



Hunton & Arrathorne Community Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 5th December 2025

Dear Parents,

It has been another wonderful week. Alongside lots of learning in classrooms, our oldest children represented our school in a Sports hall Athletics competition and came in an astonishing FIRST PLACE! What a super example of excelling! Year 6 have also created Christmas cards to share in the village, whilst Year 4 worked hard delivering them. It is great to get out into our village and hopefully continue to achieve one of our aims, 'to make our village smile'.

When Monday comes, we will officially be in the final fortnight before Christmas. Our nativity performances of 'The King is Born' often feel like the start of the celebrations in school and definitely helps with the festive feeling. We have seen some of the rehearsals and the audience are in for a real treat! We also have our Christmas Lunch to look forward to next Friday – as well as a visit from Chris from Open Door Art. There is lots to look forward to next week!

Have a good weekend.

Mr. Donaldson & Mr. Cope

Nativity Trail

Reception and Key Stage 1 are looking forward to presenting 'A King is Born' next Wednesday at 2pm and 6pm. Letters have been sent to all families – if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

The children have been working very hard in preparation for the performances – thank you for your support at home. We hope to see many of you next week at the event.

Christmas Post

Our Christmas post-box will be in operation from Monday, with some hard-working Year 6 elves operating the sorting office. Please make sure cards have children's name and class clearly written on the envelope. We encourage all children to use the post-box to minimise disruption to learning and ensure all cards get to their intended recipients!

Governors' Corner

I visited school last week to meet the SENDCo, Mrs Cromeys-Hawke. She showed me round the school and it was a pleasure to see all the children working hard and using a variety of resources independently to support their learning. The staff work hard to make sure that the individual needs of the children are met wherever possible.

*Louise Wyatt
LEA Governor*

Let's Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

	Mrs. Dozey	Mrs. Hollocks	Mr. Donaldson	Mrs. Tunmore	Miss Weeks	Mrs. Kawai-Calderhead	Mr. Cope				
Care – Aspire – Excel Awards	Elizabeth	Lottie	Amelia C	Finn	Abi	Evie	Abi				
	Robin Class (Rec/Y1)	Kingfisher Class (Y1 & Y2)		Goldfinch Class (Y3)	Partridge Class (Y4 & Y5)		Woodpecker Class (Y6)				
Curriculum Award	Thomas	Ava		Esmae	Henry W		River				
Aims Award	Amelia	Edward		Erin	Lacie		Joey				
Team Points	Middleham										
Presentation Prize	Nancy										
Golden Spoon	Ralph										
Monarch	River										
Tidy Class	Kingfisher										

Visit Payments

Please remember that next installments / final payments are due for the Year 5 and 6 residential to Carlton Lodge or the Year 3 / 4 day-trip to London over the coming weeks. Please make these via ParentPay, or speak to Mr. Cope or Mr. Donaldson if you are having difficulty in making the payments.

Attendance and Lateness

The number of children arriving at school late has reduced in the last two weeks. Thank you for your continued support in this. Attendance letters will be sent home next week to families where overall attendance / punctuality is a concern.

Diary Dates

Please keep checking the dates below as some may change at short notice!

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Monday 8 th December	Christmas Post-box Opens	All	Information sent
Wednesday 10 th December	'A King is Born' Nativity @ 2.00 & 6.00pm	REC-Y2	Information sent
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Lunch	All	Information sent
Tuesday 16 th December	Pantomime @ Darlington Hippodrome	All	Information sent
Wednesday 17 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church – 6.00pm	All	Information sent
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Party	All	Information sent
Friday 19 th December	School Closes for Christmas Holiday	All	See newsletter
Monday 5 th January	School Closed – CPD Day	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 6 th January	School Opens	All	See newsletter
Thursday 8 th January	Y3/4 Parliament Visit	Y3/4	Information sent
Thursday 12 th February	Richmond Station Art Exhibition	All	Information to follow
Friday 13 th February	School Closes for Half Term	All	See newsletter
Monday 23 rd February	School Opens	All	See newsletter
26 th – 27 th February	Y5/6 Residential to Carlton Lodge	Y5/6	Information sent

Around the Classes....

Robin Class: This week we have enjoyed our key text, 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. We have been thinking about our own versions, and what astonishing animals we might find on our hunt. We have been sequencing the story of what happens. The children loved the 'Farming Christmas Quest'; finding out all about farm life at Christmas time and why farmers are so important! In Maths, we have been looking at subitising numbers, and counting amounts up to 10 adding decorations onto our tree! We have started Christmas crafts and how far away our Nativity is too!

Kingfisher Class: It has been a very busy week in Year 1 and Year 2! In Maths, we have continued to investigate subtraction – with Year 1 developing their skills of taking away within 20 and Year 2 learning to take away in multiples of 10. In English, we have continued to create our own stories based on 'Billy the Beast'. We've also been showing off our learning from this term in some assessments and have worked very hard! We've even found plenty of time to squeeze in some rehearsals for the Christingle and 'A King is Born'. Please send any costumes from home in by Monday – we can't wait to share it with you!

Goldfinch Class: We had a festive start to the week, preparing for our upcoming Christingle Service where we hope many of you can join us. And of course, Sedrick the Elf joined us; however, he's a very kind elf! We have also had fun practicing our times tables using Times Tables Rockstars, please encourage this at home as this will help the children in the near future. In Maths, we have delved deeper into arithmetic and reasoning as the children have worked hard completing their end of term assessments whilst in History, we have explored Marie Curie and learned more about why she was a great history maker. And finally, feel free to check our French knowledge, ask us some colour names in French!

Partridge Class: Partridge Class have worked incredibly hard this week, completing their assessments and showcasing how far they've come in only a term! The children also had a lovely night getting into the festive spirit at Film Night on Wednesday. In Music, we learnt about four composers through song and created rhythmic chants to accompany their names... See if they can remember all four of them!

Woodpecker Class: Our Year 6 children have really aspired and excelled this week in many ways! On Monday, we began rehearsals for the Christingle Service, with each of them really stepping up and volunteering for individual lines as well as singing solos! Throughout the week, we have been completing our assessments for the Autumn Term in Reading and Maths – again, the children have really persevered and showed great determination to show off what they have learned so far this year. And finally, the children were brilliant on Wednesday morning during the Sportshall Athletics competition where, as always, they did themselves and the school proud.

Safeguarding Reminders

Mr. Sam Donaldson is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mr. Gavin Cope is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mrs. Louise Wyatt is the Safeguarding Link Governor.

If you have worries or concerns about a pupil, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the people named above, in confidence.