



Dear Parents,

Another busy week in school! This week, we had our annual trip to Darlington Hippodrome – this time to watch ‘Sleeping Beauty’. We all had a fantastic time – we are always so proud to take our pupils out of school and see their excellent behaviour, and watch them have lots of fun! It was also a pleasure to welcome parents into school for both our ‘Drawing Club’ session on Tuesday, and our ‘H&A Museum’ yesterday. The children loved sharing their learning with you, and we must thank our brilliant teaching team for working so hard in preparing the showcases.

The end of term is fast approaching, and it has been very busy. Next week, we will finish for the Christmas holiday with our Christingle service at St. Patrick’s Church, Patrick Brompton on Wednesday, and our Christmas Party on Thursday. Children are welcome to wear their own clothes on Thursday for the party. Have a lovely weekend!

Mr. Donaldson & Mr. Cope

Staffing Update

Next week we say ‘goodbye and good luck’ to Miss Hayden and Miss Beer, who come to the end of their teaching placement with us. They will move to a new school in January, and we wish them lots of luck!

Sadly, Mrs. Walker has also informed us of her decision to leave her role as SENDCo in January. Some of you may know that Mrs. Walker retired from her role in another school, as a Deputy Headteacher, in July. After a few months rest, she has decided retirement is not for her and will begin a new full-time post as a SEND Officer for a charity in Sunderland in the New Year. We thank her for all she has done and hope she keeps in touch.

The good news is that Mrs. Cromey-Hawke will return to as SENDCo (a role she previously held until 2023). In fact, Mrs. Cromey-Hawke established many of the successful systems we have in school to support SEND pupils today, and knows our pupils well. She was also instrumental in our successful OfSTED inspection and we are very lucky to have her return to us and continue to aspire for the best outcomes for our SEND pupils. Mrs. Cromey-Hawke and Mrs. Walker will hand over responsibilities early after the Christmas holidays.

Let’s Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

	Mrs. Dozey	Mrs. Tunmore	Mr. Cope	Mrs. Hollocks	Miss Weeks	Mrs. Kawai-Calderhead	Mr. Donaldson
Above & Beyond <i>(Care – Aspire – Excel)</i>	Ava	Aggie	Lucas	Bernard	River	Sophie	Max C
	Robin Class (Rec / Y1)		Kingfisher Class (Y2)		Partridge Class (Y4/5)		Woodpecker Class (Y6)
Curriculum Award	Seb M	Bertie	Tilly		Evie		Fiona
Aims Award	Siena	William M	<i>Margot D</i>		<i>Holly</i>		Max
Team Points	Richmond						
Tidy Classroom	Woodpeckers						
Golden Spoon	Indiaana						
Monarch	Amelia Mc						

Polite Reminders

We'd be really grateful with your support with the following:

-Please ensure that, once you collect your children from school - or if you have younger siblings waiting with you – that you supervise them on the playground. We'd also appreciate you exiting the site as soon as possible so we can lock the gates to secure the site for Wraparound Club.

-We've noticed a slight increase in the number of pupils not wearing school uniform. Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform for school each day.

Diary Dates

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

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Wednesday 18 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church – 6pm	All	Information sent
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Party	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
Monday 14 th January	Y5/6 Residential Meeting – 4.30pm	Y5/6	Information sent
Tuesday 21 st January	Skip2bFit	All	See newsletter
Wednesday 22 nd January	Parent Open Morning – Reception Phonics	REC	Information to follow
Thursday 30 th January	Y2/3/4 Residential Meeting – 4.30pm	Y2/3/4	Information to follow
Wed 5 th – Thu 6 th February	London Residential	Y5/6	Information sent
Wednesday 26 th February	Spring Concert – 9.00am	All	Information to follow
Mon 3 rd – Tue 4 th March	Y2/3/4 Stargazing Residential	Y2/3/4	Information sent
W/C Monday 10 th March	Book Week	All	Information to follow
Thursday 3 rd April	Easter Labyrinth	All	Information to follow

Around the Classes...

Robin Class (Reception): We thoroughly enjoyed holding our Drawing Club open morning to share a sneak peek into our Drawing Club adventures. Each week, we have a themed text, vocabulary and a progression of drawing across the week including characters, a setting and adventure days using our special codes to change the picture! It was lovely to see the children enjoying showing this to you and the energy and excitement in the room was joyous! The Pantomime was a highlight of the week where the children were a credit to our school, following our golden rules whilst having fun!

Robin Class (Year 1): The fun festivities have really stepped up this week. The pantomime was a fabulous treat and the children cared, aspired and excelled with their behaviours. A real pleasure taking them on a special trip. We consolidated our history topic 'Who is the Greatest Explorer?' in time for the H&A Museum visit. The children have worked really hard in their Autumn 2 phonic assessments and we ended the week with a delicious Christmas lunch.

Kingfisher Class: We have had a brilliant week in Kingfisher Class with a real mix of 'hard work' and 'Christmas fun'. In Maths, we have moved onto our multiplication unit, counting in various multiples, whilst in History we completed our Ancient Egypt study by considering whether Ancient Egyptian artefacts should be kept in British museums or returned to their native country. It was lovely to welcome so many of you to our H&A Museum and the children loved showing off some of their learning as well as competing in the 'Pyramid Challenge'! Wednesday saw our annual visit to Darlington Hippodrome for 'Sleeping Beauty'; the children had a wonderful time and were, as always, such great ambassadors for our school.

Partridge Class: Partridge Class have had a brilliant, festive week, as we get closer to the end of this term. We had a lovely time delivering Christmas cards around the village, the children loved giving to others and spreading Christmas cheer! They have also thoroughly enjoyed their annual trip to the pantomime on Wednesday to watch Sleeping Beauty. They continued their fabulous work in Maths exploring angles and continued learning more about The Tempest in English.

Woodpecker Class: Year 6 have had a fantastic week and are very much looking forward to sharing their handbell arrangement next Wednesday – we hope you'll join us for the Christingle. We have enjoyed our English lessons, focussing on our new text 'The Boy in the Tower'. We've become journalists this week and written newspaper articles! In Maths, we continue to focus on calculating with fractions and finding fractions of amounts. Well done, Year 6!

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.