



# January 2019 Newsletter

14/01/2019

*All children and young people have a right to a primary education...Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education they are capable of. (Article 28, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child)*

**A belated Happy New Year to you all!! Thank you all so much for the cards and presents we received for Christmas. We are looking forward to a productive and fun year in school, working with you for the good of our children.**

## Advent Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported our Coppers for CAFOD appeal. With your help we managed to raise enough money to pay for Birth certificates for children in poor rural areas of Zimbabwe.

*When babies are born at home in poor, rural areas, it is too difficult to travel to register the birth. But a child without a birth certificate faces problems.*

*In Zimbabwe, for example, children without a birth certificate cannot go to school, take exams, apply for an ID card, vote, nor access many other basic essential services.*

*This charity gift of a Birth certificate is possibly the most valuable item a child could receive.*

## Staff changes

As you know, Mrs. Reid left at the end of the Autumn Term. Miss Cobon now works full time in Class 2 and Miss Wood has been appointed to take her place in class 1.

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Whiting back to school and would like to take this opportunity of thanking Miss Byrne who covered the Lunchtime Supervisory role in her absence. Mrs Whiting has also agreed to take on the role as our Administration Assistant on a Thursday and Friday afternoon in place of Mrs Hudson our Secretary.

## Parents of Year 6 children

**This is obviously a very important term for your children when they are working hard to prepare for their SAT tests in May - week beginning 13th May. Please ensure they attend school regularly, get plenty of rest/sleep and have a quiet place at home to do their homework and revision.**

**Please do not put too much pressure on your child, just encourage them to work hard and do their homework.**

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT FORMAT-**

**PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL OFFICE IF NEEDED**

## Winter Weather

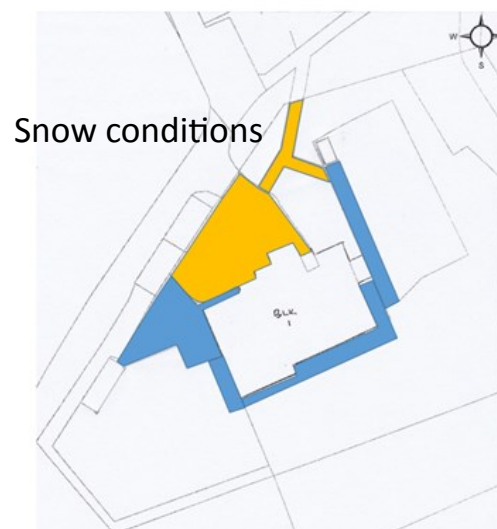
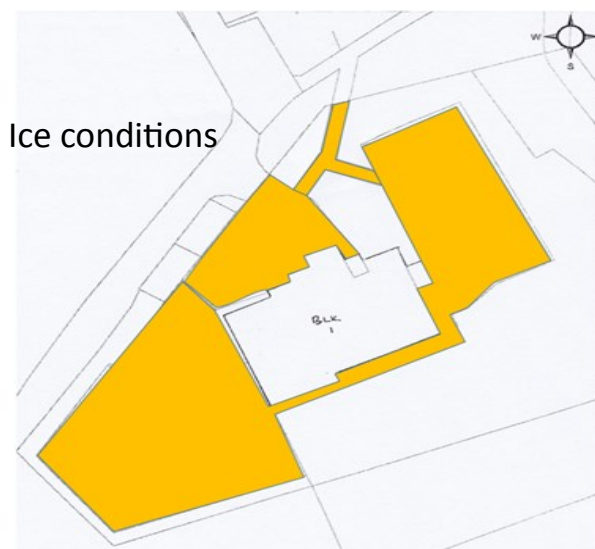
Please make sure your children come to school with a change of shoes & warm outdoor gear like hats and gloves. We encourage them to play in the snow when we have it, but we can only take children out if they are appropriately dressed.

A change of shoes is also important so they are warm all day and so that our floors do not get too slippery.

Please listen to local radio stations (Metro, Galaxy and Durham FM) on a snowy morning in case we have to close—this would only be in the most extreme circumstances, as we do like to stay open. We will also use our Teacher to Parent service to inform you. Please make sure you inform school if you change your number.

## Winter gritting

In case of snow or ice, our caretaker will grit the entrances to school and the area where parents stand on the yard. In case of ice, the whole yard will be gritted. In case of snow, a path will be cleared. (see maps below)



## Friends of the School

Our Friends of the School group has been running very successfully for a number of years, organising events, fairs and other activities and raising much needed funds for the school. We are looking to recruit new volunteers to help us with new ideas about how to raise funds, and to support us in organising this. If you are interested, please contact the office.

## Attendance and Lateness

Good attendance at school is vital for pupils to achieve their full educational potential. For attendance to be classed as good it needs to be over **96%**. We understand that occasionally it cannot be helped, sickness bugs etc. Remember, we can give medication, e.g. Calpol, to help your child. If they feel a little poorly on a morning, **please send them to school**. We do not mind contacting you if they feel unwell.

**Also, our school day starts at 8:55am, please make sure your child is in school ready to learn at this time. Late arrivals cause disruption for the class and they miss early instructions.**

# Children's Page

## Parents' Evening

So that we can , once again, give every parent a chance to talk about their child's progress, we will be holding a parents' evening on **Wednesday 27th February** between 3:30 and 5:30.

If there is something you need to talk to your child's teacher about that would take longer than the 5 minutes allotted, then please try to arrange a meeting on an alternative day.

Don't forget  
Parents'  
Evening!

## Dance Festival

Last half term, some of us took part in a dance after school club. We are now working on our own dance which we can perform at a dance festival in Murton in March.

## Mini Police

Years 5 & 6 will be working with Durham Constabulary Mini Police this half term. The first session will be a 'getting to know you session' and an introduction to what the 'Mini Police' is. They will also discuss a theme for the work they will do over the next 5 weeks.

Towards the end of the project you will be invited to an assembly where they will be able to show you the work they have done.



## ECO Schools

Our school council is going to be in working on a project with a company called OASES and will be looking at how to make our school more Eco friendly.

## After School Clubs this half term

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
Tea Time Club	Tea Time Club	Tea Time Club	Tea Time Club	Tea Time Club
C2+3 basketball	Gymnastics	Guitar £4 Cookery Club	C2+3 Mini Gym	Film Club

# January Newsletter

*Please note, our holidays are different to many other schools around us – so please make sure you have the correct dates in your diary.*

## Dates for your Diary (these are also on our website, which is often updated)

12th January	Mini Police sessions start for Years 5 & 6
15th January	Class 2 begin work on the FISCH project
29th January	Skipping workshop
8th February	Some children at a Boccia Tournament at Wellfield
<b>15th February</b>	<b>Break up for Half Term</b>
<b>25th February</b>	<b>Return to school</b>
26th February	Year 2 children at a Hoopstarz Festival
27th February	Parents' Evening
5th March	Y3/4 at football festival at Soccarena
21st March	Y5/6 at Basketball festival
27th March	After school dance group @ Dance festival
<b>5th April</b>	<b>Break up for Easter</b>

Please note that our Easter holidays are different to some other schools

**RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 23rd APRIL**