



# October 2018 Newsletter

12.10.2018

*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*

We are already nearly at the end of our first half term. All of the children have settled in well and are working well together. Please don't forget that you can always come & speak to us if there is anything concerning you.

You have the opportunity to talk about your child's progress with their class teacher on **Wednesday 7th November**. Please book an appointment at the office.



## Macmillan Coffee Morning—Friday 28th September

Thank you for coming out in such big numbers to this worthwhile fundraising event. We raised an amazing £169.

### Website

Our school has a website. Our school policies are on there, and *we will keep updating the events & dates.* The school holiday dates are also on there. The web address is:

<http://www.st-marys-pri.durham.sch.uk/>

We will also keep our newsletters on there too.

### Internet Safety Advice

School reviews internet and e-safety each half term to ensure your children are safe and are reminded of the risks.

Can we remind you to visit the CEOP Think U Know website for more information on keeping your child safe online at home.

Please also read the attached letter about Video Games and E-safety. We also have a duty to safeguard our children from watching inappropriate films which are rated 18.



### Mini Vinnies

Our Mini Vinnies group are running a prayer group on Monday lunchtimes during October. They have been leading a decade of the rosary.

They are grateful for all your support for the costume sale for the SVP.

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

**PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL OFFICE IF NEEDED**

## Home Time

We like to make sure that our children are safely going to the person picking them up. To help us in this, please wait until their teacher sees you and lets them come to you and it would be a big help if you come down onto the playground rather than at the fence on the path. It is difficult to see if you are there otherwise, especially as the nights become darker. Thank you.

### Money in school

Please remember to put any money sent into school in an **envelope** clearly marked with your child's name and what the money is for. Dinner money should be sent into school on a Monday.



### Absence

If your child is going to be absent, please inform school **before 9.30am** so that we know that they are safe.

### Flu Vaccinations

You will have seen in the press that all children up to Y5 will be vaccinated against flu in the coming weeks with a nasal spray. These vaccinations are taking place in school. You will soon be receiving letters from the school nurses about this. The date for them to take place in our school is: **Monday 3rd December**



### **Supporting Families**

We have had a message this week to say that free healthy snacks are available in local leisure centres over half term.

Thankyou for the continues donations for Wingate bank. The generosity of some of our families is overwhelming. Please remember that 'red vouchers' are available in school for anyone who may need them.

### **Tea Time Club**

Our nightly after school clubs are becoming very popular. We hope what they are helping you with your very busy lives. Please let us know if there are any other ways we can support you.

### Packed Lunch Policy

Our packed lunch policy is in place. No crisps (except baked crisps) and **no** chocolate or sweets will be allowed. There should be no chocolate yoghurts or anything else containing chocolate. A piece of cake or 2 biscuits is allowed. There are lots of alternatives to crisps such as bread sticks, crackers etc.  
A copy of the policy is on the website, or held in the school office, or if you need to speak to us about this, please don't hesitate to contact school.

### Medication

No medication is allowed in school unless it has been prescribed by a doctor and must be taken 4 times per day or more. If this is the case, an adult must bring the medicine to school & collect it, and must fill in a medication form at the office. Please remember, school stocks some children's medicine. We will always contact you before giving this to your child unless you request this in advance.



### Morning supervision

Please remember that there is no supervision for children until 8.45am each morning. The gates will remain closed until this time. If you need to leave your child earlier, they can be signed into Breakfast Club £1.50, or they will come into school and either complete work in class or go onto the yard.

### Winter Weather

As we approach the winter we'd like to remind you to please make sure your child has a warm coat, hat & gloves with them. Also, if it is snowing they should have wellies on and their school shoes in a bag to wear in school. We like to take them out to play in the snow if possible & they do need that change of footwear. **Slippers are not appropriate footwear in school as many of them are too clumsy to move around the school safely. School shoes only, please.**



### Dogs

No dogs on school premises please.



### Birthdays

The staff are happy to hand out cake for children's birthdays but could you please send in individual small cakes or biscuits as sharing out big cakes can be quite challenging, thank you.

### Breakfast Club

Thank you to those of you who have kindly volunteered to help at breakfast club. If you do find you have a spare half hour, we would love to hear from you. Please remember that this includes free sessions with CNS Sports Stars twice weekly at no additional cost.

### Remembrance Celebrations

Years 1—6 are busy preparing a play called Archie Dobson as part of our 100 year Remembrance activities in school. This is due to be performed on Monday 12th November at 1:30 in the school hall. Would you please inform the office if you would like to attend and how many people. If we have a lot of interest, we may have to have a repeat performance on the Tuesday. Thank you for your support.

## OCTOBER 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)**

17th October Welcome Liturgy for new starters  
18th October Some children at Cross Country Festival at EDC. Spectators welcome.  
19th October Harvest Mass 9:15 – all welcome, followed by RRS broth.

Break up for half term

29th October Back to school  
31st October Some Y5/6 at Tag Rugby Tournament  
1st November Whole school at Mass for All Saints.  
Fancy Dress Disco (straight after school) until 4:30  
7th November – Parents' Evening – please contact school to make an appointment  
12th November Archie Dobson performance 1:30  
16th November Class 1 Diwali Assembly  
19th November Book Fayre arrives for the week  
30th November 9:15 Advent Mass. All welcome  
1:30 Christmas Fayre  
3rd December - Reception – Y5 flu nasal sprays  
4th December Whole school photographs  
6th December Some children at Key Steps Gymnastics Festival  
12th December - Music Concert – all welcome! (TBC)  
17th December - Class 2 & 3 Carol Service – all welcome!  
18th December - Class 1 Nativity – all welcome!  
19th December - KS1 Christmas Party  
20th December KS2 Christmas party  
21st December - BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

**Return to school on Tuesday 8th January**

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

### **Parish Links**

**A copy of the Parish Newsletter is available in Reception if you would like a copy.**