



Newsletter 7th January 2019

Aycliffe Village Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers

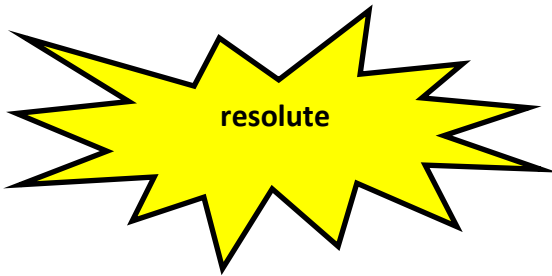
Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas with your family and friends. I have really enjoyed catching up with your children today and hearing all their news about Christmas and their time off school. Santa has clearly been very busy...

Thank you for celebrating many of our end of term Christmas events with us. It was lovely to have you there and I hope you enjoyed them as much as children and staff did!

Please see the last page of this newsletter for diary dates for Spring Term 2019. These were shared originally in September but some new dates have been added. Next week we will confirm holiday dates and dates for teacher training days for next academic year—some parents have requested these in advance.

Best wishes
Mrs H Sutherland
Head Teacher

Wow word of the week



resolute

Future Dates for Parents Evenings

Please see dates below for future Parents Evenings. Last term we had a large number of parents requesting appointments on different dates and at differing times and it was becoming unmanageable for staff with the many other commitments they have. I am afraid this is something we will not be able to accommodate in the future unless there are exceptional circumstances. As we are giving advance notice of these dates then I would hope the vast majority of people can make necessary arrangements with work so they are able to attend on the dates given.

Spring Term 2019—Tuesday 5th February and Wednesday 6th February 2019 (3.30—5.30)

Summer Term 2019—Wednesday 17th July (to discuss aspects of end of year reports) 3.30—5.30

Year 1 Phonics Meeting

A reminder there is a Phonics meeting for parents/carers of children in Year 1 this ***Wednesday (9th January) at 5.00pm***. Mrs Dean (formerly Miss Beuster!) and I hope you can attend and look forward to seeing you there!

Parent Governor Update

We had one parent interested in the Parent Governor role advertised last term. Tracy Shaw re joins our governing body for her second term of office. Thank you to Tracy for her continued support of our school—we are very grateful for all the time she gives to our school.

Resurfacing work to one of the pavements near school

Please follow the link to a letter on our school website detailing resurfacing work of a pathway near school and temporary traffic lights. This work will start tomorrow morning (hopefully for just one week) We are aware this might cause some issues with parking so wanted you to be aware of the details. <http://www.aycliffevillage.durham.sch.uk/footpath-resurfacing/>

After School Clubs for Spring Term 2019

After School Clubs for Spring Term are as follows:

Day	Name of Club	Who can attend?	Who is leading the after school club?
Wednesday	Football	Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Mr Hubbard (Sports Coach) and Mr Barr (Sports Apprentice)
Thursday	Dance	Children in all year groups	Miss Louise (Dance Teacher)
Friday	Multi Sports	Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	Mr Hubbard (Sports Coach) and Mr Barr (Sports Apprentice)

All After School Clubs run from 3.15—4.15 and start next week (week beginning 14th January 2019) Children indicating an interest in clubs will bring letters home about these tomorrow. Clubs will be £3.00 a week and payments should be made via Parent Pay. Places are limited to 20 children per club so these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Attendance during Autumn Term 2018

We had **61 children with 100% attendance last term**, and **113 children with attendance above our school target of 97%**. This is a great achievement and I would like to say thank you for helping with this. Clearly illness cannot be avoided, as I always point out to the children when we discuss the importance of good attendance at school, but I appreciate the efforts being made to avoid non-urgent medical appointments and holidays during school time.

