



Newsletter November 2015

We begin the second half of the autumn term on a much more positive note! It is lovely to see our children back at school, ready for another busy half term ahead, particularly in the last two weeks of the term!



Alnwick Partnership Consultation

We are all thrilled that the proposal for closure has been removed from the final recommendations to go to the committee meetings next week. We cannot thank you all enough for the fantastic support we have had. We realise that this isn't the main proposal our community put forward and fully appreciate the strength of support for the three tier system, however we are grateful to be given the opportunity to maintain education at Branton, and to begin to plan for our future. We will continue to further develop our working relationship with Glendale Middle and Wooler First as we still believe that that partnership is as crucial to us in the future as it is today to ensure the best educational provision for our children. We now hope that the recommendations put forward in this final report are passed by both committees next week. If they are, then the Statutory Notices will be issued on Thursday 12th November. If you have any comments or thoughts, please let us know.

Yoga stories

Mrs Kate Thompson will continue to work with Class 1 this half term with our yoga stories. Our older children in Class 2 had a taster session before half term and they too will begin Yoga Stories starting on Tuesday 3rd November. Therefore, on a Tuesday morning all of our children will need comfortable clothing such as joggers or leggings and a t-shirt, and a rug or blanket for relaxation. We ask that Class 2 (Years 1, 2, 3 and 4) bring their school uniform to change into after their yoga session.



The Goslings!

Our Parent, baby and toddler group runs on a Thursday morning during term time from 9.30 am to 11 am. Come along and have a chance to meet other parents and their children for an informal play date. Staff are always on hand to help and a healthy snack and drink are included. We look forward to welcoming you!

Community Day!

Last summer we had a fantastic turn out for our community tidy up day on our school field. This year we are hoping to venture into our Wildlife area and make preparations for our Forest School. So please come along, bring your tools, wheelbarrows and helpers for a busy day of tidying and clearing! Our PTA, the friends of Branton First School have kindly offered to keep us all warm by supplying hot soup and rolls. Any time you can spare to help out on the day would be fantastic! We look forward to seeing as many of you as can make it.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you all again for your fantastic support for our coffee morning. A fantastic **£198.01** was raised for Macmillan!



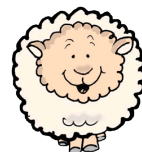
Children in Need



On Friday 13th November we will be fundraising for Children in Need. This years theme is 'Champions of Change', aiming to change lives for the better. We invite our children to dress up as they choose and bring a 'bear' friend to school so we can have a Pudsey Picnic! If all our children can bring in a small donation of food for our picnic, we can share it at our picnic during the morning (and probably in the afternoon too!).

Christmas Production

This year our Christmas Production will take place at the Breamish Hall on Friday 11th December. We are doing two performances, one at 2pm for our very youngest children and any members of the community who would rather come in the afternoon, and then the main performance with raffle and refreshments at 6pm. Further information will follow!



Christmas Carol Service

We have arranged our Christmas Carol Service to take place on **Friday 18th December at Eglington Church at 10 am**. We will arrange a larger bus that can accommodate all our children in school and nursery and hopefully see as many of you as possible there on the day and afterwards back at school for Christmas teas and coffees and mince pies!

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th November Parent-teacher meetings in school

Saturday 7th November Bonfire and Fireworks at Calder , 6.30 pm for 7pm start

Monday 9th November Scrutiny Committee Meeting 10am County Hall

Tuesday 10th November Cabinet Meeting 10 am County Hall

Thursday 12th November Statutory Notices issued with regard to the reorganisation of the Alnwick Partnership

Friday 13th November Children in Need day

Saturday 14th November Community Day on school field and wildlife area

Friday 27th November Community night out at Milan in Wooler

Tuesday 8th December Whole school visit to the Life Centre in Newcastle to visit the Planetarium

Thursday 10th December Dress rehearsal at Breamish Hall afternoon only, pick up from hall at 3.15pm please.

Friday 11th December Christmas Performances at 2pm and 6pm

Tuesday 15th December Visit to Alnwick Gardens a.m., Party Lunch and Christmas Party p.m.

Thursday 17th December Visit to Northern Stage to see 'Up and Out Christmas Sprout' and Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th December Carol Service at Eglington Church 10 am. School closes at **2 pm** for Christmas.

Monday 4th January Teacher Training Day School Closed

Tuesday 5th January School reopens at **9 am**

The Branton First School team

Find us at www.branton.northumberland.sch.uk and on Facebook