



## **18<sup>th</sup> May 2018 Newsletter**

### **Chesters Roman Fort trip-Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May**

The children had a great visit to Chesters on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May to increase their knowledge and understanding of life in Roman times. Their behaviour was exceptional and was commented on by several visitors who thought the children were very polite and enthusiastic to learn. Thank you to Louise Armatage for helping and for Jewitts who kindly gave us a lift there and back for free.

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

Attendance at after school clubs recently has dwindled considerably. I do understand that at this time of year children like to be outside after school. We do our best to provide a range of excellent after school activities for our school children at no cost to parents. Whereas Messy Church is run by volunteers, which we really appreciate, the other two clubs do cost a considerable amount to run. If children only come every so often, then it makes the club less viable.

I have spoken to Shelly the Zumba leader about having the sessions outside in the yard while the weather is so lovely. She is more than happy to do this and hopes parents will enjoy seeing what the children have done at the end of the session.

From September the Monday after school club will be a Sports club run by our new PE teacher Mr Dimmick. He will want to build on skills week on week so children get the maximum benefit. Likewise, the Zumba for Kids sessions also build on skills and vary from week to week with fabulous activities.

If numbers continue to dwindle or children attend sporadically, then the Governors and I will have to review the provision of clubs and decide if the school can put the money to better use in other ways. Thank you for your support.

### **Artist in Residence Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

We had our follow up workshops from our trip to The Sill and Walltown on Wednesday with artists Helen and Cath. The children looked at their art work and produced their own versions of nature prints, using a proper printing press. The results are very impressive and will be displayed in the hall as soon as possible. The children also did letter printing to create the word NATURE for an acrostic poem written during Literacy lessons. These sessions will contribute to the children gaining their Arts Award.

### **FRIENDS JUMBLE SALE-Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

Thank you to Louise and Carla for organising the Jumble sale this week. We raised a total of £90.00.

We really appreciate the fund-raising that the Friends organise. Most recently they have paid for two buses to transport the children on trips. Without these additional funds, we would have to ask for parents to pay towards the cost of trips so it is vital that any fundraising events are fully supported.

We are always on the look-out for parents who can spare some time to join the Friends team so please let either Louise or I know if you would like to get involved.

### **Friends events**



#### **Ice lolly- Fridays 3pm (after half term)**

Our popular *Ice lolly* Fridays will start on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June** until the end of the school term.

A range of treats will be on offer after school (for parents too!)

### **Planters in the yard**

Thank you to Mr Davison who has cleared and tidied the planters in the yard and made a gift to the school of some lovely flowers, we really appreciate it.

### **SWIMMING**

**We have booked an extra half term of swimming this year. These are the dates for the sessions:**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June / Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June / Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June / Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June / Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July / Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July

The cost for swimming lessons for this half term will be **£3 per session, totalling £18.00 for 6 sessions.**

Please make cheques payable to Northumberland County Council.

**Please ensure you have sent money/cheques** in a clearly labelled envelope to the office.

Include your child's/children's name and class on the back of the cheque.

### **Reception/Y1 and 2 trip**

The children in Reception/Y1 and Y2 have been invited to Acomb First School to watch a performance and take part in a workshop about e-safety. It is lovely that Mrs Speed the Head teacher has invited us and we look forward to going on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Letters are in book bags today. Please return the permission slip to school before half term.

### **Improvements to the building and learning environment**

I just want to mention a couple of projects that hopefully will be happening over the next 6 months.

Firstly, we had the front of the school decorated before Christmas. We are aiming to have the rear exterior decorated during the summer holidays including replacing rotten wood and render and pipe work painted.

Secondly, Duchy Homes have agreed to help us clear the allotment area in the corner of the field, landscape it and re-fence it to the value of £1000. We are absolutely delighted and look forward to having a blank canvas to develop as an outdoor classroom. We hope the children will become involved in the design and appreciate the support from the Playing Field Trust committee who have agreed that we can have these works carried out.

### **Reading at home**

While we understand that during the summer term with warmer weather and lighter nights, the routine of reading every day may be more difficult, we would really appreciate you encouraging your child to practise reading every day. Children who do not read every day, or even have a break of a few days especially those in Reception, Year 1 and 2 quickly fall behind. Could we suggest that you take the reading book outside to enjoy with your child, even if for five minutes. Your support at home is always greatly appreciated.

### **Piano stool plea answered!**

Thanks to Mrs Carney's keen eye, we now have a sturdy piano stool (free of charge).

### **School Lunches (16.4.18-25.5.18)**

The following amount is now due:-**28 lunches x £2.30 = £64.40**

The cost has been calculated minus the Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April school trip to Broomley Grange when all children will need to bring a packed lunch from home and the Bank Holiday on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Please send money to Mrs Rowcroft in a clearly labelled envelope.

### **Emergency contacts**

If your change address, phone numbers or email addresses, please ensure you inform Mrs Rowcroft so files can be updated.

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

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May:** Break up for half term

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June:** Church Fete

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June:** Summer 2<sup>nd</sup> starts

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June:** Carmen Create and Sing day-Y3 and 4s

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June:** Swimming starts

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June:** Rising 5s Transition mornings commence / Ice-lolly Fridays commence

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June:** Reception/Y1 and 2 visit to Acomb First School-e-safety performance and workshop-letter sent out today

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 4 Newcastle Leaver Service-St Nicholas Cathedral

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June:** Pupil Voice Conference-QEH Year 4s

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July:** Transfer Day-Year 4s

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July:** Sports Day 1.30pm - Reception to Year 4

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July:** Y3/4 Partnership Sports Festival-Wentworth Leisure Centre (Letter will be sent out soon)

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July:** NO MESSY CHURCH

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July:** Summer Production 'Jonah, a Fishy Tail' 9.15am and 5.30pm

**\*NO CLUBS DURING LAST WEEK OF TERM\***

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>-Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Year 4 Residential -Broomley Grange

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July:** Y4 water fight

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July:** Leaver Service 9.15am (Picnic lunch-parents and siblings welcome to join us on the field)  
Break up for summer

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July:** Wall Village Fete-Children invited to sing (Time TBC)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September:** Teacher Day

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September:** Autumn 1<sup>st</sup>

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October:** Teacher Day

\*Correct Term Dates for 2018-2019 are now on the website\*

