

North Park Primary School



Bessemer Green,
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DL16 6PP

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December Newsletter

What's been happening in school?

- **Stay and Read sessions** – thank you for your support with reading – the sessions were enjoyable and very worthwhile. There has been lots happening in school with reading and parental support with this is vital to success.
- **Mathletics** – children have been enjoying the After School club run by Mr Logan and the challenges they are completing – logging in at home too. Well done and keep this up!
- **Year 4 Arbeia Fort** – a great visit supporting the work being done in class.
- **Girls boxing** – thank you to Steph Ellis for offering our school a taster session – the girls who attended really enjoyed this.
- **Anti-Bullying week** – children completed a range of work and attended a family group to discuss friendship and helping others.
- **Year 5 and 6 Diversity Workshop** – great work done in school and pupils responses were very thoughtful.
- **Year 6 Safety Carousel** – some excellent work undertaken on this visit by Year 6
- **Children in Need** – thanks to your generosity we were able to donate £179.80 to this worthy cause.
- **Year 4 Creative Writing workshop with Adam Bushnell** – we were delighted to be invited to attend this, and for other teachers to see our children in action. It was lovely to get positive comments back from the organisers saying how well behaved and hard working the children were – well done!
- **Year 6 Family Assembly** – a real treat, finding out all about Mountains – with some beautiful work on show.
- **Year 2 Multi-Skills Festival** – another great chance to take part in fitness activities
- **Church Fair** – thank you to all those lovely singers and the children who served at the Fair Trade Stall for your commitment. It is good to see children supporting the local community.
- **Gymnastics Festival** – a great job and an enjoyable festival – well done to everyone who participated.
- **Year 2 visit to Christmas Journey at the Methodist Church** – a lovely invitation and always a special treat.
- **Youth Forum** – children from Year 5 and 6 attended the local Youth Forum to give their views on how to be 'Emotionally Strong'.
- **Foundation of Light and Samson Shoes DT Project** – Year 5 pupils have worked hard on their designs and presented these at the Stadium of Light. We were proud of their hard work.
- **Pantomime visit** – enjoyed by all the children from Reception to Year 6 – a great show (despite the traffic!)
- **EYFS visit to Beamish** – a chance to visit Santa and look around the museum on a lovely family trip.
- **Musical Mania** – a great drumming and guitar show, with Year 1, 3 and 4 pupils' hard work this term.
- **Visit to Santa's Grotto** – a lovely treat for some of our younger children.
- **Bedtime Stories** – a lovely chance to listen to some magical Christmas tales (and enjoy some hot chocolate too!). Plenty of snuggly pyjamas!
- **EYFS Parent Christmas Craft morning** – lovely to see so many parents coming along to enjoy time with their children.
- **Year 1 and 2 Christmas Show** – Away in a Manger – everyone in Year 1 and 2 was a star! Wonderful singing and a fantastic show!
- **Christmas Carol and Craft mornings** – a lovely chance to have a cuppa, get a bit messy and listen to the lovely singing. Thank you for your support! Thank you to Friends of the School for their raffle.
- **Nursery visit to the Gala** – to see An Elf's Christmas Wish – a lovely show.
- **EYFS Show** – a lovely show in the Church and sup[er] singing – well done to our youngest stars!
- **Christmas parties and discos**
- **Carol Service** – at St Andrew's Church – beautiful singing and super readers.
- **And finally we finish today with Christmas Jumper Day** – proceeds will go to Save the Children. Thank you for your kind support with this and for all we have done this year.



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Staffing news

Mrs Clarey, our Office Manager, leaves us at the end of term – we would like to wish her well for the future. Our new Office Manager, Mrs Dowson, joins us in January.

We also say a fond farewell to Mrs Staines and wish her all the very best in her new post in the Aclet Nursery – keep in touch and good luck! The new EYFS lead Mrs Wilcock joins us in January and has already been in school to meet the children.

Polite Reminders:

- **Attendance:** As you know, we are not authorised to grant leave of absence in term time except for exceptional circumstances, and the Local Authority will now intervene if your child accrues **seven days or more** of unauthorised absence in a term. A review of attendance has been undertaken – the Government target is 95%. Anyone under 90% is deemed by the Government to be a persistent absentee. Please contact school if you have any concerns or worries about attendance – remember the PSA can offer advice, or you can also ask for advice from the Attendance and Inclusion Officer, Jen Quigley, on 03000 261113 (Ferryhill One Point).
- After School Care via **Jack in the Box Daycare** is available each day in school – this runs from 3.15 – 5.45pm each night. Contact school for registration forms and cost information.
- **Breakfast club** continues to run from 8am each day. Please ensure your child is at school before 8.30am, as we clear up after that time.
- **Jungle Gym** – please make sure children are not playing on this first thing in the morning – it is quite slippery, especially on cold mornings!
- **PSA** – Wendy Clark, our PSA is available should anyone need advice. She can be contacted on 07825341214.

Finally can I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – I look forward to seeing you in 2017!

Mrs P Monk

Diary Dates - 2017

More information will be sent out in January – here are a few dates for now.

January

- 3 PD Day
- 4 School re-opens for teaching
- 17 Father John Assembly
- 17 Foundation of Light – Family Learning Course begins
- 19 School photographs

February

- 13 Multi-Cultural week
- 15 Year 3 Family Assembly – 10.15am
- 16 Intra School Festival of Sport
- 17 School closes for half term.
- 27 School closed – PD day
- 28 School re-opens.

March

- 2 Father John Assembly
- 2 Dance Club starts – 6 weeks
- 7 Parents Meeting Week – more information to follow
- 21 Taekwondo Taster Session – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
- 29 Year 5 Family Assembly – 10.15am

April

- 5 Year 4 visit to Richmond Castle and Easby Abbey
- 6 Easter Service – St Andrew's Church – 2pm
- 7 School closes for Easter holidays. Re-opens 24th April.