A reminder that if you wish to take your child out of school this must be requested in advance and in writing. Please contact Mrs Dolan for a leave of absence form and be aware these absences will only be authorised for exceptional circumstances (in line with Local Authority and national guidance)

Attendance for the last week of Autumn Term 2018

Willow Class	98.8
Horse Chestnut Class	96.3
Sycamore Class	97.4
Lime Class	96.2
Silver Birch Class	93.2
Rowan Class	96.7
Hawthorn Class	96.9

Well done to Willow, Horse Chestnut, Sycamore, Lime, Rowan and Hawthorn who all achieved attendance above our minimum target level. Special “Well done” to Willow class for 98.8% attendance that was the best out of the whole school!

PTA Meeting

A reminder that the next meeting takes place this **Wednesday (9th January) from 6.00—7.00pm**. Please come and join us if you can—new members are always welcome!

Dinner Money and Parent Pay

We are aware there has been an issue with some payments for dinner money on Parent Pay. We are not sure why but some families had been charged for meals on dates during the Christmas holidays! Apologies for this. Mrs Dolan has sorted this all out so there should no longer be any issues.

Reminder about school uniform

A reminder that children should wear **plain, dark footwear** as part of our school uniform and not brightly coloured trainers. If there are any temporary reasons why this is an issue, please discuss this with your child’s teacher so they are aware of this. Also, children are asked not to wear large or sparkly hair accessories - our school policy is that these are considered as fashion items and causes distractions to learning and competition and jealousy amongst pupils. Thank you for your support with this—our high expectations for school uniform reflect our high expectations for every aspect of your child’s school experience.

Diary Dates for Spring Term 2019

Please note that these dates are correct at the time of printing. There might be unavoidable reasons why some dates need to be changed in the future. If this happens we will inform parents/carers on future newsletters and via text message.

Date	Event
Monday 7th January	Children return to school after the Christmas holidays.
Tuesday 8th January	Lime Class (Year 3) to start recorder lessons with Mr Jakobs from the Music Service (for the full term)
Wednesday 9th January	School Nurse to lead assembly about Dental Hygiene with Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Height and weight checks for Reception children (by School Nurse) Year 4 to start swimming lessons (for the full term) 5.00—Phonics Meeting for parents/carers of children in Year 1 6.00—7.00—PTA meeting
Monday 14th January	School Nurse to lead assembly about Dental Hygiene for Key Stage 2 children
Wednesday 23rd January	AM—A group of Year 5/6 pupils will represent our school at a Basketball Competition
Thursday 24th January, 9.00am.	Sycamore Class Assembly (Year 2) Parents, carers, family members invited to attend.
Tuesday 5th February, 3.30—5.30pm.	Parents Evening
Wednesday 6th February, 3.30—5.30pm.	Parents Evening 6.00—7.00—PTA meeting
Thursday 14th February, 9.00am.	Rowan Class Assembly (Year 5, Mrs Brown's Class) Parents, carers, family members invited to attend.
Friday 15th February	School closes at the end of the day for the February half term holiday!
Monday 25th February	School reopens after the February half term holiday.
Thursday 28th February, 9.00am	Hawthorn Class Assembly (Year 5/6, Miss Peel's Class) Parents, carers, family members invited to attend.
Thursday 7th March 9.00am	World Book Day! Children will be asked to dress up as a book character. Lime Class Assembly (Year 3) Parents, carers, family members invited to attend.
Monday 11th March	Dogs Trust to lead an assembly with the whole school then a workshop with Lime Class on the topic of responsible dog ownership.
Friday 15th March	Red Nose Day/Comic Relief—more details nearer the time.
Thursday 28th March, 9.00am.	Willow Class Assembly (Reception) Parents, carers, family members invited to attend.
Tuesday 2nd April, 2.30pm.	Easter Performance in school—Parents, carers, family members of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 invited to attend.
Wednesday 3rd April, 9.00am.	Easter Performance in school—Parents, carers, family members of children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 invited to attend.
Friday 5th April	School closes at the end of the day for the Easter holidays!