution and done in the style of famous artists.

Attendance

Good attendance is vital if your child is to succeed in school. We can't emphasise enough how important it is. We analyse children's attendance every half term and we will contact parents of any children who are causing us concern. The target for everyone is 96%. Any children below 95% are a concern.

Every day in school matters.

There are times when parents wonder if their child is too ill for school. There is a useful guide on the NHS website entitled "Is my child too ill for school?" Please follow this link to find out more. Coughs and colds and sore throats are not enough to keep a child off school

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Parent Governors

On the last newsletter we advertised a Parent Governors vacancy. We had two applicants and, due to a recent resignation, had two vacancies. I am therefore pleased to inform you that our new governors are Mr Paul Jagger, who has two children attending our school and Mr Andrew Gladstone-Heighton who has one child at our school. We look forward to working with them in leading our school forward.



Bags of Help for local projects

Bags of Help is Tesco's exciting local community grant scheme where the money raised by the sale of carrier bags is being used to fund thousands of local projects in communities right across the UK. Projects that bring benefit to their community will get the green light – these range from improving community buildings and outdoor spaces to buying new equipment, training coaches or volunteers and hosting community events.

I am very pleased to tell you that we submitted an application a number of months ago and our application has been accepted. We have applied for funding to further develop the outdoor area to offer equipment to strengthen upper body and develop co-ordination as well as offering creative opportunities through music. Our project is called **Stronger bodies, stronger minds**.

From Tuesday 1st January 2019 until Thursday 28th February our project will be one of 3 successful projects in our region which will go forward to a vote in Tesco stores. As you may be aware, customers will decide the outcome by voting for their favourite project each time they shop. The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive £4000 (or the amount that was requested up to this value), the second £2,000 and the third place project £1000. The stores that will be taking part in the voting for our project are:-

Annfield Plain Superstore, Tesco Express in Blackhill and the large Tesco in Consett.

If you can let families and friends know this so as many people as possible can support our application. Thank you.

Our Football Teams



The boys' and girls' teams, which are a blend of Year 5s and 6s, have had a busy season. The girls' team deservedly won 2 games towards the end of the season in addition to several drawn matches. The boys' team are top of the table at the half-way stage and have reached the District/County stages in both 7 a-side and 5 a-side cups. Both teams have played superbly and in the right spirit and are a credit to the school.

| GORDON WALTON LEAGUE – SEASON 2018-2019 | | | | | | DERWENTSIDE SCHOOLS GIRLS LEAGUE – SEASON 18/19 | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----|-------|------|--------|---|--------|-----|-------|------|--------|
| SCHOOL | PLAYED | WON | DRAWN | LOST | POINTS | SCHOOL | PLAYED | WON | DRAWN | LOST | POINTS |
| Tanfield Lea | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 17 | Lanchester EP | 9 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 23 |
| St. Mary's | 7 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 15 | Delves Lane | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 21 |
| Lanchester EP | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 9 | Greenland | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 14 |
| Delves Lane | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 | Leadgate | 9 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 14 |
| Consett St. P. A | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 | Shotley | 9 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 12 |
| Consett St. P. B | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | Catchgate | 9 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 11 |
| Burnopfield | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | St. Mary's | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 |
| Consett County | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 | Tanfield Lea | 9 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 8 |
| | | | | | | Bloemfontein | 9 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| | | | | | | Consett St. P. | 9 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 4 |



Friends of Tanfield Lea Community Primary

are a group of parents who come together to raise funds to enrich the school lives of our children. We arrange all sorts of fundraisers such as bingo nights, raffles and coffee afternoons which subsidise Pre-School farm trips, whole school theatre trips, Lower School fun days and the Upper School walks. Without these funds our trips would be so much more expensive! However, some of our long-standing members are leaving us which means we will need more support! If you feel you can give us some of your valuable time to help organise the events please leave your email address and telephone number with the school office.

Are you willing to give your time to help to clear our pond area?

We have recently been successful in securing an 'Edible Growing Grant'. We are going to use the money to purchase resources to develop a growing area within the school grounds. Mr Henderson and Miss McDonald are leading the project and have earmarked the pond area for this work. The pond has been difficult to maintain over the years and is now completely overgrown. They want to remove the pond, clear the area and create space for raised beds, compost bins, water butts etc. so that it becomes a school community garden to grow fruit and vegetable produce. In order to do this they need some help. If you could give up some time to come in and help dig, move soil, clear the undergrowth then please let us know and we'll arrange a convenient time for a team of people to get working on this. Thank you.



Visit to Germany

It's an exciting first for Tanfield – Fifteen of our Y5 and Y6 children will travel with staff and five Y11 students from Tanfield School to Tübingen in Germany on 13th December. They are one of four projects who have been given funding to develop links with schools in Germany, sharing knowledge of their own schools and countries but in particular, their Christmas traditions. The children will be supported by the Y11 mentors who will share their knowledge of the German language with the children and facilitate their time abroad. The children have been working with the Y11 students this half term; learning some basic phrases, writing letters to the children in the school in Germany and learning some Christmas Carols to be able to sing in German and English. During their visit they will visit the children in school, visit a bakery to learn the art of baking biscuits and visit the German Christmas Market. They are very excited. You'll be able to follow their adventure on Twitter.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – Spring 1 (Half Term 3)

