



LANGLEY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter 18th December 2018

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Dear parents and carers,
Christmas more than any other time is simply the best time to be in school, really busy but definitely the best! The excitement grows and in some cases even the first sight of tinsel is enough to have some overwhelmed (just ask Mrs Ross!).

As ever I was amazed and touched by the support given during the Christmas performances, I'm sure you'll agree every child shone like the stars we know they are.

We have a fantastic start to the new year with some great activities and work going on both in and out of school, the Spring term really is the term above all others where as a teacher I know the work accelerates to get everyone ready for the SATs in Year 6 and Year 2, Phonics screening test in Year 1 and for this year the first opportunity to try the Year 4 times tables check before it becomes a compulsory test for the current Year 3 when they reach the end of year 4 in 2020. With this in mind we do ask you check your child's attendance using the schools app, as a school our attendance is below National Average and as a parent myself I know that if my child is not in school then the chances of them keeping up with their peers is tougher the more they miss.



With the Christmas break coming can I personally thank you again for your support and wish you a fabulous yuletide break with your family from all of us here at Langley Park Primary School, take care and here's to entering the New Year fit and healthy. Merry Christmas!



Crossing patrol

Since October half term we have been without a crossing patrol officer (lollipop man!), I try not to become political when speaking to you as parents but on this issue it is difficult not to be. School funding has hit a critical point over the past number of years and this year it seems to be even tougher. Anyone whose children go to Framwellgate School may have received a letter from Mr Byers outlining his concerns and should anyone wish to have a copy I can pass one on. The Local Authority is responsible for ensuring all schools have crossing patrol officers, in the past if someone was ill then a replacement would come to fill in. Not only do the Local Authority not have any replacements they cannot fill all of the posts meaning many schools are in the same situation as we are. Our Local Councillors are working tirelessly to rectify this situation but are being told the same message that there are no funds available. As a school we are looking at every option available should no one be appointed before the new Year.

Attendance

Please make sure if your child is not going to be in you ring the school office before 9am, if we do not know where your child is I'm sure you will appreciate it is a safeguarding matter which could result in external agencies being contacted. We appreciate that many children in our school have excellent attendance but sadly some pupil's attendance is below 80%, this means that so far since September they have missed over 2 weeks of lessons which means that their achievement will not be as good as it could be.

Mr Walton



100% Attendance

A big well done to the 30 children who had 100% attendance this term.

New Year's revolutions!

To get everyone in a spin we have organised a great day with Hoop Starz to work with all classes in school on the first Tuesday back after Christmas (8th January), Lynsey will be getting everyone in school fit and healthy from the off. Hoops will be on sale afterwards for around £3 and once the price is confirmed we'll send a text to let you know.

ScoutEd

On Monday 7th January Year 5 will be doing ScoutEd on the morning and Year 4 on the afternoon.

Dodgeball Festival

On Wednesday 9th January, Year 6 are taking part in a dodgeball festival at Maiden Castle, children will need to wear a white top, black bottoms and trainers. They will have an early lunch and return to school for 3.20pm.

Cross Country Competition

We hope the children have enjoyed the Thursday after school cross country sessions, we aim to keep them outside as much as possible to get them used to the different conditions and to gain experience. For cross country children can wear football boots if they prefer as they help grip the ground in the wet, muddy conditions. We recommend that children wear plenty of thin layers.

More details will follow early in the New Year but we wanted to make you aware that our school is taking part in a Cross Country Competition, the events are as follows:

19th January at Bullion Lane

26th January at Ouston

2nd February at Langley Park

The next cross country session will be Thursday 10th January 2019 and it is open to all children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6)

School Meals

When we return to school in January, we will be on week 3 of the school meal menu.

Term Dates

School opens Monday 7th January 2019

Spring half term:

School closes on Friday 15th February and re-opens Monday 25th February

Easter:

School closes on Friday 5th April and re-opens on Tuesday 23rd April

School Governors

The school governing body currently have 2 vacancies for parent governors on its board. If the parents of any children in school are interested please contact the school office for further information.

Hall Hire

If anyone is interested in hiring our sports hall or Community Room for events and parties they are available at a cost of £15 per hour. Please contact the school office if you require further details.



30 Hours Childcare

We would like to remind parents/carers that we now offer 30 hours child care for our Nursery pupils. For further information please contact the school office.

Rainbow Room

We currently have vacancies in our Rainbow Room which is for children aged 2, if you think you are eligible for a place or are interested in a paid place, please contact the school office.



Toddler Playgroup

We would like to remind everyone, our toddler group is open to 0-3 year olds and takes place every Tuesday from 10.00am until 11.30am.

Anyone is welcome to attend and admission is free.

The staff at Langley Park Primary School wish all our parents, carers and children a very Merry Christmas!

