

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 6th November 2015

Dear all,

I hope you were all able to enjoy some form of bonfire night yesterday, and that the rain didn't dampen the festivities too much! When I left school at 6ish, it was pretty torrential!

We've had a full first week back. The children of Class 1 have started a new topic, all about traditional tales. They've been building houses of straw for the three little pigs – much to 'delight' of our caretaker and cleaner! Meanwhile, in Class 2 and 3, the children have been doing some half termly progress assessments in English and Maths, whilst continuing their work on the Vikings. Class 2 have been learning about King Alfred and his love for reciting poetry, and will be doing some of this themselves next week. Class 3 have also been studying some really interesting RE, looking at the Holy Land, its location, history and heritage.

Another exciting event this week was a special birthday of 'Herbie'. Now, you've all encountered Herbie, even if you're not aware of it! Herbie is the County Caterers' mascot – a healthy carrot, who has been the symbol for North Yorkshire healthy food for 30 years! To celebrate, he came to visit us, and our wonderful cook, Mrs. Slack, baked him a special carrot cake (which Herbie kindly shared with the pupils!). A great bit of lunchtime fun. To parents whose children take packed lunches, I really do commend school dinners – Mrs. Slack is a fantastic cook (the staff will testify to that, we're often to be seen munching her food now!) who works really hard to adapt all her meals to the children's tastes. Food is cooked on site, healthy, locally sourced where possible and the menu is varied, so do consider whether your child would enjoy school dinners.



Interim Reports – you should be receiving your child's interim report today. We really believe these are valuable 'snapshots' of your child's learning, particularly the way in which they go about their studies. Research has shown that learning behaviours and dispositions have a huge impact on achievement, and these reports give you an insight into where your children's strengths are, and where they need to refine their skills. We would encourage you to work at home to develop children's weaker areas, as well as celebrating the areas in which they are strong. If you have any questions about these reports, feel free to raise them at parents' evening next week.

Uniform Order – just to say this has been sent, and should be here in 2 weeks' time. We'll let you know!

ParentPay Reminder – please can parents only pay for *school dinners* on parent pay, not juice and milk at present. The school is charged a transaction fee for every payment made by parents, so, if at all possible, please try to pay for dinners on a half termly basis, rather than weekly. This would be much appreciated. We welcome feedback on the system, please contact Mrs. Richmond via email if you have any suggestions / issues. Many thanks.

Children in Need – this unfortunately clashes with our Jorvik trip this year, however, we're still really eager to support this great cause. Our plan is for:

- Class 1 – to wear something spotty (!)
- Class 2 and 3 – to wear their own *trousers* only (ideally spotty!) and accessorise with spots (hair bands, handkerchiefs etc.!), but to wear school tops and jumpers. Obviously, this is required for the trip.

Please bring a donation towards Children in Need.

Photo Orders – hopefully you'll be receiving these today, (thanks to Mrs. Stanwix for co-ordinating yesterday afternoon!). Please note that the deadline is next Friday 13th November, and we cannot accept any orders after this date, since they are collected by courier. Many thanks.

Cake Baking Community Helpers! – a huge 'well done' to Lucy Taylor, Evie Walker, Emily Wallis, Cecelia Watson and Morgan Monteith. They baked 100 cakes which they offered to the residents of Ravensworth to raise money for the village defibrillator. They trekked around in horrendous weather and apparently not one of them complained. Residents also commented on what lovely manners the children had. They raised £100 towards the defibrillator and really showed how to live our values out. Well done girls!

Dates for the Diary: [After School Club this half term: Hockey, Tuesdays, 3:15-4:15pm]

Tuesday 10th November – Hockey Club starts

Wednesday 11th November – 3:30pm, Parents' Evening

Thursday 12th November – 5pm, Parents' Evening

Friday 13th November – GNAA Bag Collection 8:30am, Village Hall

Friday 13th November – Class 2/3 Trip to Jorvik (details to follow)

Wednesday 18th November – Class 1 Trip – Seven Stories, Letters to follow

Thursday 19th November – Guitar lessons recommence

Thursday 19th November – 3:15-5pm – Messy Church *please note, typo last newsletter, Thursday is 19th, not 18th as previously stated!

Looking Ahead...

Friday 27th November – 5-7pm, School Friends Christmas Disco (details to follow)

Thursday 3rd December – 5:30pm, Christingle in Church

Tuesday 15th December – 5pm Class 1 Nativity

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th December – Wear your Christmas Jumper Day, school closes **1pm**

And Finally...

Watching pre-school children having their photos taken (or at least, trying to be taken!) gives me a new respect for parents of 2 year olds. Wow, they can wriggle and scream! Every blessing,



Rob Campbell

