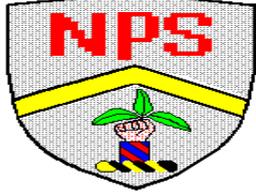


Autumn Term Newsletter



Class 2 visit to Clayport Library

Class 2 went to Clayport Library in Durham and met a real life author! We had the privilege of listening to Peter Hayes read his very own Christmas book. We had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the story.



Well Done Liam

We are super proud of Liam in class 2. He has worked really hard with his drama group and put on a performance with them of Jack and the Beanstalk. He had lots of lines to learn and made his family proud by shining like a true super star on the day. Well done Liam!



Punctuality

It is great to see so many children arriving to school on time and being involved in their learning right from the beginning of the day. Class 1 and Class 2 begin their phonics sessions at 8.45 am and Class 3 and Class 4 begin their challenge time activities at 8.45 am. We also have co-ordination programmes running at that time. **Please can you ensure children arrive at school for 8.45am. Thank you so much to parents/carers for your continued support.**

Christmas is coming!

We decorated our whole school tree and every child and adult had the chance to put a decoration on of their own! Then we went back to our classes and saw the wonderful Christmas decorations all around our learning environment! We can't wait to act our the nativity in our very own 'Bethlehem'!





Holidays in Term Time

We have seen a large increase in requests for holidays in term time. Due to this, our school attendance has fallen from 95.71% to 95.4% from March to present. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is National Average. Ofsted evaluate school attendance and a low attendance can affect school's Ofsted judgements. Just to remind parents and carers that as of 1st September 2013, Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Absence during term time should be avoided because children can fall behind with their work and may find it difficult to integrate. An application using the leave of absence form (available from the school office) for leave must be made in writing to the Head Teacher, detailing the exceptional circumstances. The Head Teacher must be satisfied the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. If you do not apply for leave in advance, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. You can be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

Texts/Emails

We regularly send texts to parents with details of events happening in school or just reminders. We are now also sending emails. Thank you for your patience while we are updating this. Letters have been sent out explaining our new systems. Please notify school if you haven't received any texts/emails in the last

week. Your contact details may need updating.

School Website

Please continue to look at our school website on www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

Diary Dates

Tue 11th Dec- Class 3/4 Nativity 2pm
 Thur 13th Dec- Class 1/2 Nativity 2pm
 Fri 14th Dec-Ukulele Performance for Class 2 parents/carers only 10am
 Fri 14th Dec-Christmas Fair 1.30pm
 Tue 18th Dec- Christingle Service at Church 2pm
 Wed 19th Dec- Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
 Thur 20th Dec- Christmas Party
 Fri 21st Dec-End of Term
 Tue 8th Jan- Children return to school

Absences

If your child is unwell, please contact school office as soon as possible by 9am. It is important that children attend school as often as possible because if they are not in school they cannot learn.

Nettlesworth School Community Group

The Nettlesworth School Community Group will be holding their annual Christmas Craft Fair on Friday 14th December at 1.30pm in the school hall. Raffle tickets for a Christmas Hamper will be sold at the school Christmas performances.

Over the past couple of weeks, Papi & Claire (our governors and members of the parent group) have been working with the children in classes to make Christmas wreaths that they have chosen to order. They are absolutely fantastic and will hang beautiful on the doors of Nettlesworth and the wider community!

Thank you!!!! ☺



PE Kit

Please could children remember to bring PE kit on a Monday and leave it at school until Friday. Each class has certain days on the timetable but we constantly have coaches and sporting experiences for the children so days can change. We are a Sainsbury's Games Platinum Mark School and now have the AFPE (Association for Physical Education) award which is given to schools who promote and maintain high standards and safe practice in all aspects of PE. Many Thanks.

Parent Pay

School dinners are paid through parent pay. Please can you keep a regular check of your account to ensure that you are in credit. We have had a financial audit and debts of £55 or more will be referred to Local Authority.

SPLAT Circus and SPAG Days

Huge thank you to Paul from SPLAT who has worked with us over the past couple of days providing us with a wonderful day full of circus skills on Monday and then a SPAG day on Tuesday.

These opportunities have not only increased our sporting/movement skills, especially balancing, throwing and catching but they have also provided us with a lot of important speaking and listening skills through performing in front of an audience short acts all about the things we have been learning about SPAG (Spelling, punctuation & Grammar). Each class had differentiated activities to take part in and then at the end we put all of our SPAGTASTIC work together and performed in front of the whole school! We also had bundles of fun along the way! ☺



Green Tree Gold Award

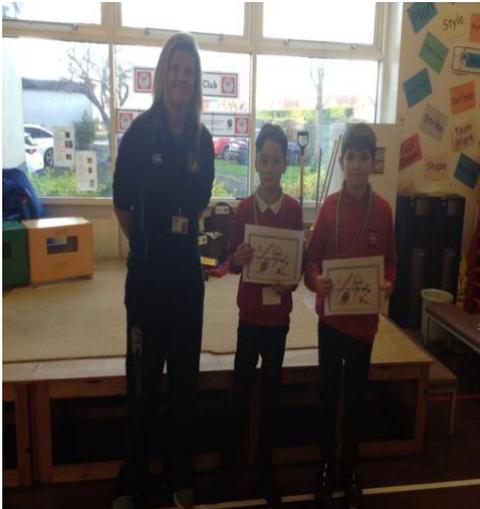
We are thrilled to accept the award from Green Tree Schools as we have been marked a Gold School for all our Forest Schools activities taking place across the entire school; planting trees, growing pumpkins, weekly forest schools sessions as well as providing children with outdoor learning opportunities across all of the seasons!

Well done to last year's reception and year 1 for being our first official cohort of "forest schooler's" as well as the current children taking part in our fantastic weekly sessions! ☺



New Sports Leaders, Buddies and Sports Crew

A massive well done to all of our new Sports Leaders and Buddies on their completion of their training. They have worked hard this past half term to complete jobs after school. Also congratulations to our new members of the SSOCs crew and our newly appointed Head of Crew. Emma from the School Sports Partnership came into school to present the children with their certificates and lanyards. She also had a lovely surprise for us and was able to present us with our Platinum Schools Game award.



Year 5/6 Sleepover

In aid of Crisis, Year 5/6 slept over at school for the night to raise awareness for the homeless. We built a shelter, designed an outfit, had a soup kitchen and listened to real life case stories about young people and the reason why they were homeless. We managed to raise £60 for the charity.

UNCRC Article 27

Children have the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and mental needs.



Thank you for your continued support and for all the generous donations to the many good causes we have helped this term.