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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL
Aycliffe Village Primary
School
Aycliffe Village
Newton Aycliffe
Co. Durham



November 4th 2016
Letter to Parents/Carers

Now that we are in the Autumn Term, can we please remind all parents that children must wear appropriate clothing for school? Even on fine days children should always have a waterproof jacket just in case of a heavy shower.

Please also ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled.

Your child should also have a PE kit in school at all times, this should include a pair of plimsolls or trainers as most lessons will take place outdoors if the weather permits. If your child has long hair it must be tied up for PE.

If your child wears earrings, these **must** be removed for PE lessons. If a child cannot remove the earring independently, they will not be allowed to do PE. For parents with young children unable to remove earrings independently, please remove earrings on the day of the PE lesson before your child comes in to school.

Parking

Over the last few weeks, the parking around the school at the end of the day has been inconsiderate of the local residents. There have been cases where the parking has resulted in collisions at the junction of North Terrace and Atkinson Gardens, due to thoughtlessly parked cars blocking the view of motorists driving out from the junction into the main road. The parking has always been an issue. However, just lately, it appears to be more of an issue than ever before. Please try to help us work with the residents and not block driveways and keep the junction clear. The situation is an accident waiting to happen. It will, undoubtedly, be one of our pupils that would be injured should an accident occur. Please do your best to arrive in good time to park away from the school and then walk down to collect your child. The police will be given the photographs of cars that park inconsiderately and illegally. We have asked them to issue warnings to the owners of cars that do block driveways, footpaths and junctions. We thank you for your help and co-operation with this as we have to work with the locals as well as the parents of children in the school.

School Dates

In order to help with forward planning, we have tried to put as many dates into the diary as possible. Please see the accompanying list for details. The most up to date diary dates can always be found on the homepage of our website.

Children in Need

As usual, we will be fundraising for Children in Need this year on Friday, 18th November. The pupils are invited to wear something spotty for a donation of £1, this could be a scarf, headband, face paint or Pudsey ears! Normal school uniform must also be worn. Thank you for your support.

Shoe Box Appeal

This year we are taking part in the Samaritan Shoe Box appeal, a separate leaflet has been handed out with more information.

Tempest

Can we please have all photograph orders in by no later than Friday, 11th November?

Open Afternoon

Thank you to all of you that were able to attend the Reading Afternoon earlier this week. It was a great success and we have had many positive comments about it.

Bags 2 School

All bags should be returned on the morning of Friday 11th November to the school car park area. Please don't return before this date as we are unable to store them in school.

Easy Fundraising

Now that lots of you may be shopping on line for Christmas, may I remind you of the fundraising scheme that could raise much needed funds for the school. Please see the attached letter from Mrs Vest.

Christmas Lunch

We will be having Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 14th December. If your child normally has a packed lunch and would like a school meal on this day, then please complete and return the attached slip by no later than Friday 2nd December.

The cost of this meal is £2 and payment must be made via your ParentPay account before Monday 12th December.

Staff Changes

Miss Bradley has now returned to work after her Maternity Leave. She is working alongside Mrs Johnson in the Early Years Class.

Parent View - Ofsted Website

As a school, we like to seek the views of parents throughout the year so that we can work together to make life at Aycliffe Village as enjoyable and fulfilling as possible for our pupils. Ofsted have set up a forum for parents to have their say about their opinions of their child's school. I would like to encourage as many parents as possible to complete this online questionnaire each academic year, which will only take a couple of minutes to do. It will give us useful feedback. All responses are anonymous. To go to the questionnaire please visit:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Christmas Decorations

Our tired old Christmas decorations were sent for recycling last Christmas, so we are in need of baubles, tinsel and lights for our tree. If you are replacing your decorations this year we are willing to take your unwanted ones off your hands!! Please leave at the school office before the end of the month. Thank you.

Christmas Cards

This year, the staff have decided to not send each other a card and instead we have selected The Great North Air Ambulance as our chosen charity. Our Christmas wishes will be made by signing a card in Reception and donating to this very worthy cause. If anyone wishes to join us you are more than welcome.

Community Links

As usual, if anyone would like to discuss any of the issues raised here, with me or any member of staff, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J.P. Gargan.
Head teacher

Christmas Lunch order for Wednesday 14th December

Name of child _____

I will arrange pay £2 to my ParentPay account before Monday 12TH December.

Signed _____parent/carer

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time	Place
November			
Friday 4 th	Y1/2/3 Flu vaccinations	Morning	Hall
Monday 7 th	Parents Afternoon		
Tuesday 8 th	Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics*	9.30-12.00	NALC
Wednesday 9 th	PTA Meeting	7pm	Hall
Friday 11 th	Bags 2 School Collection day	9am	Car park
Monday 14 th	Anti- Bullying Week		
Tuesday 22 nd	Y2 Multiskills	9.30-11.30	SCC
Thursday 24 th	School Closes		
Friday 25 th	School Closed - Staff Training		
Monday 28 th	School Re-opens		
Tuesday 29 th	Y2 Gym Festival	10.00-12.00	SD Gym
December			
Thursday 1 st	Reception & KS1 Pantomime	10.00	Gala Theatre
Thursday 1 st	PTA Christmas Fayre	6pm - 8pm	Hall
Tuesday 6 th	KS1 Christmas Play (1 st performance for parents/carers of children in Year R)	09.30	Hall
Wednesday 7 th	KS1 Christmas Play (2 nd performance for parents/carers of children in Year 1)	13.30	Hall
Thursday 8 th	KS1 Christmas Play (3 rd performance for parents/carers of children in Year 2)	09.30	Hall
Tuesday 13 th	KS1 Christmas Party	13.30pm	Hall
Tuesday 13 th	Rotary Club Carol Concert*	13.00-14.30	NALC
Wednesday 14 th	Christmas Lunch	12.00 -13.00	Hall
Wednesday 14 th	Y5/6 Christmas Party	13.30	Hall
Thursday 15 th	Y3/4 Christmas Party	13.30	Hall
Thursday 15 th	Christmas Carol Concert - parents & carers warmly invited (Rec & KS1)	09.30	St. Andrew's Church
Thursday 15 th	PTA Christmas Disco	6.30pm	Hall
Friday 16 th	Christmas Carol Concert - parents & carers warmly invited (KS2)	09.30	St. Andrew's Church
Friday 16 th	School Closes - Christmas Holidays		
January 2017			
Tuesday 3 rd	School Closed - Staff Training		
Wednesday 4 th	School Re-opens		
February			
Friday 17 th	School Closes - Half Term		
Monday 27 th	School Re-opens		
March			

Thursday 23 rd	School Closes		
Friday 24 th	School Closed - Staff Training		
Monday 27 th	School Re-opens		
April			
Friday 7 th	School Closes- Easter Holidays		
Monday 24 th April	School Re-opens		
May			
Monday 1 st	School Closed - Bank Holiday		
Tuesday 2 nd	School Re-opens		
Monday 8 th	SATs week	All Week	
Friday 26 th	School Closes - Half Term		
June			
Monday 5 th	School Re-opens		
Wednesday 28 th	Sports Day KS1 am, KS2 pm		
July			
Thursday 20 th	Leavers' Play	13.30	
Friday 21 st	School Closes for Summer Break		

* More details to follow