



## 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Newsletter

### Christmas Market

The Friends made approximately £800 at the Christmas Market last Saturday, which is an amazing total! There were over 140 adults in attendance and many more children throughout the day. Huge thanks to Louise Armatage, Liane Atkin, Rebecca Christopher, Aimee McAvoy, Amy McKenzie, Jane Parker, Mrs Smith and everyone who came to support the event. The money raised will be divided between school and Pre-School. The Friends have also agreed to pay the costs of taking the children to see 'Wind In The Willows' production at the Queens Hall.

### Severe weather

Please be extra careful if it is icy in the mornings. Mr Davison will grit a path to provide safe access to school. In the event of extreme weather, please check the school website for information on school closures. We will do everything we can to ensure school is open for 'business as usual', but the safety of our children and staff is paramount.

### Christingle Service

Children and members of the community enjoyed a service on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December at St Peter's Church. The service was led by Canon Christine Bull and Mrs Long accompanied the children on the organ. All the children performed well but a special mention must go to Amber, Bella, Hazel and Naomi for their solo/duet singing. Thanks also to Dr John McCollum and Roger Langford for assisting with the service and to Gwyn Stephenson for being the official photographer. A display of the event is available in the school hall.

### Christmas Soup and Sing-a-long

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December children entertained members of our village with some traditional carols and other festive songs. Thanks to Humshaugh Village Shop for their donation of vegetables and The George Hotel for the donation of rolls. I must thank Louise Armatage, Liane Atkin, Lisa Dodds and Aime McAvoy for helping the children to make the delicious soup. It was wonderful to hear the children performing with enthusiasm, confidence and very obvious enjoyment.

### Reducing the risk of spreading infections

Several children have been affected by the recent tummy bug. A DfE publication 'Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings' states that children should stay off school for **"48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting."** This will prevent other children from becoming infected. I thank you in advance for your co-operation on this matter. Details of other illnesses can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/353953/Guidance\\_on\\_infection\\_control\\_in\\_schools\\_11\\_Sept.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/353953/Guidance_on_infection_control_in_schools_11_Sept.pdf)

### Christmas lunch

Children will be travelling to Newbrough Primary School next Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December to share a Christmas lunch. Pupils will travel by Jewitt's Coaches, leaving school at 11.45am and returning by 2pm. The cost of the meal is £4 to cover a 3 course turkey lunch with all the trimmings (or vegetarian equivalent), crackers and transport. Please return the slip below, together with payment by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December. For pupils who are entitled to a free school meal, we request a contribution of £2 per child to cover the transport costs.

### Christmas parties

These will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December for Pre-School and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December for school children. Pre-School are providing their own party lunch. A buffet lunch will be provided by Mrs Bridges on the 18<sup>th</sup>, to include hot dogs, pizzas, sandwiches plus various healthy nibbles, followed by cup cakes. The Friends of Humshaugh First School have kindly agreed to provide crackers, juice and Pass the Parcels. The cost is £2 per child. We have invited Father Christmas; let's hope he has time in his busy schedule to fit us in!

And finally... **we would like to invite you to collect your children early on the last day of term at 1.30pm.** For working parents, we will of course be happy to keep any children who need to stay in school until 3.05pm.

### Other dates for your diary.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Pre-School Christmas party.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Visit to 'Wind in the Willows' at 10am, Queen's Hall Hexham.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** School Christmas party.

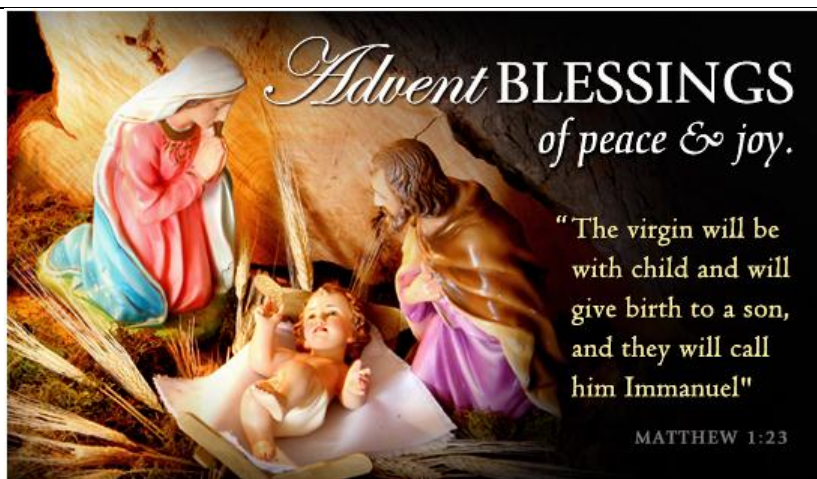
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Carol Service at 9.15am, St Peter's Church. Break up for Christmas.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015:** INSET Day

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January:** Children return for start of Spring term.

Kind regards,

Cath Newson (Headteacher)



"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope....

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

**Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger**

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the Christmas lunch at Newbrough on **11<sup>th</sup> December**.

I enclose £4 (those pupils who pay for school lunch)/£2 for transport costs (delete as appropriate).

I would like my child to have

- turkey lunch
- vegetarian Christmas lunch
- packed lunch

I give permission for my child to attend the Queen's Hall on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** to see 'Wind in the Willows'.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency contact for the day \_\_\_\_\_

