



## 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016 Newsletter

### Christmas Market-Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Don't forget to pop in to the Christmas Market tomorrow at the Village Hall between 11am-2pm. Lots of Christmas goodies and stocking fillers to be purchased ready for the big day!

### Christmas lunch

This year, we are having our Christmas lunch at school on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. If your child is in **Year 3 or 4** (therefore not eligible for Universal free school meals) and usually has a packed lunch, they are very welcome to have a Christmas lunch. Please fill in and return the reply slip at the end of this letter with £2.20 in a clearly labelled envelope.

### Christmas service

While we are on the subject of Christmas, I just wanted to give you a couple of dates for your diary.

Firstly our Christmas nativity Hosanna Rock! will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am and 5.30pm at the school. The performance will include Pre-school and Reception to Year 4. The morning performance will be followed by tea, coffee and mince pies and a raffle organised by the Friends.

Secondly, we are having a Christmas service at St. Peter's Church, led by Reverend Steve on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15pm. Everyone is very welcome to join us in celebrating the Nativity with traditional readings and carols.

### Elm Bank

For the last few years, the children have visited Elm Bank, a home for Senior Citizens to sing Christmas themed songs. The residents absolutely love the interaction with the children and they have invited us again this year. As we will be in Hexham to watch the Oddsocks pantomime The Jungle Book on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, we will arrange for the bus to also take us to Elm Bank after the children have had their packed lunch. A letter will be sent out soon with a permission slip to return to school.

### Library opening hours

Some parents have enquired about whether the library is open after school. We would love parents and children to use the library. To start off with, the library will be open every Wednesday between 3.05pm and 3.45pm. This will enable you and your child to choose a book and to write it in the book on the desk. Could I ask that the library be left as you would want to find it, with books neatly put away and furniture returned to its place. Last year members of staff frequently had to tidy up following after school library sessions. Please remember, they are busy already without this extra responsibility.

### Outdoor Area

I am sure you will have noticed some new signs and a fabulous new activity bench in the yard. We are incredibly lucky to have been given some funding from the Evans Trust to allow us to improve our outdoor area. The next stage of our improvement is to create an appropriate outdoor learning area for our Reception children. We are waiting for a number of items and when we are set up, parents are very welcome to come and have a look.

Also, many thanks to the Friends who as result of such successful fundraising have provided the school with a picnic activity bench. We have also had a generous offer from two parents to repair our lovely Wendy House. At the moment, it is out of bounds for the children but we are hoping that after half term it will have a new lease of life!

### Friends/PTA

To ensure that events like our Harvest Festival and the Christmas Market are a success and fundraising for school resources and trips is continuous through the school year, we need an ever bigger number of volunteers. We are hugely lucky to have Louise, Gwyn and Julie on the committee but we need more volunteers to become part of the Friends of Humshaugh. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please contact Mrs Long or Louise Armatage.

### Request from Mrs Carney

To support their learning in Science, please could you send in a baby photograph of your child/children. We hope you don't mind us making a display of them. All photos will be returned after the display has been dismantled.

### Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to seeing you next week for Parent Consultations. Please check that you know your time slot and arrive promptly to ensure that all parents are seen on time. If one person is late, it has a knock on effect for subsequent appointments. Only 10 minutes is allocated for each appointment. Further discussions can be organised with your child's class teacher if needed.

### **Swimming**

Please ensure boys have tight swimming trunks – not baggy boardie type shorts. The instructors have asked us to pass this on to parents. Also, if your daughter has longer than shoulder length hair, please provide a hair band or ensure their hair is tied back. Any help with getting children to practise buttons and putting socks and tights on at home would be appreciated!

### **Letter check**

It is vital that you check your child's book bag every day to ensure any messages, letters or permission slips are dealt with as soon as possible. It makes the organisation of activities and events so much easier for the teachers and Mrs Rowcroft.

### **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 leave their children in the playground where they will be escorted into school by Mrs Phillips.

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

**Please also ensure you arrive on time at 3.05pm to pick your child up at the end of the day.**

### **PE this term**

**Quite a number of children are not bringing a PE kit to leave in school. As the after school sport club has finished, children can bring in their kit at the beginning of a half term and take it home to wash during the holidays.**

### **Other dates for your diary.**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October:** CLASS 1 AND 2 Parent Consultations

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October:** CLASS 1 ONLY Parent Consultations

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October:** CLASS 2 ONLY Parent Consultations

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October:** Break up for half term

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October:** Teacher Day

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October:** School starts (Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Hosanna Rock! 9.15am and 5.30pm (Refreshments afterwards)

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas service at St. Peter's Church at 2.15pm

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas lunch at Humshaugh

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Oddsocks pantomime and singing at Elm Bank

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas party

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Save the Children Christmas jumper day and last day of term

Kind regards,

Jude Long (Acting Headteacher)

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### **Christmas lunch at Humshaugh-Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**Name of child:**

#### **Reception,Y1,Y2 (Universal school meals)**

I would like my child to have a Christmas lunch (free)

My child will bring a packed lunch

#### **Year 3/4 (Cost of £2.20)**

My child usually has school lunch and would like a Christmas lunch

I would like my child to have a Christmas lunch and enclose £2.20

My child will bring a packed lunch

**\*PLEASE RETURN THIS REPLY SLIP TO SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN CONFIRM NUMBERS FOR CATERING PURPOSES\***

