

East Boldon Infant School

Newsletter



November 2019

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope all of the children and parents had a wonderful, relaxing half term break! I certainly think it was needed after all of the sickness bugs and coughs and colds that were around us all. Hopefully we are all fit and well ready to succeed in the next half term, which is always a busy one as we have the run up to Christmas. Please note all of the diary dates below for all of the festivities!

Can I take this opportunity to thank all parents/carers for their donations and attendance to our Harvest Festival. Jo, from the Key Project was particularly overwhelmed by the generosity of our community and at each event I feel immensely proud. Our Year 1's led the service brilliantly after such a short start and the whole school singing was lovely!

This term ahead continues to be a busy one in school. As a staff team we are working on enhancing our curriculum through our Learning Challenge curriculum. This works on the idea of a Key Question, linked to the theme of learning. It helps the children to develop their deeper learning, thinking and questioning about the topics (we all know children love to ask questions!) and this is what we are keen to develop. Alongside this we continue to encourage the children to be power learners and resilient in their learning. We all know that sometimes we find things a bit tricky, but we want to instil in our young children, that this is ok and we can work together to achieve great things!

Alongside our curriculum we also look at ways we can enhance our curriculum even further. Our Key Stage 1 children will access Open Zone @ The Word in South Shields this term which allows us to give our children wonderful Computing experiences—use of the Green Screen, Robots, Programming, Debugging.....it really does allow us to build upon our work in school brilliantly. Reception have a visit to The Beacon of Light in Sunderland for a Nursery Rhyme festival, full of activities alongside other schools and Jack, our coach will be there to assist! Some of our Year 2 children will represent their year group in a gymnastics competition at Temple Park, showcasing the skills they have been working on across this term and Year 1 have a Tennis Festival at Boldon School! We have also been very lucky to secure an Author visit into school as part of the Northern Book Festival. Reading is always a huge priority and the joy of reading and sharing a book with young children is so important so we are thrilled we were able to secure this visit into school—more details with follow.

We continue on our Kindness mission too! Our Kindness Team in school will be on a mission to spread Kindness into the community...watch this space!! Particularly at this time of the year, spreading a little kindness is free, and can mean so much to another person! Here's to an exciting term ahead! As always, if I can be of assistance please do not hesitate to pop in and see me or make an appointment. Best Wishes,
Miss Holt

A few Diary Dates coming up...

- Friday November 8th Tempest Photography in school for individual photographs.
- W/B 5th/ 11th/ 18th November –Parents' Evenings in school.
- W/B 11th November—Anti Bullying Week—activities in school all week.
- Monday 11th November—Year 2, Class 4 to The Word
- Friday 15th November—Kalma Kids Yoga in school working with all classes
- Monday 18th November—Author visit in school all day
- Wednesday 20th November—Reception to The Beacon of Light (am)
- Wednesday 20th November 4pm—New Reception Starters Parents Evening (2020 intake)
- Friday 22nd November—Non Uniform Day for the PTA (details to follow)
- Monday 25th November—Year 1 to The Word (one class am, one class pm)
- Wednesday 27th November Year 1 to Tennis Festival at Boldon School (pm)

Christmas is coming.....

- Monday 2nd December –Toy Service led by Year 2 children at St George's Church 2.15pm
- *Thursday 5th December—PTA Christmas Fair 3.45–5.45 in school (details to follow)*
- Monday 9th December Reception and Year 1 Christmas Play 2.15pm St George's Church
- Tuesday 10th December—Reception and Year 1 Christmas Play 2.15pm St George's Church
- Wednesday 11th December— Y2 Gymnastics Competition at Temple Park
- Monday 16th December—Year 2 Christmas Sing-a-long 2.15pm St George's Church
- Monday 16th December—Reception and Year 1 entertained by 'The clumsiest Christmas!' (in school)
- Tuesday 17th December— Christmas Dinner in school
- Wednesday 18th December—Children's Christmas Parties pm in school
- **Thursday 19th December—School finishes for Christmas Holidays!**
- **Friday 20th December—INSET Day—school closed for children**

Miss Holt loves a quote!

