



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

Weekly Bulletin 5 – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to say a huge thank you to all those parents who gave their time up so willingly on Wednesday afternoon to talk to Revd Canon Steven Harvey who was conducting our SIAMS inspection – we really do appreciate it. I have to say, our children were superb during the day as well, with many of them happily chatting away to him about our school. We really do have some wonderful ambassadors of our school. The report is currently being finalised, but it is hoped that it will be with us before the end of this term. Obviously a copy will be sent to you all as soon as it is received in school.

I would also like to say well done to all members of our choir. They competed in the County Durham Schools Singing Finals at Ushaw College yesterday. What a wonderful experience that was for us all! The venue was very special and singing in the church with such wonderful acoustics was just a great experience. Our children were superb ambassadors for our school but more importantly, they just thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience! We are very proud of them all. Huge thanks must go to Mrs Knighton for all of her hard work too, not only training them, but actually writing and arranging their song.

## **Recording and Photographs at Performances**

This year, the performances will not be recorded so that your enjoyment of the productions is not disturbed. However, we will still make sure there is the opportunity at the end of you taking photographs if you would like to. This is provided that we do not receive any objections from any parents/carers. If we do, then it may be the case that no photographs are allowed to be taken. However, this is on the understanding that they are for your family albums only and will NOT be uploaded to social media of any kind. If you have any objections to this, it is essential that you contact me before Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks.

## **Reverse Advent Calendar**

Wow! Thank you so much for your hugely generous donations. The box was full after the first day! At this rate, we may have to hire a van to take all the donations up to the foodbank. Thank you all so much.

## **Christmas Fundraising Items**

You will have noticed that some children will have come out of school this week with some of the items ordered for our Christmas Fundraiser - if you ordered cards, notebooks, thank you cards or wrapping paper, your child should have received these items to bring home. If you have ordered these items and have not yet received them, please let the school office know so they can chase this up for you. Please note, if you handed in your order late, these items will not have been delivered yet, as the original order is being processed first. If you ordered coasters, mugs or cushions these will be given out today if you did not get them yesterday. Again, if you have any problems just let the office know. If you are not sure what you ordered, the school office does have a list of all the orders placed. I must say what has been delivered so far looks absolutely first class - your children have created some wonderful masterpieces this year!

## **Shoeboxes**

Again, we have been overwhelmed with the number of shoeboxes that have been returned to school. Your generosity is just magnificent. A record number of 126 boxes have been handed in which is wonderful. There will be some very happy little children and families this Christmas thanks to your generosity. This was also commented on by Revd Canon Steven Harvey as well during the SIAMS inspection.

## **Pyjama Day**

It was certainly a very different day last Friday when all of the children (and adults!) came to school in their pyjamas... and what a day we all had! I think we all enjoyed the comfort of the day! However, more importantly, an amazing £620 was raised in memory of Lucia Smith (Archie's special sister) which will be split between Bethany's Wish - a special named fund within Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG), which will fund vital research into Wilms tumours as well as The Sick Children's Trust who provide free accommodation for families with children in hospital. Thank you all for your superb generosity for these exceptionally good causes.

## **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Holy Communion Service at 10.15 a.m.**

Our first Holy Communion Service of the year will be held on Tuesday morning at 10.15 a.m. in the Junior School Hall. Year 5 will be leading this service and children who have permission, will also be receiving Holy Communion. Our Year 6 children will also be receiving Holy Communion at this service. All parents/carers/extended family members are more than welcome to join us for this very special service. We look forward to seeing you then.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Choir singing at Lynwood House at 1.15 p.m.**

Our children have been asked to sing at Lynwood House on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 1.15 p.m. We will be taking the Junior Choir and will walk along there with two members of staff to entertain them for around 30 minutes. This is the first time we have been asked to entertain there and I certainly hope that it will not be the last!

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Foundation Stage Nativities – 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

Our youngest children will be performing in their nativities on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. It has been so lovely to hear them sing all their songs whilst showing parents round school! It really is a very special time of year to be working in a school! Please come to the Junior Hall Doors as the performances will take place there. The doors will open at 9.30 am. and 1.30 p.m. when tea and coffee will be available. After the morning performance, parents of morning Nursery children can take their children home if they wish and both Nursery and Reception parents can take their children home straight after the afternoon performance if they wish. Please come prepared to both laugh and cry! Anything might happen in these performances!

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 5.30 p.m. – The Polar Express Pyjama Party**

This will, I am sure, be a super evening. Please note that all children attending MUST be accompanied by an adult. Come along to the Junior Hall for 5.30 p.m. in your pyjamas and enjoy watching The Polar Express with some hot chocolate and popcorn. Tickets are £1 per child and adults are free!

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Christmas Jumper Day**

On Friday, we are asking the children to come in their Christmas jumpers/t-shirts etc. in exchange for £1 and all proceeds will be in aid of Save the Children Fund.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Puppet Show for Nursery and Reception**

Members of St Nik's Church are coming out on Friday morning to perform a puppet show of the Nativity Story to the children. This is always a superb experience for our youngest children and one the staff look forward to!

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – New College Theatre performing Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes**

We are always very fortunate to have New College Performing Arts students perform for us at Christmas. Their plays are always very different and of a superb quality. This year, children from Years 1 – 6 will enjoy their performance of Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes!

**KS1 Nativity Tickets**

Tickets for the KS1 Nativity are now on sale so if you have not yet bought yours, please do so as soon as possible to make sure that you don't miss out. Additional tickets will go on sale from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**Nursery and Reception (Foundation Stage) News**

We have spent the money raised by the treasure hunt on various enhancements for the outside area including a den frame and jumbo pegs, mirror numbers for the fence, a wheelbarrow, outdoor clipboards, child sized brooms, recordable 'Cosyphones', new builders' trays and a water butt for the mud kitchen. Thanks so much for your generous sponsorship.

Could we politely remind parents that anyone arriving after the doors have closed at 9am and 12.30pm should come through the main office as teaching sessions will have begun? Thank you.

The children from Reception and Nursery have been delighted to put their decorated pegs on the Foundation Stage Christmas tree in Nursery. Each and every one is fantastic and so unique, just like your children. Thank you for supporting this project!

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to hear us sing our Christmas songs in next Wednesday's Nativity performances. Just to remind you, children are welcome to come in party clothes or Christmas/Nativity themed costumes on the day. We have been practising hard and hope you will enjoy our songs. Don't forget your tissues!!

**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 can be made now.

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