



Wolsingham Primary Newsletter

18th November 2022 Volume 10

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Children in Need

A huge thank you to everyone who came dressed in spots today to support Children in Need. Your donations along with the money raised by the School Council via their table top games raised a fantastic £368! A bug thank you to Miss Stoker and the School Council for organising the event.

Parent Teacher Consultations

A huge thank you to all of the parents who came along to our Parent Teacher Consultations this week. We hope that you found them useful and that they have provided you with an understanding of how your child is performing and progressing in their learning, as well as areas in which your child needs to develop. The Class 4 Parent Teacher Consultations will be rearranged as soon as possible upon Mrs Meek's return to school.



Christmas

That time of year is nearly upon us once again. This year, we are hoping to get back to a little bit of normality. Our Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) will be performing 'Born in Bethlehem' on Wednesday 7th December and Key Stage 1 will be performing 'Santa's Hat' on Thursday 8th December at 10.30am and 5.30pm. Our evening performance for Key Stage 1 is to hopefully allow our working parents an opportunity to see the performance first hand. We would therefore be very grateful if KS1 children return to school at 5pm for the second performance. Tickets for all of these performances cost £1.50 (all proceeds will go to school fund) and a maximum of 4 tickets can be purchased per performance via Parentpay. The deadline for purchasing tickets is **Friday 2nd December**. If you require more tickets, please leave a note on Parentpay when you purchase your tickets and we will let you know if there are any more available following the purchase deadline. Christmas is always a busy time of year and it was always quite stressful trying to have enough hall time for three different performances to practise. We have therefore decided that this year our Key Stage 2 pupils will hold a carol service at St. Mary's and St. Stephen's Church on Thursday 15th December at 2pm instead of a Christmas production. There is no charge for joining us at this service and you will not require a ticket. Key Stage 2 pupils will have the chance to tread the boards when we hold a Key Stage 2 production later in the year.

Embracing Communication

Following the decision to restructure our classes, it has become evident that financial conditions have continued to become more challenging since our restructure. However, we would like to reassure parents that governors remain proactive and focused on leading the school into maintaining a secure financial position for the financial year and continue to carefully consider the financial position of the school, despite increasing inflation, cost of living, staffing and energy costs as well as other overheads involved in running a school.

Thank You Friends of the School

A huge thank you to Friends of the School for all of their hard work with the fundraising they do for school. We like to ensure that the money that they raise has a significant impact on the children throughout the school. Friends of the School have recently donated £5,000, which we have used to update our iPads allowing the children to access newer apps to support their learning. With the £5,000, we have managed to purchase 18 new iPads and cases.

Christmas Toy Appeal



The Helping Hands and Caring Hearts action group are asking for your help this Christmas. A charity based in Bishop Auckland called 'The Angel Trust', each year hold a 'Christmas Toy Appeal' and the children in the action group would like to support this endeavour this year. We are asking for an **unwrapped** toy for either a boy or girl of any age [0-16] that you could buy and donate to this worthy charity. Donations can be brought into school, and we will collect them and deliver them to the Angel Trust in the lead up to Christmas. The deadline for donations is the **Friday 2nd December**.

SEND Drop-in Sessions

Our SENCO, Miss Stoker, will be offering drop-in sessions for parents across the year, with the first one taking place on Friday 2nd December from 2.30pm. If you would like to talk to her about any SEND issues or would like some help or advice regarding your child, please pop into school.

Volunteers

As you may be aware, as school finances tighten, we have less and less school staff available to support the children when we want to leave the school building. Activities such as swimming, educational visits and even just walks to the local church are becoming much harder to arrange. This term, we have been very fortunate that some of our parents and grandparents have offered to volunteer to help accompany the children to their swimming lessons and to educational visits to Killhope and the Centre of Life. We would like to say a huge thank you to them, we wouldn't have been able to give our children those experiences without them. If any parents or grandparents are able to volunteer, please don't hesitate to contact the school office, we would be extremely grateful.

Parental Questionnaire

Each year we ask parents to complete a parental questionnaire and this helps to inform our school improvement planning. We would be grateful if you would take the time to complete this year's parental questionnaire using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/utcJH2f2hv>

Wolsingham Christmas Market

The annual Wolsingham Christmas Market organised by Councillor Savory will take place on Saturday 19th November at Wolsingham Recreation Fields from 10am until 4pm and entry is free. Stanhope Silver Band will be playing from 1pm until 3pm and hopefully Santa will be dropping in around 1pm! An excellent opportunity to get into the Christmas spirit and perhaps pick up some gifts.

Cinderella

The Wolsingham WI and Weardale Warblers are presenting 'Cinderella' at Wolsingham Town Hall on Friday 20th January at 7pm and Saturday 21st January at 2pm. Tickets are £5 per adult including tea or coffee and £3 per child including juice and popcorn. If you are interested and would like to purchase tickets, please contact Pat Clarke on 01388 527557.

Dates for your diary...

Class 5 & 6 Visit to Centre of Life	Monday 21 st November
Nursery Stay and Play Sessions	Tues 22 nd and Wed 23 rd November
Class 4 Assembly	Thursday 24 th November – may need to be postponed
Flu Immunisations	Friday 25 th November
Odd Sock Day	Friday 25 th November
EYFS Visit to Empire Theatre Consett	Thursday 1 st December
Reception 2023 Open Day	Thursday 1 st December 4.30pm – 5.30pm
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 2 nd December
SEND Drop-in Session for Parents	Friday 2 nd December 2.30pm
EYFS Nativity	Wednesday 7 th December 10.30am
Key Stage 1 Christmas Production	Thursday 8 th December 10.30am and 5.30pm
Nursery Parents Christmas Crafts Session	Thursday 8 th December
Christmas Fair	Friday 9 th December 3.30pm
EYFS Christmas Party	Monday 12 th December
Christmas Lunch	Tuesday 13 th December am
Key Stage 1 Christmas Party	Wednesday 14 th December am
Key Stage 2 Christmas Party	Wednesday 14 th December pm
Key Stage 2 Carol Service	Thursday 15 th December 2pm
School Closes for Christmas Break	Friday 16 th December
School Opens	Wednesday 4 th January

S. Kitching

Headteacher