



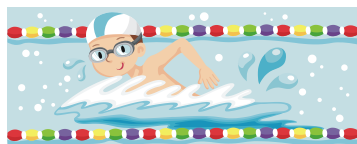
## Branton Community First School and Breamish Valley Nursery

### Newsletter January 2014

Welcome back!

A Happy New Year to you all!

The start of the New Year officially sees two new faces at Branton. I am honoured to be joining the school team as Acting Headteacher and Mrs Bone also joins the school team as a Teaching Assistant although she has long been associated with the school as a volunteer. We are hoping the weather is going to be kind to us so we can make a busy start to the New Year!

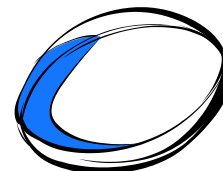


#### Swimming

We have decided to postpone the start of our swimming lessons until after half term as in previous years there have often been problems caused by adverse weather. We will hopefully be rearranging swimming, to begin after the February half term, and once the arrangements have been made we will let you know.

#### Rugby

Rugby is due to restart on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 10 am. All the children will need their full PE kits on that day as usual.



#### Text Messages

If there is a need to contact you in the future by text message, for example a school closure, the following phone number will be used, 07570 258867. We would be grateful if you could add this number to your contacts list so that should a message be sent out, you will know the message has come from school. This number is only for text messages and will not be used for calls.



#### School Lunches

To enable us to order and provide school lunches as required we would ask that you let Mrs McCann know the week before if there are any known changes. Could the parents of our new nursery children please also confirm whether or not they wish their child to stay for lunch on any or all the days they are in nursery?

#### Mother and Toddler Group

Mother and Toddler Group sessions are moving day and time! We apologise if this causes any inconvenience, however as swimming is not taking place this half term we need the classroom for the reception and nursery children. We are running the Mother and Toddler Group sessions on a **Monday afternoon at 1.30 - 3.00 pm**. We look forward to seeing you there! As previously, Miss Plunkett will be around to answer any questions.

## Telephone Tree

We are asking parents if they would agree to us setting up a telephone tree so that important messages could be passed on quickly to all the parents in the school. Please return the reply slip below to give your consent and also indicate which numbers you would prefer to be included as your main and second contact for your child or children.



## School Website

Just a reminder to please check the school website regularly for updated information and news items. There is also an important message alert on the homepage and any important messages will be posted there. If you think there is a possibility of school closure then please check our website for the latest information.

Find us at <http://www.branton.northumberland.sch.uk>

## And finally ...

You may have seen local press coverage with regard to a letter sent to schools from our new Director of Children's Services, Daljit Lally. This letter came in the wake of the Local Authority OfSTED inspection and the targeted inspections in some schools in Northumberland. In the months ahead schools and the Local Authority will work together to find a way forward and ensure the best educational provision for our children. We will endeavour to keep you informed of any developments.

*The Branton First School Team*

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### Parents' telephone tree

Childs name .....

Parents name .....

I agree / do not agree to my contact number being included in a telephone tree.

Please include the following phone numbers as the contacts for my child.

1. ....

2. ....

Signed .....

Date .....

