



Wylam First School
Rocketing to success

Newsletter 2
4.10.24

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has started off so well with the children settling into school and learning lots of new skills and knowledge. We have the highest of expectations for all of our children and have been so impressed with the way they are rising to the challenge. The second part of the half term is equally as busy with; walk to school month, parents evenings and our Harvest Festival.

So far, we have seen the children taking part in Open the Book assemblies, a visit from the Michelin star restaurant Pine, some classes have had Little Taster cooking sessions with Emma and Mr Chapman was pleased to see so many people at his English workshop last month where he shared information about Talk for Writing. Also, we have had our first couple of 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' treats- which the children have really enjoyed.

Thank you to all parents who attended our new to year group meetings. I hope that it gave you all of the information you needed. As always, however, if there is anything that you are unsure of, please talk to the class teacher at the beginning or end of the day or book an appointment if necessary.

This week we had two successful stay and play sessions in Nursery and Reception. It was lovely to see so many parents joining in with their child's morning at school.

I am very excited to announce that we will be taking part in *Wylam Winter Tales: Railway 200 project* this year. The children will take part in different assemblies and workshops throughout November and December. We will also be hosting an evening in school- More details to follow.

A little community news... Don't miss the Wylam Parish Council Village Harvest Festival on Sunday 6th October at Wylam Institute Garden from 2pm to 4:30pm. Look out for the flyers and posters around the village for more information. It looks like a lovely community afternoon.

Information

Wheels Fortnight!

We always love to see and hear about you walking, cycling or scooting to school! As part of International Walk to School Month this October, the two weeks beginning 14th October to 24th October will be wheels fortnight! We would like to encourage you to come to school on bikes, scooters or maybe even roller skates during these two weeks. Please park your wheels on the yard and at some point during the day the children will have the opportunity to wheel around the yard with their friends. With this in mind please be extra vigilant when driving and parking around the school site.

Driving and parking near to the school site

Please be mindful of children crossing the roads, particularly near the main entrance to the school on Bell Road. We have had a number of complaints about cars accessing the school site while children are entering. No cars should be entering, parking in or exiting the school grounds at the beginning or end of the school day. **The safety of all our children is our first concern.**

Macmillan Bake Sale

Thank you to all who donated and all who purchased cakes at our Macmillan Bake sale. We raised £116 for Macmillan - well done!

Harvest Festival

We are really looking forward to our Harvest Festival on Tuesday 15th October. Like in previous years our Y4 pupils are currently working towards this and will run the event. Parents will be invited to attend from 1:30 pm where, for a small donation, you will be able to purchase some of our harvest soup, have a cup of tea and purchase produce from our allotment- if the children haven't eaten it all!. All of the donations go towards the sustainability of our allotment.

From 2pm the Y4 children will lead our Harvest Festival and each class from Nursery to Y4 will lead the Harvest songs. The Harvest Festival will take place in the school yard. We look forward to seeing you all there. If you are able, we would really appreciate some food bank donations. There will be a table set out on the day as a drop off point. This will be donated to the Miner's Lamp Food Bank in Prudhoe. Thank you in advance.

Break the Rules Day

On Thursday 24th October we invite you to BREAK THE RULES! Forget about uniforms...come as you please! The wackier the better!! You could come in your favourite football kit, princess or superhero costume or even, as it is so close to Halloween - your scariest Halloween costume. Children can break the rules in return for a £1 donation to the PTA. PS Don't tell Miss Dodds!

Year 4 Swimming

Due to the renovations at Water World in Prudhoe, the children will not be swimming on 16th and 23rd October. They will be returning to swimming on Monday 4th November and will have their swimming lessons at Wentworth Swimming Pool in Hexham.

Reading at Home

We know that many of our children and families read at home. It is essential that children are given the opportunity to practise their reading at home regularly to support their progress. It is also so important that children get the opportunity to read for pleasure and to listen to and enjoy a range of stories. We know that life can be busy but spending just 10 minutes practising the school reading book 3 times a week and sharing a daily bedtime story can have a significant impact on both reading and writing.

To support your child please try to read a minimum of 3 times a week and don't forget to sign the reading record.



PTA

Foodie Fortnight

The inaugural Wylam First Foodie Fortnight is underway and we hope that you are taking advantage of some of the special offers in and around the village.

In school the children really enjoyed Pine Restaurant visiting us and talking about the produce they grow and use. Each class is also looking forward to or has enjoyed

working with Emma from Tiny Tasters this week or over the next week.

Halloween Craternoon

Don't forget it's Halloween Crafternoon on Thursday 24th October! If you are able to support the PTA with this please contact one of the team.

Bonkers Bingo

Guess what's back? Back again?!

Tickets are flying out the office as fast as Mrs Alexander can turn around in her chair! So don't miss out on an evening of fun and hilarity... not to mention a chance to win a huge bundle of loo paper!!!!

Reminders

Parents' Evening

Parents Evening will be on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th November. More information will be sent out in the coming weeks and you will be able to sign up via MCAS.

Maths Workshop

On **Wednesday 13th November** at 9am, Mrs Weatherspoon will be holding a parent workshop to talk about how we teach maths at Wylam and how you can help your child at home. Once the workshop is over you will then be able to go into your child's class to take part in a maths lesson with your child.

Warm Clothing

Mr Harrison is still collecting warm male and female clothing for the charity Streetworx for the homeless.

Packed Lunches

Just a reminder that we are a 'nut free' school. We have a number of children in school who have nut allergies so it is really important that there are no nut based products in packed lunches, including things like Nutella.

Jackets in School

Please remember to send your child to school with a warm, preferably showerproof jacket, even if it is warm and sunny in the morning. At this time of year the weather can be changeable and as we spend a lot of time outdoors it is important that the children have the option of putting on a jacket.

School Calendar

Friday 11.10.24	PTA- Bonkers Bingo!
Tuesday 15.10.24	1:30pm Harvest Festival TBC
Thursday 24.10.24	Break the Rules Day!
Thursday 24.10.24	PTA- Halloween Crafternoon
Friday 25.10.24	Teacher Training Day- School Closed
28.10.24 to 1.11.24	HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 4.11.24	Back to School
Tuesday 5.11.24	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 6.11.24	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 13.11.24	9am Maths Workshop with Mrs Weatherspoon
Friday 29.11.24	7pm PTA Christmas Wreath Making
Friday 6.12.24	10am Rocksteady concert
Christmas 2024 at Wylam First School	
Friday 6.12.24	3:15pm Christmas Fayre
Monday 9.12.24	KS1 Christmas Performance 9:30am EYFS Christmas Performance 1:45pm
Tuesday 10.12.24	EYFS Christmas Performance 9:30am KS2 Christmas performance 1:45pm
Wednesday 11.12.24	KS2 Christmas performance 9:30am KS1 Christmas Performance 1:45pm
Friday 13.12.24	Christmas Jumper Day School Christmas Lunch
Monday 16.12.24	KS1 Party
Tuesday 17.12.24	EYFS Party
Wednesday 18.12.24	KS2 Party
Friday 20.12.24	End of term Christmas Service 1:30pm @ St Oswins Church Last day of term
23.12.24 to 6.1.25	Christmas Holidays
Monday 6.1.24	Back to school

Best wishes.

Miss Jill Dodds
Executive Headteacher