



Weekly Bulletin 4 – Friday 6th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another very busy week in school. We had a really positive meeting on Tuesday night with some very keen and supportive parents who are eager to do what they can to help the school, raise some money and give the children (and adults) some more very enjoyable events. Attached to this letter is the first newsletter from the group – please read it carefully and make a note of the dates.

<u> Monday 9th October – Girls Football Team</u>

Our girls' football team are playing at Blackhill St Mary's on Monday 2nd October.

Monday 9th October at 6 pm – Open Evening for Prospective 2018 Reception Parents

We are holding in Open Evening for prospective parents on Monday 9th October at 6 p.m. This is for Nursery parents who are starting to think about applying for school places for their children for September 2018. This will be an opportunity for you to have a look round the Reception classrooms, talk to the teaching staff and myself and just find out a little more what life in our school is like! We look forward to welcoming you all on Monday evening.

Tuesday 10th October at 12.30 pm – Computing Event at Northumbria University

Four of our Digital Leaders are going on a visit with Mr Bailey to celebrate 'Ada Lovelace Day' and the role of women in technology. During the afternoon session, they will visit Campus North (Newcastle) where they will be given the chance to take part in a Computer Programming workshop.

Wednesday 11th October – Boys Football Team in Action

Our boys 'B' football team are playing at Tanfield Lea Primary School after school on Wednesday.

Thursday 12th October – Interviews for Deputy Head Teacher

On Thursday, we will be having a very busy day in school as we welcome four candidates who have been shortlisted to be interviewed by the full governing body for the position of Deputy Head Teacher. We would like Year 5 & 6 school council members to be in school for 8.30 a.m. so that they can take the candidates on a tour of the school. Our full school council will be interviewing the candidates, asking a variety of questions suggested by the children themselves. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 will also be involved during the day.

Thursday 12th October – Cross Country at Leadgate Primary School

Our cross country season has got off to another good start with some very eager children keen to compete! Letters will go out to those involved next Thursday.

Friday 13th October – Open Morning for Prospective 2018 Reception Parents

We are holding in Open Morning (a repeat of Monday evening) for prospective parents on Friday 11th October at 10 a.m. This is for Nursery parents who are starting to think about applying for school places for their children for September 2018. This will be an opportunity for you to have a look round the Reception classrooms, talk to the teaching staff and myself and just find out a little more what life in our school is like! We look forward to welcoming you all.

Friday 13th October – Afternoon – Year 4 at Methodist Church

As part of their R.E. work this term, Year 4 will be visiting Revd Earle and Lanchester Methodist Church on Friday afternoon.

Harvest Festival Thanks

I would just like to express heartfelt thanks to you all for your incredibly generous donations for our Harvest Festival this year. We have been inundated with food and gifts which will all be shared between the People's Kitchen in Newcastle and the Food Bank in Consett.

eSchools – Parent Evening Appointments

Please note, that unfortunately, the appointments still cannot be accessed from the eSchools app and can only be booked from the website. I do apologise about this. We were told that this would be up and running this term but I think they are experiencing some technical issues.

Pre-Information Leaflets for Parents' Evening

Your child will be given an information leaflet next Friday with some current data on them regarding their attainment and attitude to school. A full explanation is on the back of the leaflet but please note, their attainment has been graded against end of the year expectations. As we have only just started the year, 99% of children will be working towards these expectations. This means they are exactly where they should be for their age. The information leaflet does explain this on the reverse. If you have any questions though, please do not hesitate to ask any member of staff about them.

Concert at Blackhill Methodist Church on Saturday 4th November at 3 p.m.

The children in KS2 have all been given a letter asking who is able to join us for a concert in Blackhill Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 4th November. We are hoping for a wide variety of performances and need to know which children are able to attend before compiling the programme. Many thanks.

Nursery News

Nursery stories for next week are 'Please Don't Chat to the Bus Driver', 'Handa's Surprise', 'Duck in the Truck', 'The Little Red Hen' and 'A Bun for Barney'. Our song of the week is '5 little Monkeys swinging in a Tree'.

We are looking to build up a collection of materials to develop 'loose parts' play in Nursery and Reception classes. It would be great if you could help out by saving bits and pieces for us. There will be a poster on the parent information board in Nursery with some ideas of things we would like to collect, but to get you started, we would love any shells, buttons, wool, scraps of fabric, pebbles and pegs you might be able to spare. All will be used to develop and extend the children's imaginative and creative thinking!

In Nursery, we would also appreciate a family photo for the children to share with their groups. If we already have one in an 'All About Me' box, then we won't need another one. Thanks for your support!

Old £1 coins

Please note, we can no longer accept any old £1 coins in school now. Thank you.

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, or that is concerning you, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. We are here to help you and your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Davis Head Teacher