

### **Happy New Year!**

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank parents for all the lovely gifts we received. We hope you had a super festive break.

## **Outdoor Learning (Forest School)**

Please ensure that your child has a full kit in school including warm waterproof coat, waterproof trousers, wellingtons, hat and waterproof gloves-EVERY WEEK.

### Also, Miss Osborne would appreciate donations of any the following items for a Forest School 'mud kitchen':

- \*pots and pans
- \*old kitchen utensils
- \*old plates

### After school club information

- Outdoor Adventure-starts 22.1.18 at 3.05-4.15pm
- Messy Church-starts 23.1.18 at 3.05-4.15pm
- Zumba-starts 25.1.18 at 3.05-4.15pm (Please return permission slips asap)

# Save the children Christmas jumper day-Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Our festive jumpers raised a fabulous £40.00 for Save the Children Fund- thank you for your donations.

### **Tynedale Hospice beanies**

Thank you to everyone who purchased a Christmas beanie. We raised a brilliant £62 in total which has been passed on to Tynedale Hospice.

#### A message from Mrs Carney and the School Council

### **Pennines Wildlife Rescue Charity**

Today, every child in the school has been given a Smarties tube. We would like you to open it carefully and enjoy the Smarties! Then keep the tube somewhere safe and every time you have a 20p coin in your purse, pop it in the tube to start collecting 'Pennies for Pennines', which is the local *wildlife charity* that our School Council is raising money for this term.

You could also ask family and friends to help you to fill it. You will find a 20p coin is the perfect shape to fit snugly into the Smarties tube!

When your tube is full, please seal it securely and bring it in to school so that we can add it to our Smarties Totaliser.

If you would like to fill more than one tube, please feel free to do so!

## The deadline for returning all Smarties tubes is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

If you haven't managed to fill your tube by then, please don't worry, just seal it and send it back in-any amount will be gratefully received. Thank you for your support.

### **School lunches**

The money for Spring 1<sup>st</sup> half term is now due. The amount for 4 weeks and 4 days (24 lunches at £2.30 per meal) is **£55.20**. Please send money to Mrs Rowcroft in a clearly labelled envelope.

### **Free School Meals information for parents**

If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, you can apply for this benefit

- \*online www.northumberland.gov.uk/fsm,
- \*over the telephone on FSM 01670 623592 or
- \*by completing a paper application form which is available from our school office or

FSM office, Wansbeck Square, Ashington NE63 9XL

Email:FSM@northumberland.gov.uk

## To be eligible for help you need to be in one of the following categories:

- Receive Income Support (IS) or Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Receive Income Related Employment Allowance (IREA).
- Have an entitlement to Child Tax Credit (CTC), but not Working Tax Credit (WTC) and the family's annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) is not more than £16,190
- Receive support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Receive the guarantee credit element of Pension Credit.

<u>Reception, Years 1 and 2 – why you should still apply for Free School Meals</u> - Since September 2014, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have been eligible for free school meals. If you are entitled to claim for FSM as detailed below, no matter what year group your child is in, it is important to our school that you register for this benefit.

Where a child is entitled to and claims FSM we can register them for Pupil Premium funding – this is currently worth £1,300 a year per pupil for our school.

#### **Slippers**

Last year we invited children to bring in a pair of slippers to wear during the day. It proved to be very popular and apparently enables children to feel more relaxed in school therefore more ready to learn. You are very welcome to send in a pair of practical slippers that children can change into. This will be until Easter. After Easter, slippers will be sent home.

### **Attendance**

Please ensure your child is in school every day unless unwell. Parents must contact the school office or leave a message on the answer machine giving a reason for absence.

#### **Routines**

Please remember to arrive promptly to school in the morning. The bell is rung for school to start at 8.50am.

Parents should bring their children into the playground for <u>8.45am (no earlier)</u> where they will be escorted into school by Mrs Phillips.

<u>Late book-</u>we have had **3 entries** in the late book this week. Children who come into class late are missing vital instructions which delay them starting their activities.

# Other dates for your diary.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018: Outdoor Adventure Club starts (3.05-4.15pm)

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: Messy Church Club starts (3.05-4.15pm)

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January:** Zumba club starts (3.05-4.15pm)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February/Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February: Parent consultations (Letter will be sent out in the next few weeks)

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March:** Palm Sunday service-St Peter's Church 9.15am- everyone welcome (delivering Easter gifts to pensioners afterwards)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March:** Tynedale Music Festival (Years 1-4) Queens Hall (usually about 9.30am-TBC)\*Reception children will come to watch the performance rather than perform on stage.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Art Gallery Open Day for parents (9.00-9.45am) and (2.15-3.00pm)-more information to follow.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Easter service-in school 9.15am –everyone welcome

Best wishes Jude Long

Our hall was transformed into a Miro painting today and the children even had a lesson with the man himself...although he did look incredibly familiar!!





