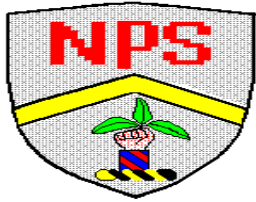


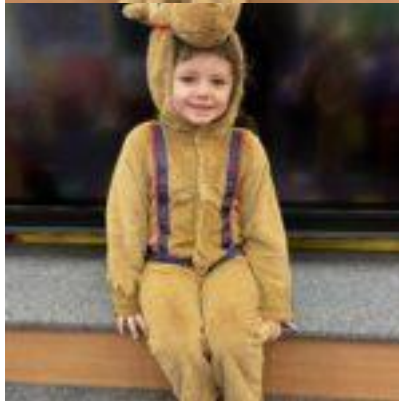
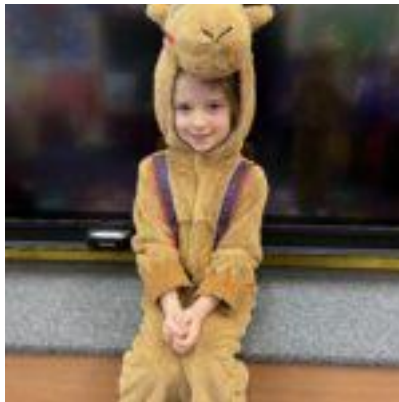
# Autumn Term Newsletter



## Christmas Counts

Class 1, 2 and 3 performed the show; 'Christmas Counts' to our family and friends. We have all worked incredibly hard to learn our lines, perform the songs as well as remembering when to come on and off the stage.

We hope you all enjoyed the show as much as we did







## *Class 2 Posting their Santa Letters*

We wrote our Santa letters as part of our Literacy work. We made sure that we used capital letters, finger spaces, full stops and super neat handwriting! We then posted them in the magical Christmas Post Box in school. We hope he reads them and replies soon!





### *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, Class 2 and Class 3 begin their phonics sessions at 8.45 am and Class 4 and Class 5 begin their challenge time activities at 8.45 am.

We also have co-ordination programmes, reading/maths/speech and language interventions and lego therapy running at that time. Thank you so much to parents/carers for your continued support.

### *Holidays in Term Time*

Our school attendance last year decreased to 95%. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is National Average and therefore now slightly below. Ofsted evaluate school attendance and a low attendance can affect school's Ofsted judgements. We continue to see a large increase in requests for holidays in term time. 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. Thankyou for your support

### *Texts/Mail*

We regularly send texts/mail to parents with details of events happening in school or just reminders. Please notify school if you haven't received any texts/mail in the last month. 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*

Tue 13<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christingle Service  
2pm

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christmas  
Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day

Thur 15<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christmas Party

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec- Elf Run for St  
Cuthberts Hospice

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Dec- End of Term

Thur 5<sup>th</sup> Jan- Children return to  
school

Further letters will follow about  
different events.

### *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

### *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.

### *Christmas Cards of Hope for Care Homes*

This week class 3 enjoyed making Christmas cards for care homes in the local area. Each child made a card which will give make someone in a care home smile.







### **Decorating the School Christmas Tree**

*UNCRC Article 31 – take part in a range of cultural activities.*

We had a lovely assembly this morning, decorating and switching on the lights of our whole school Christmas tree. We all had the opportunity to put a decoration on and then watched Lily and Mrs Lee turn the lights on. Mrs Lee then read us a lovely Christmas story.