“Greatness lies not in being strong, but in the right use of strength”
Henry Ward Beecher



Parent Teacher Association

At the termly meeting for the PTA we were presented with an amazing £6,100 for our school. I really feel it is important to share with you all exactly where this money will be spent as you have all contributed to its amount. In times where all school's budgets are tight, this additional money is much appreciated, to allow us to do things that sometimes takes time to achieve—so thank you to all parents/carers—even buying that one raffle ticket, or contributing to a disco can mean a lot comes back to us as a school—Thank you! So, our first plan is to work with Mr Orr to develop the lower end of our Reception garden area. This will become a Sensory Garden, with different textures and smells through flooring and planting. It will also offer a nice outdoor space for any children needing a little area of calm. We have scheduled our Author Visit in school to be paid with the PTA money as this will benefit all of the children with an amazing experience as well as contributing to additional resources in school. Finally—although not fully planned at the moment, we want to provide a ‘reading area’ for the children in the school yard, a nice den for those children wanting a bit of down time to chill and read! Watch this space. we are looking for weather proof inspiration!



Our annual Christmas Fair is taking place on Thursday 5th December in school 3.45-5.45. Please join us!

Information Sharing at Parents Evenings

As always, your child's education is a partnership between home and school. Continuing on from last year, we will be sending home a short target slip with you at parents evenings this year. This will just give a few helpful pointers to help your child improve in the key areas of Reading, Writing and Maths across the rest of the term. It will also have your child's attendance on for the term up to that point, for your reference. Parent's Evenings are informative and supportive, and feedback from parents last year was really positive—we hope you find them useful to support you to best support your child. Many thanks.

Reading at Home

As discussed at our Parent Workshops, reading at home is so important to support the work taking place in school. A little bit of reading each night, massively supports your child, giving them increasing confidence and fluency. As well as phonic skills and blending, reading words ‘on sight’ that can not be decoded, helps children with the fluency of their reading. The key words are sent home often with your child. Please note any reading you do with your child in their reading diary – partnership is key! Thank you!

Pennies for Pudsey!

To support Children in Need this year, we are shouting out for any pennies for Pudsey! Any pennies or pounds can be sent into school on Friday 15th November and will be forwarded on to the charity. Children will be in school uniform this day, but Pudsey ears, badges, deely boppers will be most welcome!

Highlights....

Thank you to all parents who attended our Parent Workshops this half term. We hope they were informative and gave you an insight into the learning this term. At our next Parent Workshops in the Spring Term, we aim for these to be a little more practical and hands on to help parents understand a little more about the learning taking place in class.

We celebrated a successful Harvest, with some very kind donations all of which will benefit homeless and disadvantaged youngsters in our local community..

Year 2 completed a Multiskills festival at Boldon School. They were fantastic and the behaviour was noted as excellent across the afternoon. Well done Year 2's!

Well Done to Class 3 who enjoyed a celebration breakfast on the last day of term for the highest attendance across the term! A piece of toast... a drink of juice to say well done! Mrs Munslow was very happy! As was Miss Holt when a delicious bagel appeared on her desk—thank you for your act of kindness Class 3!

Remembrance Day 2019

We feel it is really important to share with the children the importance of ‘Poppy Day’. It is certainly a big part of our ‘British Values’ and we will be talking with the children about this in simple terms they understand. We will also hold a one minutes silence on Monday 11th November in assembly with the children.



Sadly, we have not been able to offer poppies in school this year. However each class will be making poppies to decorate our entrance way into school

Friends of East Boldon Parks are also planning a beautiful display in our community. Already some beautiful poppies are on display in the area.



For anyone who doesn't mind a short journey to Seaham...there is also a beautiful display of poppies along the seafront with names of servicemen/women inscribed. A visit to Seaham is not complete without seeing Tommy too! Lovely discussion points for the children too!