



Dear Parents,

With the Christmas Fair on the horizon, the excitement of the next four weeks of festivities is looming. Hopefully you have had chance to digest the information and add it to calendars! A reminder that visits are unable to go ahead without enough parent contributions, so please do check your Parent Pay account. We have both been lucky enough to spend time visiting English and Maths lessons this week, and the children and staff continue to make us very proud. We hope you will enjoy absorbing the brilliant atmosphere if you join us for our 'Big Read' on Monday.

In the excitement of returning to school last week, we forgot to say 'hello and welcome' to Esmae and Annie who joined Kingfisher Class last week, and Chloe who has joined our Reception class. They have settled in brilliantly and I am sure they will be very happy at our school.

Finally, the children will spend some time this afternoon completing a 'Children in Need themed' activity during PSHE lessons; a big well done to our Pupil Leadership Team who organised this for the rest of the school. If anyone wishes to donate to Children in Need, there is a link available on Parent Pay.

Mr. Donaldson & Mr. Cope

Christmas Fair

Our **Christmas Fair** will take place next Wednesday from 3.30-4.30pm. Don't forget your child can bring two **chocolate bars** to school on Monday (one to enjoy, and one to donate!). We'd also be grateful of any **cake donations** – please send them into school on Wednesday morning if you are able to.

Open Evening

Our second open afternoon for prospective new starters is on Monday from 3.30-4.30pm. Please spread the word!

'The Big Read'

'The Big Read' will take place on Monday from 9.00-9.30. Parents welcome to join the fun!

No Nuts Please

A reminder that we are a 'Nut Aware' school. We have several pupils with nut allergies and nuts should not be sent into school as part of packed-lunches or snacks. If children do bring them to school, staff will ask them not to consume them until they are back at home. Thank you for your support in this important aspect of safeguarding.

Let's Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

	Mrs. Dozēy	Mrs. Tunmore	Mr. Cope	Mrs. Hollocks	Miss Weeks	Mrs. Kawai-Calderhead	Mr. Donaldson
Above & Beyond <i>(Care – Aspire – Excel)</i>	Sebby	Austin	Rafe	Annie	Abi	Grace	Esmae
	Robin Class (Rec / Y1)		Kingfisher Class (Y2)		Partridge Class (Y4/5)		Woodpecker Class (Y6)
Curriculum Award	Ava	Lucas	Esmae		Faye	Barnaby	
Aims Award	Teddy	Aggie	Henry S		Grace E	Amelia	
Team Points	Middleham						
Tidy Classroom	Robin Reception						
Golden Spoon	Rose F						
Monarch	Poppy						

Diary Dates

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

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Monday 18 th November	Chocolate Day	All	Information sent
Monday 18 th November	'Big Read' with Parents – 9.00am	All	Information sent
Monday 18 th November	Open Evening for September 2025 Starters	All	See newsletter
Wednesday 20 th November	Christmas Fair	All	Information sent
Monday 2 nd December	Y4/5/6 Sportshall Athletics Competition	Y4/5/6	Information to follow
Wednesday 4 th December	'The Wriggly Nativity' @ 2pm and 6pm	R/Y1	Information sent
Friday 6 th December	'French Open' Afternoon for Y2-Y6 – 2.30pm	Y2-Y6	Information sent
Monday 9 th December	Christmas Film Night	All	Information to follow
Tuesday 10 th December	Reception 'Drawing Club' Session for Parents	Rec	Information sent
Wednesday 11 th December	'Sleeping Beauty' @ Darlington Hippodrome	All	Information sent
Thursday 12 th December	H&A Museum	All	Information sent
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 18 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church – 6pm	All	Information sent
Friday 20 th December	School Closes for Christmas Holiday	All	See newsletter
Monday 6 th January	School Closed – CPD Day	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 7 th January	School Opens – Spring 1	All	See newsletter
Wed 5 th – Thu 6 th February	London Residential	Y5/6	Information sent
Mon 3 rd – Tue 4 th March	Y2/3/4 Stargazing Residential	Y2/3/4	Information sent

Around the Classes...

Robin Class (Reception): We started the week remembering the fallen soldiers and following a two minute silence at 11am. We also looked at why the Poppy is significant and created our own remembrance display. On Wednesday, we noticed something strange in our classroom and immediately had to investigate! We noticed a 'crime scene'! A broken chair, an empty bowl with some porridge remains and some blonde hair.....who could it be? We made some wanted posters to warn the rest of the school Goldilocks might be around the school! In Drawing club our story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' has continued our interest in the Three Bears and our topic 'Astonishing Animals' where we have been immersed in the story. In Maths we have been looking at comparing and noticing equal amounts and again have used our Goldilocks and the Three Bears story as a hook to make learning exciting and meaningful.

Robin Class (Year 1): We started off with a Remembrance assembly to show respect to all the fallen soldiers. Maths has seen us deepen our addition knowledge through number sentences about 'Mr Grumpy!' We are enjoying the number bond chant! History has started investigating 'Who is the Greatest Explorer?' We began by finding out all about Ranulph Fiennes. The Boom Whackers made an appearance in music this week! And Nativity songs are emerging, proving very exciting.

Kingfisher Class: This week, the Kingfishers have been writing leaflets all about Planet Earth, explaining some of the problems faced but also some of the solutions. This was based on our story 'Dear Earth' which the children have thoroughly enjoyed! Maths has seen us developing our column subtraction skills but also solving problems with our number skills. In History, we continued to explore the Ancient Egyptians, considering the role of archaeologists in helping us learn about the past and the children have definitely been 'inquisitive' about our new topic. Another great week, well done to all!

Partridge Class: Well done for another brilliant week Partridges! In Maths, we explored factors by drawing our own factor bugs with chalk on the yard, investigating how many factors of different numbers we could find. The children have also created their own merfolk creator book to develop characters for their final story! In History, we began our WWII unit and the children showed great enthusiasm as we investigated why Britain had to go to war in 1939. They have been extremely creative this week, as always!

Woodpecker Class: Another wonderful week in Year 6! This week we have begun our new learning in Maths and really got to grips with fractions – particularly simplifying fractions and converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions! Our work linked to our text, 'How to Save a Tiger' has resulted in us creating some brilliant persuasive phrases, whilst consolidating our understanding of suffixes. In PE we have been thrilled to develop our netball skills and we enjoyed finding our 'How do we know so much about Ancient Greece?' to launch our History learning.

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.