After School Child Care runs every day from the end of the school day until 5:30. Children in Y1 and above can attend the CNS Sports Club as part of this. The CNS Booking Form must be used for this (already sent out)


As well as the CNS daily sports clubs, we do have other clubs on offer. The children will have already received letters for some of the clubs and others will be sent out in the coming weeks once they are ready to begin.

| | | | |
|------------------|---|--|-------------|
| Monday | Choir | Y1 upwards - starting first day back | 3.15 - 4.00 |
| | CNS Sports Club - Small Ball Games | Lower School (not Reception) | 3.15-4.15 |
| Tuesday | CNS Sports Club - Multi-Sports | Lower School (not Reception) | 3.15-4.15 |
| Wednesday | CNS Sports Club - Speed, Agility and Quickness/Team races | Lower School (not Reception) | 3.15-4.15 |
| | Lingotots-Learn Spanish | For Y1 to Y6 children | 3:15 - 4:15 |
| | French Club (just the first half of the spring term) | Run by a Sixth Form Student from Durham Sixth Form | 3:15 - 4:00 |
| Thursday | Home Learning Club | By Invitation only - for KS2 | 3.15-4.15 |
| | CNS Sports Club - Dodgeball | Lower School (not Reception) | 3.15-4.15 |
| | Golf Club | KS2-with view to Y3/4 competing at end of this half term | 3:15-4:15 |
| Friday | CNS Sports Club - Table Tennis | Lower School (not Reception) | 3.15-4.15 |



Check out the dates overleaf for your child/ren's Christmas Party Day. Lower School children can come dressed in their party outfit for the day. Upper School children can bring their party clothes and get changed after lunch, just before the party commences.



| Dates for your Diary | |
|--|--|
| Autumn 2018 | |
| Monday 3rd Dec | PARENT MEETINGS (Whole School) – 3.15pm until 5.30pm |
| Tuesday 4th Dec | PARENT MEETINGS (Whole School) – 3.15pm until 5.30pm |
| Friday 7th Dec | Non School Uniform Day – FREE DAY as asking for cakes in 2 weeks |
| Sunday 9th Dec | Choir to sing at Ecumenical Carol Service – Tanfield Club |
| Week Beg 10th Dec | Enterprise Week for Christmas Fair – all classes to take part in this enterprise week: planning, designing and making items/activities for the Fair |
| Monday 10th Dec | Christmas Performance by Early Years (Pre-School and Reception) for parents – 9.15 (Just the Bumblebees+Caterpillars performing from Pre-School today) |
| Tuesday 11th Dec | Y5 Multi Skills Festival @ Tanfield |
| Wednesday 12th Dec | Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance for Parents - 9.30 a.m. Christmas Dinner All children to come dressed in their Christmas Jumper/Christmas themed clothing. Pre School Bumblebees to stay until 12:30 today. Ladybirds to arrive at 11:30 today. (Caterpillars all day as usual) |
| Thurs 13th–16th Dec | Group of 15 Y5 and Y6 children to visit Tubingen in Germany – UK/German Connection Project – Magical Christmas Trip |
| Thursday 13th Dec | Christmas Performance by Early Years (Pre-School and Reception) for parents – 9.15 a.m. (Just the Ladybirds+Caterpillars performing from Pre-School today) Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance for parents – 1.30 p.m. |
| Friday 14th Dec | Y1/2 Hockey Competition, Dance/Gym (KS2) and ABCs meeting @ Tanfield |
| Monday 17th Dec | Y3 and Y4 Class Party – 1 pm until 3.15 pm in Upper School Hall |
| Tuesday 18th Dec | Northern Stage Production ‘A Christmas Carol’ – Y1 to Y6 to attend a.m. Big Foot Theatre Production for PS and Rec in school this morning ‘The Clumsiest Christmas Elf’ – 9:45 until 10:30. Parents of Ladybirds can bring their children in for this performance if they would like to – children to be arrive at 9:30 and leave at 10:30 Ladybird parents can stay if this is more convenient. |
| Wednesday 19th Dec | Santa to visit children in Lower School a.m. - if he can fit us into his busy schedule The Pre School Ladybirds are invited to join us from 9 until 10 – parents of the Ladybirds can stay with their child if this is more convenient. Y1 and Y2 Class Party 1 until 3.05 Y5 and Y6 Class Party 1 until 3.15pm |
| Thursday 20th Dec | Extra Non School Uniform Day - Children to dress up on a Christmas theme – please bring cake in for cake stall All children involved in Carol Service to go to church for a rehearsal this morning Early Years Class Parties today (a.m and p.m.) (Last day for Pre-School) Due to numbers the Pre-School children have their party during the morning – Bumblebees to come for the start of the day and stay until 11. Reception children to have their party during the afternoon. Christmas Fair – 3.15pm until 4.30pm in Upper School All children to finish school at 3.00pm today to allow Fair to start at 3.15pm. |
| Friday 21st Dec | FAMILY CAROL SERVICE – a.m. for all children and parents at St. Margaret’s Church, Tanfield Village. Children able to go home following this. Christmas holidays start at the end of today. |
| BACK TO SCHOOL | Monday 7th January 2019 |
| Don't forget you can follow us on  @TanfieldPrimary | |



Don't forget – if you are clearing any toys, games, gardening tools etc. out prior to Christmas, if you have any that you think may be useful for OPAL, please let us know and bring them in, as long as they are in good condition.

