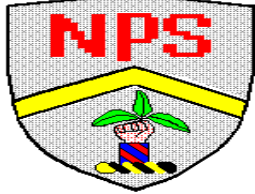


# Autumn Term Newsletter



## School Pantomime

As a Christmas treat we had a Pantomime in the comfort of our own school! It was absolutely fantastic – thank you to the actors at Big Foot Entertainment who provided us with an afternoon of cheer, as well as the Nettlesworth School Community Group (NSCG) for organising it! ☺



## Class 1/2 Christmas Play

Hooray for Prickly Hay!  
Class 1 and 2 have worked extremely hard over the past 3 weeks, practising their Christmas Performance. We have finally performed to the whole school and our parents and put on a how down you'll never forget!  
MERRY CHRISTMAS ☺





### *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.**

### *Letters to Santa*

After finishing all of our letters to Santa, Class 1/2 decided to walk round to the postbox and send them directly to the North Pole! We can't wait for him to receive them! ☺





### *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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk) for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

### *Diary Dates*

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Dec-End of Term

Tue 8<sup>th</sup> Jan- Children return to school

Breakfast Club re-starts

Thur 10<sup>th</sup> Jan- Swimming re-starts for Class 3

W/B Monday January 14<sup>th</sup>- After School Clubs re-start (Letters will be sent home with children the week before about after school clubs)

### *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 would like to thank you all for coming to their annual Christmas Craft Fair on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm in the school hall. We raised nearly £500.

Thank you again to Papi and Claire in helping making the Christmas Wreaths with the children. We raised nearly £100 from this project. This money will go towards treats for the children in the Spring Term.

### *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.

We had such a treat on Friday - class 3 and some children from class 4 put on an amazing performance for the rest of the school and their parents.

### Ukulele Performance

Thank you for such a treat! You are all truly talented too!

Well done!



### Durham Food Bank

Well done to Breakfast Club and the Rights Respecting Council for organising a reverse advent calendar. Throughout December the children have worked with Mrs Hill to collect an item of food to donate to our local Food Bank.

Today Lil and Chris came in to see us. Lil is from the Food Bank and was delighted to collect the parcel. She was over the moon with how thoughtful our children are and told us that the food we had collected will help provide 9 meals.

Well done everyone!



### KS2 Magical Jigsaw

Well done to Class 3 and 4, who performed Magical Jigsaw. The acting and singing was amazing!



### Pull your-elves together!

This week has brought the invasion of the Elves to Nettlesworth! Each day we have seen these mischievous little elves causing havoc in each and every classroom! Will the mayhem ever end?!







**PARTY TIME!!!!**







### Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day

Big thank you to all of the parents and children who joined in with our Christmas Jumper Day 2018. We raised almost £60 from your donations; all which will be donated to the St. Cuthbert's Hospice. To top the festive cheer we all had a wonderful lunch thanks to Leanne in the kitchen! ☺



### BREAKING NEWS! SANTA WAS IN THE BUILDING! EXCITING NEWS!!!!

Santa has BEEN IN OUR SCHOOL! On Wednesday we came in to discover that each and every child had received a Santa's letter and there was mysterious glitter footprints all around the classrooms – we believe the trail began from Class 1 where the window has been left open and footprints started from the window sill!!! HO HO HO! Merry Chrstitmas ☺

### Christingle Service

We had our annual Christingle service

held at our local church, it was great to see so many of you there! The children had incorporated songs from both KS1 and KS2 performances and some traditional songs sending out the Christmas message at this time of year. We even created a human-sized Christingle in the shape of Rev. Caroline to celebrate 50 years of Christingle services all aroundt he world; in aid of 'THE Children's Society' . Such a magical end to a magical half term here at Nettlesworth! ☺



**Thank you for your support this year and have a fantastic Christmas and New Year from Mrs Lee and all of the staff at Nettlesworth Primary School.**

