



## Newsletter November 2014

We can't believe it is November already! Our year four children's parents will by now have applied for their middle school places, and now it is the turn of our nursery parents! All nursery parents need to apply for school places, even though their children are in our nursery. You can do so online (details should be received through the post) or on paper. Contact Mrs McCann if you are unsure. The admissions window opens today until 15th January.

### Poppy Appeal

From Monday 3rd November there will be a selection of items for sale in support of this year's Poppy Appeal as well as the usual poppies. The items are priced at £1 or 50p. There is a range of items that we are sure will appeal to the children, such as pencils, erasers, key rings, and wrist bands, so if you would like to support his years appeal, please send your chosen amount into school with your child so they can chose from the items available.



### Clothing

Can we please ask that all children have outdoor coats (suitable for getting wet and muddy!) available in school every day? Also hats and gloves as the weather is changing! We will be out and about regardless of the weather and would like the children to be suitably dressed. Another essential is a pair of wellington boots that can ideally stay in school so we can make the most of every opportunity. Having a spare set of clothes at school would also be really helpful.

As we do have occasions when we don't all have coats or wellies in school could we also ask that if you have items that are outgrown, would you be willing to donate these to school? Items such as outdoor coats, wellington boots, hats, scarves, gloves, trousers, socks? Thank you.



### Fireworks and bonfire!

All the Branton and Breamish children and their families have been invited to attend a bonfire and firework event this Saturday 8th November being hosted by the Percy Family at Calder Hill. Our children will be making a Guy to go on the bonfire.

It is a 6pm start and sausages and mulled wine will be available, donations for entry.

### Library Van

We are fortunate to have the library van visit once a fortnight on a Tuesday morning.

Could we please ask that the children return their library books to school by those Tuesday mornings so they can visit the van and choose books. All children should now have a library card in school so they can take part in this activity. Can Nursery children also return their Reading Records so we can make note of the books the children choose.

Visit dates this half term - 11th November, 25th November, 9th December.



## Gymnastics

From January our reception to Year 4 children will be travelling to Glendale Middle School on a Wednesday afternoons (replacing swimming) to take part in a Gymnastics lesson that will be led by Sam Dronsfield. Sam is an accomplished Gymnast who lives locally. He is keen to work with the children in his local community, so we thought this would be an excellent opportunity for our children.



## Visit to Alnwick Gardens



On Tuesday 16th December we will be visiting Alnwick Gardens. We will arrive for a 10.30 start and take part in an activity and a 'visit'. We are sure our children will thoroughly enjoy themselves on this magical Winter Wonderland Adventure! More information will be sent out nearer the time.

## PTA Coffee Morning

Our 'Friends of Branton First School' are holding a coffee morning at Glendale Hall, Cheviot Street, Wooler, on Saturday 20th December at 10am. They would be very grateful for anyone who is able to help on the morning, so if you are available, please contact Abi Wilson, Helen Cowens or Coco Oates.



They would also be very grateful for donations of raffle and tombola prizes which can be sent into school at any time leading up to the end of term. There will also be a cake stall, so donations of cakes would be gratefully received, either the day before or on the morning at the hall (setting up).

## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th November Parents consultations (Reception to Y4)

Friday 14th November Children in Need-come as your 'Hero', real or imaginary!

Wednesday 3rd December Sharing assembly 10 am followed by refreshments

Thursday 11th December dress rehearsal of our performance, at the Breamish Hall

Friday 12th December Christmas Concert 6pm Breamish Hall

Monday 15th December Christmas Lunch, nursery 11.30 - 12.00 with pick up at 12 please, reception to year 4 and guests 12 (ish!)

Tuesday 16th December Visit to Alnwick Gardens (10.00 - 12.30 am) and Christmas Party in the afternoon all children welcome to stay all day, nursery pick up at 3pm.

Wednesday 17th December final swim at Rothbury

Thursday 18th December Christmas Carol service at Ingram Church 10 am and final football session with Trident Soccer

Friday 19th December 'come as you please', 'toy day', school closes at 2.15 pm.

Saturday 20th December PTA coffee morning at Glendale Hall, Wooler

Sunday 21st December Christingle Service at Ingram Church.

Monday 5th January Training day, school closed.

Tuesday 6th January school reopens at 9 am.



*The Branton First School team*

*Find us at [www.branton.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.branton.northumberland.sch.uk)*