



Newsletter

November 2020

We are now well into the autumn term and are very proud of how our children are focussed on their learning and are making lots of great progress. Where teachers notice any gaps in learning, they may ask for your help if they feel that your child may benefit from additional support in a specific area at home. Your help is invaluable. Equally, if you have any concerns or queries, do let us know.

All staff in school are working incredibly hard to support children's learning and keep them safe. As you can imagine, the current situation increases demands on staff due to the extra cleaning, handwashing and routines that are necessary so that we do not mix bubbles of children. We are at times doing this without full staffing levels, due to the requirements of self-isolation. I feel very lucky to work with a dedicated and committed staff team who always pull together and step in to offer support to ensure the children are well looked after and receive quality teaching and learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our staff team. It's much appreciated!

Mrs Nelson



Remembrance Day

We marked Remembrance Day on 11th November this week by observing the 2 minute silence in school and reflecting on the sacrifices made by our armed forces.

Mrs Lofthouse also took four Year 6 children to the cenotaph on the 11th to lay a wreath on behalf of school.

Children enjoyed creating thoughtful poppy art which you might see on some of our windows.



Governor Elections

Thank you to all candidates in the recent Parent Governor Elections and to all parents who voted. We can confirm that Emma Walton and Dawn Dickinson have been elected as Parent Governors, for a term of 4 years.



Just a note to let you know that we raised £102 for Young Minds when we held the 'HelloYellow' day last half term. Thank you for your contributions.



Feeding Families is a north east charity which helps our local communities where people are in need of food. We were delighted with the many donations we received for Harvest. As explained in the previous newsletter, we are now preparing for our Christmas collection. On the calendars below, we have suggested specific items on certain days. However, please feel free to contribute on any day if this is more manageable.

We understand this is a difficult time of year, particularly for those directly affected by COVID. Please only contribute if you are able. Also, remember that you can apply to Feeding Families to receive a Christmas hamper if you are in need. Go to <https://feedingfamilies.org.uk/receive> for more information.

November Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Tinned vegetables Tinned soup	17 Baked beans Tinned spaghetti	18 Cooking sauce Pasta	19 Tinned tuna Tinned meats	20 Part-baked bread Chocolate spread	21
22	23 Hand wash shampoo shower gel	24 Jam Marmalade Peanut butter	25 Gravy granules Custard	26 Breakfast cereal	27 Coffee Tea	28
29 Chocolate Sweets	30					

December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Festive cake Mince pies	2 Chocolate biscuits Savoury biscuits	3 UHT juice Squash	4 White sauce Christmas pudding	5

Christmas Festivities

As I'm sure you'll understand, Christmas will look very different in school this year. Whilst many of the activities we usually look forward to will not take place, including the traditional Nativity, we are planning alternative activities and approaches.

- **Whole School recorded performance** – All classes will work in their own bubbles to tell us about Christmas in different countries around the world. We'll then record this and link each class contribution together. We're also planning a prestigious premier event for the children in school, where they will get to watch the full whole school recording – there may even be an award ceremony! The Christmas recording will then be shared with parents.
- **Christmas Parties** – Parties will take place in the hall in single class bubbles this year, as follows:

Nursery	Friday 18 th December (am)
Reception	Wednesday 16 th December (am)
Year 1	Thursday 17 th December (am)
Year 2	Tuesday 15 th December (am)
Year 3	Tuesday 15 th December (pm)
Year 4	Friday 11 th December (pm)
Year 5	Monday 14 th December (pm)
Year 6	Thursday 17 th December (pm)



- **Christmas Lunch** – We are looking forward to Christmas lunch on Wednesday 9th December. We'll have lunch in classrooms (KS2) or the hall (Rec, KS1) as we do now.

Please note that dates may be subject to change, depending on COVID factors.

Training Day – Monday 30th November

Just a reminder that school will be CLOSED on Monday 30th November for a staff training day.

Picking up – Help us to keep everyone safe

Could we please remind all parents to keep **at least 2 metres apart** from people you do not live with when picking children up at the end of the day. Where you cannot stay 2 metres apart, it is advised you take extra steps to stay safe such as wearing a face covering.

- Arrive at the designated gate within the specific time slot. Please avoid arriving **before** or **after** the time slot as this leads to too many people waiting
- Keep social distance from others that are waiting
- Leave the area as soon as your child is collected



School holidays 2020-2021

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
Training Day Monday 30th November	Friday 27 th November 2020	Tuesday 1 st December 2021
Christmas 2020	Friday 18 th December 2020	Monday 4 th January 2021
Spring half term	Friday 12 th February 2021	Monday 22 nd February 2021
Easter 2021	Friday 26 th March 2021	Monday 12 th April 2021
May Day 2021	Friday 30 th April 2021	Tuesday 4 th May 2021
Summer half term 2021	Thursday 27 th May 2021	Monday 7 th June 2021
Summer 2021	Friday 16 th July 2021	TBC