



Newsletter 30th October 2018

# Aycliffe Village Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after the half term holiday!

We had a rifle and a revolver in school today...before you start to panic it was all planned and perfectly safe! They were artefacts brought by staff from the DLI collection who led workshops about World War 1 today with our Key Stage 2 children. The children have really enjoyed the workshops and the visiting staff were extremely complimentary about our pupils, their interest and enthusiasm in the topic and their excellent behaviour.

I hope we didn't confuse you if your children came home talking about doing Christmas art work the week before we broke up for the October half term break! I promise we haven't started Christmas ridiculously early... children needed to make Christmas cards for the PTA Christmas fundraiser early enough for them to be printed and returned to go on sale for Christmas.

Dates for this half term were shared on a newsletter in September but I have added them again on the last page of this newsletter, as a reminder. I have also included some additional dates that weren't on the original list of dates.

Best wishes  
Mrs H Sutherland  
Head Teacher

## School Disco

A reminder that the PTA Halloween Disco takes place this **Thursday (1st November) from 6.00—7.30pm. Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 MUST be accompanied by an adult.** Entry is £1.50 and refreshments, sweets, spooky novelties and glitter tattoos will be on sale. Halloween fancy dress is encouraged and prizes will be given to the winners...

## Punctuality

Please make sure your children are at school on time to line up on the playground at 8.55 every morning. **We had 14 children late this morning.** Whilst this had improved significantly at the start of this school year, it has started to slide again. I have explained on many previous newsletters that this is disruptive to the start of the school day for the child who is late, other children in their classes and for staff. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

## Celebration Assembly Awards



<b>Outstanding Learner</b>	Jack S, Susie M, James A
<b>Outstanding Attitude</b>	Aidan H, Synnove L
<b>Outstanding Manners</b>	Jasmine D, Myles F, Jack P
<b>Handwriting</b>	Amelia W, Ashton A
<b>Wow Word</b>	Sophia C, Evie S
<b>Maths Wizard</b>	Daisy D
<b>Values</b>	James B, Hannah C
<b>Independence and Perseverance</b>	Clara McW
<b>Sports Award</b>	Indra F-H
<b>Head Teacher Award</b>	Aria T, Evie D, Scarlet D, Harry T
<b>Golden Broom</b>	Sycamore and Silver Birch Classes!

## Remembrance Topic



To show our respect to the centenary of the end of World War 1, our whole school will be involved in a Remembrance Topic this half term. Some year groups will be more involved than others, (due to the appropriateness of the topic for different age ranges) but we feel it is important all year groups are involved in some way or another. All classes will be doing a piece of art work on the topic of Remembrance and these will be displayed in an Art Gallery in our school hall on **Friday 23rd November (viewing times between 10.00 and 11.00 and 2.30 and 4.30)** We really hope you can join us for this.

Aycliffe Village Local History Society has also very kindly donated copies of their book 'The Great War' for every child in our school. Most children will be bringing these home this week (although some teachers might keep their class's copies at school for a few weeks so they can use them for learning and research linked to this topic) I hope you and your children enjoy looking at this book whether this is now, or in the future. I am sure there will be many family links!

Poppies and other 'poppy themed items' will be on sale in school from tomorrow at playtimes. All money raised will go to the British Legion. We ask for donations for poppies and other items such as pencils, pencil sharpeners, rulers, cost 50p.

### Wow word of the week



A word linked to our Remembrance topic...

### School Meals and Packed Lunches

We have had a number of children changing from packed lunches to school meals or vice versa recently. Please be aware, as explained on previous newsletters, that we need notice of three weeks before we can make these changes. This is as food is ordered in advance. If your child wishes to change please complete and return the required form (available on our school website or from Mrs Dolan in our school office)

Please can we also ask that school meals are paid for promptly (via Parent Pay) as Mrs Dolan is often having to chase up payments. Thank you for your support with this.

### Attendance for the week before October half term holiday

Willow Class	98.1
Horse Chestnut Class	98.0
Sycamore Class	100
Lime Class	99.6
Silver Birch Class	100
Rowan Class	98.7
Hawthorn Class	96.9

Well done to all classes for achieving attendance above our minimum target level of 96%. Special "Well done" to Sycamore class and Silver Birch class for achieving 100% attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

### Update from our school's recent Review by Durham Local Authority (on 16th October)

We had a busy week in school before the half term break with a full day review by Durham Local Authority (part of our ongoing improvement work following the last Ofsted inspection the school had in December 2016) This recognised the many improvements that have been made. As always, there is still more to be done (I am a big believer in not being complacent!) Staff from the Local Authority recognised that the areas that still need strengthening further are clearly identified on our current School Development Plan. It is now a case of continuing in the way we are going and having more time to show the impact of changes we are making.



## Diary Dates for Autumn Term (2nd half term) 2018

*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
Tuesday 31st October	World War 1 workshops in school for children in KS2 (as part of our work on the centenary of the end of World War 1)
Thursday 1st November	Smile please– it's school photo day! PTA Halloween Disco, 6.00—7.30pm
Thursday 8th November	Silver Birch Class (Year 4) to go to Newcastle for a writing workshop led by 'Live Tales'. More details on next week's newsletter.
Friday 9th November	Remembrance event on the village green in Aycliffe Village as part of the Remembrance Day and centenary commemorations. <b>Children in KS2 will go to the service for 10.45. Parents, carers and family members are welcome and we hope many can join us for this special community event.</b>
Monday 12th November	9.30—Audio screening in school for Reception children (carried out by school nurses) PM—Barclays Digital Expert to work with Hawthorn Class on coding. 5.00—Meeting about SATs for parents/carers of children in Year 2.
Tuesday 13th November	PM—A group of Year 5/6 children will attend an Athletics Event at Newton Aycliffe Sports Hall.
Friday 16th November	Children in Need day—more detail on future newsletters.
Friday 23rd November	Remembrance Art Gallery in our school hall. <b>Viewing times from 10.00—11.00 and 2.30—4.30pm.</b>
Monday 26th November	5.00 - Meeting for Year 1 parents/carers about the Year 1 Phonics Check
Tuesday 27th November	9.45—2.00pm—Hawthorn Class visiting the Safety Carousel at The Work Place, Newton Aycliffe.
Thursday 29th November	PTA Christmas Fayre—6.00—8.00pm
Tuesday 4th December	Assembly about Waste and Recycling led by staff from Durham Local Authority
Thursday 13th December	Children in Reception to Year 6 to have flu vaccinations in school (this will only be administered to children whose parents/carers have completed the online permission form)
Friday 14th December	Christmas Jumper Day and school Christmas Lunch!
Monday 17th December	2.00—Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity. Parents/carers/family members invited to attend.
Tuesday 18th December	9.30—Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity (2nd performance of the same show) Parents/carers/family members invited to attend. 2.00—Key Stage 2 Christmas Singalong—parents/carers/family members invited to attend.
Wednesday 19th December	9.15—Key Stage 2 Christmas Singalong (2nd performance of the same show)—parents/carers/family members invited to attend. PM—Pantomime at Darlington Hippodrome (more details to follow in future newsletters) PM—KS2 to have a Christmas party/disco.
Thursday 20th December	9.30—Whole school to go to St Andrew's Church for a Christmas Service. PM—Reception and Key Stage 1 party. School closes at the end of the day for the Christmas holidays!
Friday 21st December	Staff in school for a training day.