



5th September 2014 Newsletter

Dear parents,

New starters

Our new children seem to have settled very well into Reception with Mrs Blythe. We welcome Ruby, Hayden, Kayleigh, Tristan, Katie, Max, Megan and Logan into Class 1. Thank you to everyone who has arrived promptly in time for the bell ringing at 8.50am.

Staffing update

Miss Liz Osborne will be sharing the responsibility of teaching Class 2 and will work on Thursday afternoons and all day on Friday. Mrs Rainford will be teaching RE to both classes and French to Class 2 on Tuesday mornings.

Hexham Library Reading Challenge

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Reading Challenge at Hexham Library over the Summer holidays. Many children have returned work which we will be displaying in school.

Humshaugh Library

We now have a new Library in the classroom above the offices! Children will have a Library session in school as part of Friday afternoon activities, but we would like to encourage you to use the Library after school to change your child's book regularly. The Library will be open every day except Wednesday between 3-4pm.

Swimming in September

Mrs Blythe was very impressed with the Reception children's ability to dress themselves after swimming lessons on Thursday. Children will swim in September starting on Thursday 4th September 2014. Due to rising fuel costs and increased fees from Hexham Swimming Pool, the cost per lesson will increase to £2.75 from September. Please make cheques for £22 per child payable to Northumberland County Council to cover the half term.

McMillan Coffee morning

The Friends of Humshaugh First School have organised a Coffee Morning in school on Friday 26th September 2014. This is a great opportunity to invite the community into school. Details of timings are advertised on posters around school and the village. Thanks to Louise Armatage for organising this.

Harvest Festival

The children all look really smart in their new school shoes! Can we request that you decorate your child's shoe-box at home with a Harvest theme and bring it into school by Friday 26th September. These will be used to make food parcels for residents in the village. Donations of fresh fruit, vegetables or tins and packets may be brought into school by Wednesday 1st October. An open Worship will take place in school on Thursday 2nd October at 9.15am. Everyone is welcome. Children will distribute the parcels on Monday 6th October 2014.

Christmas Market

The Christmas Market will be held on Saturday 22nd November in Humshaugh Village Hall from 12-4pm. There will be a raffle, local stalls, Xmas hamper and home made teas.

Timings of the school day

In line with other schools in the Hexham Partnership, the timing of our school day will change very slightly from September.

The bell will ring at **8.50am** with children registering at 8.55am.

Lessons will end at 3pm but children will be dismissed at **3.05pm**.

Parent Helpers

We are very grateful to the parents who help with reading, activities and swimming in school and we are keen to encourage more parents to become involved in the school in this way. If you think you might be able to spare an hour by volunteering for reading, swimming duty on Thursday or on Friday afternoon for Activities then please let Mrs. Rowcroft know. If we have more parents helping with swimming, we could create a rota so that each parent only needs to help once a half term.

Parking

Please remember to keep clear of the yellow Keep Clear 'zig-zags' when you drop off and collect your child from school. The safety of all our children is paramount.

Other dates for your diary

Friday 24th October: break up for October half term.

Monday 3rd November : Children return to school for second half of Autumn term.

Monday 1st December: Christingle Service in St Peter's Church, Humshaugh, 2-3pm.

Friday 19th December 2014: Carol Service in St Peter's Church, 9.15am.

Kind regards,

Cath Newson (Headteacher)

"For last year's words belong to last year's language

And next year's words await another voice.

And to make an end is to make a beginning."

— T.S. Eliot