



Newsletter December 2014

Christmas will be here very shortly and what a busy last three weeks we have planned! There is a list of important dates at the end of this newsletter of events happening both in and out of school this month. A reminder to our Nursery parents that the application window for Reception places is now open and will remain open until 15th January.

The Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported this years Poppy Appeal.

An amazing £63.10 was raised in school.



Children in Need 2014

For Children in Need this year our children came to school dressed as their heroes, real or imaginary and looked wonderful! We had batman in various guises, Ellie Simmons, vets and other real and imaginary heroes at school that day! We raised a wonderful £47.40 for this years event. Thank you for all your support.

The Alnwick Partnership of schools

Colleagues in schools across the Alnwick Partnership meet on a regular basis to share information, good practice and ideas for improving outcomes for our children. Over the years, the topic of whether or not a different structure of school organisation would be beneficial to children in the Alnwick Partnership has come up and it was discussed again by colleagues at the partnership's recent meeting earlier this month, together with officers from the County Council. Therefore, on behalf of the community schools in the partnership, a recommendation is being made to the Council's Policy Board in December to approve consultation on a number of possible options for the organisation of schools in the Alnwick Partnership. If the consultation goes ahead, a consultation document with full details of these options would be made available to parents, staff and anyone else with an interest.



Christmas Production

Our Christmas production 'The Golden Egg' will take place on Friday 12th December at 6.30 pm at the Breamish Hall. Mrs Alison Lloyd-Harris has again penned a local masterpiece that our children will perform. (You may notice one or two local 'celebrities' mentioned during the performance!)

Miss Plunkett, Mrs Lillie and Mrs Thomson are busy with rehearsals and costumes, so please can all costumes be school by Monday 1st December so they can see if anything further is needed.

All parents should have received details, please get in touch if this hasn't arrived home.

Mrs McCann is selling tickets for the production, so ring, call in or send a message via your child if you would like tickets. Prices are £2.00 per adult and £1.00 per child. Everyone welcome!

Mrs Capper and Mrs Telford are supporting the school in organising mulled wine and mince pies, so do come along and join us for this well anticipated evening! Can we please ask that all our children are at the hall by 5.45 pm to get into costume and be ready to step into the spotlight!



Visit to Alnwick Gardens and Christmas Party



On the morning of 16th December we will be visiting Alnwick gardens (please see separate letter), returning to school for a party lunch and then having our Christmas Party in the afternoon. Our 'Goslings' Parent and Toddler group are welcome to join us for our party from 1.30 to 3.00 pm.

Christmas Carol Service



On Thursday 18th December we will be having a Christmas Carol Service at Ingram Church at 10 am. Please come along and join us for this end of term event. We will then be visiting Muddy Boots for an end of year treat and hope you will be able to join us for teas, coffees and mince pies!



Our 'Goslings' parent and Toddler group are welcome to join us for the Service and afterwards at Muddy Boots. If parents can let Mrs McCann know if you are able to attend so we can inform Muddy Boots of numbers. There will be no 'Goslings' group on that day.



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 before the end of term. There will also be a cake stall, so donations of cakes would be gratefully received, either the day before at school or on the morning at the hall (setting up usually begins around 9am).



Dates for your diary



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 6.30 pm Breamish Hall (Please note change of time)

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

Tuesday 16th December Visit to Alnwick Gardens (10.00 - 12.30 am) and Christmas Party p.m.

Wednesday 17th December final swim at Rothbury

Thursday 18th December Christmas Carol service at Ingram Church 10 am, 'Muddy Boots' end of term treat 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 3.30 pm.

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