



# LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Weekly Bulletin 2 – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to all the children and families who helped to make our concert at Blackhill Methodist Church such a success last weekend! The children were superb and represented our school admirably. The church were highly appreciative of you all giving up your Saturday afternoon to support them – thank you all so much.

It was also lovely to see so many of you turn up for the Maths Information Sessions on Tuesday evening. I do hope you found them useful. For those parents who could not attend, the powerpoints are now on our website so that you can refer to them when needed. A big thanks to Mr Mordue and Mr Taylor for organising these.

Our Year 5 children were wonderful sports at their Rugby Competition on Wednesday – all children played so well, were great sports and again, represented our school so well.

## **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Erasmus+ Visitors**

We are all really looking forward to welcoming 33 European teachers from Pisa and Sicily in Italy, Germany, Hungary, Cyprus, Finland, Poland, Greece, Spain and Turkey to school on Monday and Tuesday of next week. All of our visitors will be spending some time in classrooms and lessons after a welcome assembly on Monday morning with children from Years 1 – 6. The rest of the time will be spent organising the project as well as organising visits to some of the countries for both staff and some of our children. I am sure there will be a real buzz in the school and hope that the children enjoy meeting so many teachers speaking different languages!

## **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November - Lumiere Project**

30 of our Year 5 children have a behind the scenes visit to the Lumiere in Durham on Wednesday evening. The visit will focus on 'For the Birds' which includes 20 installations in Durham University Botanic Gardens. We will have a tour of the Botanic Gardens, led by a member of OASES staff and a Lumiere volunteer steward. The bus leaves school at 4.30 pm and will return at 7 pm. If any children would like to stay at After School Club rather than go home, please inform the Main Office no later than Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. All children should be in their school uniform for this visit. Thank you.

## **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – E.P Savings Bank**

The E.P savings bank will open again on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November at the School Office between 8.40 – 8.55 am. If any reception children would like to join, please fill in and return the application form (which will be sent home with children today) first. Once you receive your savings card, you'll be able to make deposits. Any questions, please contact Miss Rippon in the Office.

## **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November - Year 6 Safety Carousel**

Our Year 6 children will be attending the annual Safety Carousel at The Work Place in Newton Aycliffe on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. The children all need a packed lunch. The bus MUST leave at 9.05 and they will return to school in time for the end of the school day.

## **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need**

Friday is Children in Need which we will be supporting in school. We are asking all children to support this 'Spotacular' event and come to school in spots and non-uniform in exchange for £1 donation to this very worthwhile charity.

## **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Art Workshop**

Miss Jackson's class will enjoy an Art workshop on Friday morning as the first event in the project delivered by Artichoke and OASES.

## **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Parents' Learning Journals Information Session for Nursery & Reception Parents**

Miss Butler will be holding an Information Session for all parents of Foundation Stage children at 2.30pm and 6.00pm. At these meetings, the purpose of the Learning Journals will be explained and suggestions will be made as to how to use them effectively at home to make it a real partnership between home and school. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **Foundation Stage News**

A huge thanks to everybody who supported our Foundation Stage Fundraising Treasure Hunt. You helped us to raise £371.51 to go towards developing our outdoor area. We have lots of ideas for how this will be spent and will let you know what we decide on as soon as possible.

Next week, the stories in Nursery will be 'Wake Up Lydia Lou', 'Don't Wake the Yeti', 'Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?', 'Wide Awake Jake' and 'Kiss Goodnight'. You may spot a theme there! Our Song of the Week is 'Jack and the Beanstalk' by Tiny Tweeties.

In Reception, the stories will be 'Grumpy Frog', 'The Story of the Little Mole Who Thought it was None of his Business', 'Penguin Problems', 'The Highway Rat' and 'The Hole Story'.

We place a huge importance on Storytime in the Foundation Stage. We feel that it is vital to we share quality stories with the children and promote a real love of reading for pleasure. We try to choose stories which will give children opportunities to practise early phonics skills, to make predictions, understand characterisation and story structure and also to delight and enthral them. You can support this by sharing the same stories at home, or by revisiting old favourites. If your child particularly enjoys one of our stories, we would love you to let us know.

We hope that you have all had the chance to see your child's Learning Journal. Thank you for all your positive comments. If you still have the journal at home, please send it back to school as soon as possible so that it can be updated.

A huge thanks also for all the donations of equipment for our mud kitchen. We will have the best mud kitchen in County Durham! We welcome any bits and pieces you think might be useful and we're currently on the hunt for any offcuts of astro turf or rolls of old wallpaper you no longer need. We can put it all to good use in the children's play.

### **Shoebox Appeal**

Our boxes have now arrived from the Rotary Shoebox Scheme to give out to anyone who is interested in spreading a little happiness to people of all ages living in Eastern Europe this Christmas. This scheme has been running since 1994 and gift boxes are sent out throughout the whole year – they distribute toys to children and teenagers living in orphanages or on the streets, as well as to those in hospital; they take gifts to Adults in TB and AIDS hospitals, to women's refuges and to the elderly living in hostels with no family support. For many, it will be the first present that they have ever received and it lets them know that somebody, somewhere cares. Because boxes go to all age groups, you decide who you would like to receive your gift and fill a box with suitable items for that person.

The Rotary Shoebox Scheme charges £2 per box to help with the cost of transport and distribution. However, we will be giving the boxes to people who would like to fill one in exchange for a £1 donation as we will be raising more money to go towards the cost of the boxes over the rest of the term. If you would like a box, please ask for one at the office, in exchange for your £1 donation. A leaflet will be given out with the box to let you know what things can/cannot be put in them.

Let's hope we can get as many donations as we have in the past for this really worthwhile cause – it does feel truly wonderful to be able to give something to those who are less fortunate than ourselves and around Christmas time it is a nice reminder of how lucky we really are here at Lanchester EP.

### **Swimming Hats**

Please remember that all children need a swimming hat when they go swimming. These are the rules of the Louisa Centre and Local Authority. They can be bought for £1.60 at the Louisa Centre either before their swimming session or when they go. This is essential as from now on, unless children have a swimming hat, they will not be allowed into the pool. Thank you.

### **Holiday Club – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017**

This term, we break up on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December but will be hosting a holiday club on the Friday. We expect this to be well attended so please book early for this. Bookings for this club are already open – although there is no option on ParentPay to book for holiday clubs at the moment (we are currently liaising with them on how to do this), you will be able to pay for this on ParentPay from today. Please hand in booking forms to the Office.

As usual, if you have any questions or queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher