



**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (4 PAGES)**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Well done to the children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 who ALL achieved 100% attendance this week- FABULOUS!!

| <u>YEAR</u> | <u>ATTENDANCE %</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|
| RECEPTION   | 100%                |
| YEAR 1      | 100%                |
| YEAR 2      | 100%                |
| YEAR 3      | 100%                |
| YEAR 4      | 100%                |

### **STAR OF WEEK**

Well done to our **Super stars: Riley and Freddie** and our **Handwriting Heroes: Alex, Jacob, Tobias and Callum**.

The **Kindness award** was presented to **Jack** and the **Perseverance award** was presented to **Arthur Dodd**. Well done to both of them. They will have the brave knight duck and a light up heart on their desk next week.

The **HELPING HAND award** was presented to **Annabelle**, the pupil who has been most polite and helpful all week.



The children in EYFS have been receiving a 'Star of the day' award and a photo is sent to parents on a daily basis.

Well done to this week's EYFS '**Star of the Week**', **Isla W**, for 'being gentle' and the **Handwriting Hero-Lilly** for great independent writing!

### **LIGHTS, CAMEL, ACTION 2-THE SEQUIN**

The children have been working REALLY hard this week, perfecting song words, dialogue and funky dance moves.

ALL children now have a costume. We have one request....

**PLEASE SEND IN THE BRIGHTEST PAIR OF TRAINERS POSSIBLE FOR MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER TO KEEP IN SCHOOL UNTIL WEDNESDAY.**

### **VISITING PANTOMIME**

We are really sorry that our visiting pantomime on the 16<sup>th</sup> December has been cancelled due to the current Tier 3 Covid restrictions. We are very disappointed but fortunately we have another virtual Christmas show for the children courtesy of the Queens Hall and Alnwick Playhouse called 'Christmas with the Hobs' which will be shown instead.

### **REVD. STEVE**

On Thursday, the children in Years 3 and 4 helped to plant a special willow arch in preparation for the arrival of a bench in memory of Revd. Steve. The 'Peace' bench will be placed under the arch in the yard so children can spend time sitting and remembering how much we love and miss Revd. Steve and to have some peaceful, reflection time. Thank you to Ruth, Herbie, Suzanne and Mrs Dodd for helping to organise this despite the rainy day!!



### **MESSY CHURCH IN A BAG**

We are very lucky to have been given a 'Merry Church in a bag' for each child in school. These have been organised by the local churches who wanted to spread some love and joy this Christmas. These will be given out next Friday with instructions on how to complete the different craft activities.

### **FESTIVE FOREST SCHOOL**

We are thrilled that local author Sarah Fae will join the Year 1 to 4 children for a Festive Forest School on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Sarah has kindly offered to read her amazing story round the camp fire for which we are truly grateful.



### **'Ghost the Christmas Stag' by Sarah Fae and illustrated by Kathryn Holeman**

*Like many children, Hector's greatest fear is ending up on Santa's naughty list. But that all changes after a surprise encounter with an unfamiliar creature in the woods.*

*As news of a shock retirement reaches Lapland, can a Christmas crisis be averted by a little boy with big concern for the natural world?*

*Ghost the Christmas Stag is based on true events, beginning with a magic that many understand, but quickly reaching deeper into the power of nature and our duty to protect the beautiful wildlife that shares this earth with us.*

### **BUSY THINGS**

The children in Years 1 to 4 have joined their Busy Things classes this week and can now access homework on their 'My Busy Things' folder. Parents should have received an email from Mrs Blythe and Mrs Long with important information about how to access the activities. As always if your child is having difficulties, then please let the class teacher know.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PLAYING FIELD TRUST**

A reminder that as part of an ongoing project to improve the playing field and park facilities, tree surgeons will be working in the field from the **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December**, possibly beyond if the work takes longer than anticipated, therefore the play area will be out of bounds during this time.

### **PARENTZONE-INTERNET SAFETY**

Please take a look at the free family resources from The Be Internet Legends programme by visiting [parents.parentzone.org.uk/legendsfamilyadventure](https://parents.parentzone.org.uk/legendsfamilyadventure)

### **NATIONAL LITERACY TRUST**

[https://wordsforlife.org.uk/virtual-school-library/?mc\\_cid=42bb0d8bd6&mc\\_eid=7bddae09e9](https://wordsforlife.org.uk/virtual-school-library/?mc_cid=42bb0d8bd6&mc_eid=7bddae09e9)

Every week a popular children's author or illustrator will provide you with free books, exclusive videos and their top three recommended reads.



### **AUTHOR OF THE WEEK: Andy Shepherd**

Listen to the first book in The Boy Who Grew Dragons series, watch an exclusive video, check out Andy's top three children's books and download her brilliant activities.

### **EXTRA JUMPER**

Following a mandatory check on our wall mounted fan heaters, we have been advised to ensure that at least one window remains open at all times in the classrooms and hall. Your child may bring an extra jumper to wear in class if they wish.

### **CHRISTMAS POST BOX**

The Christmas post box is now in position. To ensure that we are Covid safe, all cards will be quarantined for 3 days before being handed out to pupils so please ensure that if your child is keen to write cards then please send them in as soon as possible. **THE FINAL DAY TO SEND IN CHRISTMAS CARDS IS WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER.**

Please do not feel obliged to provide shop bought cards; homemade ones are just as special. The children in Class 3 will ensure that cards reach the recipient. **Please help them by writing the child's name and year group clearly on the envelope.**

### **CHRISTMAS JUMPER SWAP**

Our annual Christmas/Festive jumper day for Save the Children is on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**. If you have any Christmas jumpers that your child has outgrown, we would love to take them off your hands to add to our uniform swap trolley.

Please ensure items are in good condition and ideally washed before sending them into school.

If you are able to send in a small donation, any money will be passed on to the Save the Children Fund.

### **FESTIVE TEA TOWELS**

The tea towels have been selling very quickly so hurry if you would like to purchase one. They are priced at £4 each (any profit made will be donated to charity).

Cash or cheques made payable to 'Humshaugh First School' to be handed in to the school office in a clearly labelled envelope ASAP.

Tea towels will be ready to collect by the end of term.

### **NORTHUMBERLAND WOMEN'S REFUGE**

As you know, this year we will be collecting Christmas present donations for the Northumberland Women's Refuge. The refuge is based in East Northumberland and provides a safe place for women and their children to stay. If you would like to purchase a present for either a child or a mother please send gifts in to the school office, unwrapped, by the end of term. Children staying at the refuge range from birth to 18 years old. Due to Covid-19, all gifts must be new. Thank you to everyone who has already given a donation, we really appreciate it.

### **SWIMMING PERMISSION SLIPS**

Please ensure that you sign and return the swimming permission slip as soon as possible. Please check your child's book bag for the letter.

### **FOREST SCHOOL REMINDER**

Please ensure that on a Friday, your child brings in an extra jumper or layers and warm socks, hat and gloves during the winter period. It can get very cold in the woods especially if the children are focussing on stories or activities rather than moving around.

### **PE KITS**

Please ensure children have returned their PE kits in school by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS UPDATE**

The last ZUMBA session for this term will be on THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER. Zumba will resume after Christmas on THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021.

The last SPORTS CLUB for this term will be on MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER. Sports club will resume on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| W/C 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec: | Christmas Performances   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec:    | Christmas lunch<br>LAST ZUMBA OF THE TERM  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec:    | Save the Children Christmas jumper day<br>Festive Forest School-Sarah Fae author     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec:    | Orienteering Festival (Y3+4)-on playing field<br>LAST PE AND SPORTS CLUB OF THE TERM |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec:    | Northern Stage virtual Christmas show and Christmas party p.m.                       |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec:    | Queens Hall/Alnwick Playhouse-virtual Christmas show                                 |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec:    | Break for Christmas  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan:     | Spring 1 <sup>st</sup> term starts<br>PE AND SPORTS CLUB                             |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan:     | ZUMBA  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb:    | Last day of term   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb:    | Teacher day  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb:    | Spring 2 <sup>nd</sup> term starts   |