



Newsletter 5th February 2018

# Aycliffe Village Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers

As it is Internet Safety Day on Tuesday this week, our assemblies in school this week will focus on staying safe on the internet. I'm sure you will agree it is so important, in this day and age, to support our children with this. There are some helpful resources for parents/carers on the following website if you wish to discuss this further with your child/ren. <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

Mrs Dolan was absent for part of last week and is in work this week, but suffering with a painful bad back. Therefore we ask for your patience and understanding if some things are not responded to as quickly as we would usually aim to.

As part of her Newly Qualified Teacher induction, Miss Craven will be attending a course this Wednesday. Mrs Byrne will be teaching Year 2 on Wednesday morning (as she usually does) and I will teach Year 2 on Wednesday afternoon.

Please keep the back page of this newsletter safe as it contains diary dates for next half term. We hope this advance warning of dates is helpful to you.

I can hardly believe it's the end of the half term this Friday! Where has that gone?! School reopens on Monday 19th February when we will look forward to welcoming your children back to school. Thank you again for your warm welcome and support during my first half term at our school.

Mrs H Sutherland

## Year 6 Class Assembly

A reminder that Year 6 will be leading their Class Assembly this **Thursday at 9.00am**. We hope parents/carers/family members can come and watch. The assembly will be on the theme of Internet Safety and we hope everyone involved will learn some very important messages from this.



## Sports Coach

We welcomed a new sports coach into school last week called Mr Walton. The children were very excited to see him and Year 2 were thrilled to work with him last Friday afternoon! Mr Walton will also lead some activities on the playground at lunchtime from 12.30. Next half term he will start leading some after school clubs.



## Celebration Assembly Awards

### Star Awards

Reception	Zachary H, Oliver M
Year 1	Jasmine D, Benjamin S
Year 2	Amelia W, Will C
Year 3	Jamie L, Daisy D
Year 4	James A, Clara M
Year 5	Bailey C, Ashton H
Year 6	Scarlett L, Jayden H



### Head Teacher Awards

Key Stage 1	Mila P and Jenson C
Key Stage 2	Arabella CH and Jack M



### Update about Mahogany Opera

After a lot of disappointment earlier last week about a lack of tickets, we were thrilled when more were released on Friday! I hope many of you got tickets by being on the cancellation list at the Gala Theatre or responded promptly to the text message Mrs Brown sent to parents on Friday evening and managed to buy all tickets you wanted. I also have two additional tickets if anyone needs any so please contact the school office if you would like these. As many family members were initially unable to get tickets, we were going to arrange a performance of the opera in school. However, this might not be needed now. I will check with your children whether everyone has someone coming to watch them before we make a final decision on this. Please check future newsletters and/or text messages for an update on this.

**A reminder that children will need a packed lunch (if your child normally has a school lunch this will be provided by Taylor Shaw) and packed tea tomorrow and need to come to school wearing their performance clothes.**

The children were very excited that a local radio station (Aycliffe Radio) was in school today to record the children's last rehearsal at school! We invited them in to share this special occasion with the local community. We are waiting for the radio station to confirm when this will be broadcast. They think it will be next Monday evening but were unable to confirm this when we asked them today. We will let you know (via text) the date and time of this so you can tune in!

Last night, we received information from organisers of the event explaining how children should be collected at the end of the performance. **Each school will be given a collection point in the foyer of the Gala Theatre and parents/carers are asked to collect their children from these areas and NOT to collect them from the auditorium.** Obviously it will be extremely busy so it will be easier if one adult from your party comes to collect your child and other adults in the party wait outside the theatre in the Millennium Square. As an additional safeguarding measure, Mrs Brown will have a list of Year 5 children and will tick names off the list when they are collected, **therefore we ask you to make sure you have let Mrs Brown know when you have collected your child (and any other children you are due to collect)** I look forward to seeing you there and hope you enjoy the performance!

