



Newsletter 24th February 2020

Aycliffe Village Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope your children enjoyed their half term break and are keen to be back at school for the second half of the Spring Term. The extent of the snow this morning was a bit of a surprise! I know it's never fun driving in the snow but the children certainly enjoyed playing in it earlier today!

We had some very sad news last week about the death of one of our lunchtime supervisors, Mrs Hughes. Mrs Hughes joined our school as lunchtime supervisor in April 2019. However she had a much longer association with the school as she had previously volunteered and worked at the school in a Teaching Assistant role and her children attended our school. Mrs Hughes had been absent since the middle of September, due to ill health, and she had been in our thoughts during this time. We are all deeply saddened by the news and send our warmest condolences to her family and friends. I was planning to speak to the children about this during assembly today but assembly didn't go ahead, due to the disruptions the snow caused. We will let the children know tomorrow and I wanted you to be aware, in case your children mention this and wish to discuss it with you.

Please see a reminder of dates for this half term on the last page of this newsletter. A couple of dates might have changed or been added since Spring Term dates were first shared with you, so please use this list as your reference point.

Best wishes
Mrs H Sutherland

Hawthorn Class Assembly

A reminder that Hawthorn Class will be leading their Class Assembly this **Thursday at 9.00am**. Parents, carers, family members are warmly invited to join us for this.

Meetings about Ford Castle Residential Trip

A reminder that a meeting for parents/carers about the Ford Castle residential trip takes place this **Thursday at 4.30pm**. We hope many of you are able to attend to find out more about the trip. If you are unable to attend, we will make sure the information is shared with you, via our website and school app.

Celebration Assembly Awards

Well done to the children below who were chosen for awards in the Celebration Assembly before we broke up for the half term holiday!



Outstanding Learner	Isaac B
Outstanding Attitude	Amelia W, Olivia C
Outstanding Manners	Ellie W
Wow Writer	Annabel D, Jamie L
Maths Wizard	Freya S, Mila P
Values	Maizey N-B
Reading Rockstar	Ollie-James P, James D, Abigail G, Chloe A
Homework	Eloise H
Curriculum Award	Jenson P, Harrison T
Head Teacher Award	Annabelle D
Golden Broom	Hawthorn Class!

Performing Arts After School Club

I am very excited to let you know that we will starting a Performing Arts After School Club **from Monday 9th March!** This will run until the end of the academic year. The group will be run by AJ Productions and will be open to all children from Year 1 to Year 6. **We will hand letters out about this on Wednesday to children who express an interest.** We are limited to 25 places so please return the form quickly, if you wish to confirm a place for your child. If it proves to be popular we can look to run this again in Autumn Term, with a different group of children.

Robinwood Residential Trip—Monday 2nd March 2020

Children and staff are very excited about this trip! We are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather improves a bit... Children will leave school around 9.00am. They can start to arrive from 8.30 and should bring their bags/cases to the main entrance please so we can store them in the inner corridor by the main entrance.

I would also like to thank all staff who are going on the trip. They give up much of their free time (unpaid) organising and supervising children on this trip. They do this so the children can have a wonderful opportunity and I hope you join me in showing your appreciation to them for this.

Sycamore Class—re-enactment of a Christening!

A reminder that parents/carers/family members are invited to the re-enactment of a Christening at St Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village **this Thursday at 1.30pm.** This is part of the class RE topic and will help children really understand this, through actively taking part in a Christening. If any parents/carers are able to help walk the children to and from Church, please let Mrs Swainston know so we can confirm the number of adult helpers.

Questionnaires about School Trips, Residentials and Financial Requests from School

Thank you again to all parents/carers who have returned questionnaires about this. Your views are much appreciated and will be taken into account with decisions made moving forwards. If you haven't had chance to complete this questionnaire yet we would be very grateful if you could please return this by the end of this week.

World Book Day

A reminder that we will be celebrating World Book Day on 5th March. Children are invited to dress up for this as a character from a children's book. Or they are welcome to wear pyjamas to school that day as a way of promoting the importance of a bedtime story or reading at bedtime as a way of unwinding ready for sleep!

Wow word of the week



New menu for school meals—please complete and return forms to school

After the Easter holidays our school meals will move to the Summer rather than the Winter menu. We will be sending home copies of the menu to all children who are currently on school meals. Please help your child choose which meals they would like on this menu, circle these then return the form to school, as soon as possible. If your child would like to move from packed lunches to school meals, please contact Mrs Swainston in the school office and she will send a copy of the new menu home for you.

Diary Dates for Spring Term 2 2020

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 or additional dates might be added. If this happens we will inform parents/carers on future newsletters and via text message.

Date	Event
Monday 24th February	School reopens after the February half term holiday
Thursday 27th February	9.00—Hawthorn Class to lead assembly. Parents/carers/family members invited to attend. 1.30—Sycamore Class to visit St Andrew’s Church to re-enact a christening (part of their RE topic). Parents/carers/family members are invited to attend. 4.30—Meeting for parents/carers about the Ford Castle residential trip.
Friday 28th February	9.30—11.30—Children in Rowan Class to attend a Fit for Life event at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Please come to school dressed in sports clothes and bring a water bottle.
Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th March	Robinwood Residential Trip—Years 5 and 6
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day 9.00—Lime Class to lead assembly. Parents/carers/family members invited to attend.
Friday 13th March	Sports Relief Day—more details to be shared on next week’s newsletter.
Thursday 19th March	Smile please! Class group photograph day.
Tuesday 24th March	Anne Frank workshop in school (Years 5 and 6)
Thursday 26th March	9.00—Willow Class to lead Class assembly. Parents/carers/family members invited to attend.
Friday 27th March	Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to take part in the Future Nurse Campaign (delivered in school).
Tuesday 31st March	Intra School Sports Competition—all classes to take part in activities throughout the day.
Wednesday 1st April	2.45—Easter Service at school (Parents/carers/family members of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to attend)
Thursday 2nd April	9.00—Easter Service at school (Parents/carers/family members of children in Years 3, 4 5 and 6 to attend).
Friday 3rd April	School closes at the end of the day for the Easter holidays!