### Attendance for last week

**Our minimum target is 96%**

Reception	97.1
Year 1	98.9
Year 2	99.2
Year 3	83.2
Year 4	98.2
Year 5	94.8
Year 6	100

Well done to Years Reception, 1 2, 4 and 6 who have all achieved attendance above our minimum target level. Special "Well done" to Year 6 for 100% attendance that was the best out of the entire school!

### Update about Ford Castle Residential

Following a discussion at the meeting we held last week, I said I would contact Ford Castle to find out the ages of children from other schools who will be attending at the same time as our children. I can confirm that two other schools will be there at the same time and their age ranges are 8 to 9 years for one school and 9 to 10 years for another.

A reminder that we need confirmation if your child would like to attend by **Friday 9th February** so we can confirm numbers with Ford Castle. I will ask Mrs Dolan to add the letter with the reply slip to the 'School Events' section on the home page of our school website for any family who need another copy.

### Easter Shoe Box Appeal

A reminder that shoe boxes should be brought into school **on Thursday** this week for collection on **Friday 9th February**. Details of content for these are in our newsletter dated 22nd January so please check here if you wish to see more detail (this is available on our school website or school APP)

### PTA Disco

A reminder that there is a PTA meeting on Wednesday this week from 6.00—7.00. Please attend if you can to support the school. Also please return your forms about helping at Film Club if you are able to as we are still short of volunteers. Booking forms for children wishing to attend Film Club will be sent home this week so please look out for these.

A reminder that the school disco takes place this Thursday from 6.00—7.30pm. Entry is £2.00 (includes unlimited drinks) Other refreshments and activities include hot dogs, sweets and glitter tattoos. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 must be accompanied by an adult.



### Diary Dates for Spring Half Term 2 2018

*Please note this an overview of dates so you have them for your diaries and more details will be shared in future newsletters. Diary dates are correct at the time this newsletter was written. There might be occasions when dates need to change. If this happens we will let you know on future newsletters so please check these weekly.*

Date	Event
Monday 19th February	Return to school after the half term holiday
Tuesday 20th February	STEM (Science) Ambassador in school working with Year 4/5 and 5/6 afternoon classes  2.30—Parents/carers invited into school to taste some of the meals on the school meals menu. This will be an opportunity to share our views and to have a say in some of the meals that are chosen for our menus in the future. Please join us, if you can, before you collect your child/ren from school that day.
Wednesday 21st February	Dance Coach in school to work with Miss Richmond and Miss Peel’s afternoon classes (then every Wednesday for the next 5 weeks)
Thursday 22nd February	Reception/Year 1 ‘Learn to Ride’ with Wheel Education.  (STEM (Science) Ambassador in school working with Year 3/4 afternoon class
Wednesday 28th February	9.00—12.00—Year 6 Bike Ride with Wheel Education and Mrs Vest
Thursday 1st March	9.00am Year 1 leading Class Assembly (Parents/carers/family members invited to attend)  <b>World Book Day—children are invited to dress up as a character from a book of their choice.</b> Children will take part in activities relating to World Book Day throughout the day.
Monday 5th March	Judo Taster sessions in school (all classes to have 30 minute taster session)
Thursday 8th March	Reception leading Class Assembly (Mother’s Day theme) Parents/carers/family members invited to attend.
Monday 12th March	Commonwealth Day—assemblies will focus on this topic this week.
Tuesday 13th March	Tempest Photography Group Photographs
Thursday 15th March	The Voices Project, BALTIC, in school to work with Year 4 (all day)
Friday 23rd March	Sports Relief. Children will take part in a range of sporting activities to raise money for Sports Relief. They are welcome to wear sports clothes all day rather than school uniform (outdoor sports clothing)
Tuesday 27th March	2.30—Easter Service Parents/carers/family members of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 invited to attend
Wednesday 28th March	9.00—Easter Service Parents/carers/family members of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 invited to attend Children break up for the Easter holidays
Thursday 29th March	Staff in school for a Professional Development Day
Monday 16th April	School reopens after the Easter holidays