King Street Primary & Pre - School

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 19th November 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

Another week has flown by as we get closer and closer to our Christmas events. This week we have celebrated both anti-bullying day and Children In Need. Children always love being able to express themselves by coming into school in clothes of their own choice and it is lovely to see some of their creations! If you wish to donate to Children In Need this can be done directly through their website. Please help them raise as much money as possible. I would also like to thank KS2 parents for supporting our new home time system and standing in allocated areas. Although this was done for Covid reasons, teachers have found, in regards to safeguarding measures, it is much easier to see parents when the classes are separated and therefore we will continue to use this system in the future. If parents can continue to stand in their allocated spaces (with Y3 over on the blue mat area) it is helping congestion.

**Reminders - diary dates**

EYFS and Key Stage 1 parents’ evenings are being held next week. All bookings should now have been made and the booking system is closed. If you did not make an appointment and would like one, please contact your child’s class teacher.

**Pantomime - 3rd December**: The whole school is set to watch a pantomime on Friday 3rd December. We expect, as in previous years, the children will have a very entertaining time and will no doubt come home full of excitement. It is a lovely opportunity to be able to take our children to the event and it is only possible to offer it without cost due to the fundraising efforts in school, so thank you for your generosity. Funds we raise in school from discos and movie nights always go back to the children.

**Our Christmas performance will be held on 7th and 8th December**. Information on requesting tickets has been sent out separately. I must emphasise this event could still be cancelled at a later stage as risk assessments are ongoing and based on cases of Covid in the community and in school. Unlike previous years, we cannot guarantee you will be allocated your first choice of performance day/time. This is due to us needing more space between seating, therefore, there is less capacity in each performance. However, you will definitely be offered tickets to one of the performances if requested. Whilst we appreciate this does not suit everyone due to work commitments, it is the only way in which we are able to hold a face to face audience in the current situation. Please therefore be understanding if you are not able to have your choice of ticket.

**Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day is on 9th December-** information for requesting a Christmas Lunch went out this week. Please ensure you complete the request by the deadline of **22nd November**. If your child is already on school meals you must still complete the form to choose their meal option. Requests after this date cannot be accepted due to the tight ordering and delivery schedules with the food company.

**Christmas parties are being held on Thursday 16th December.** Children will be given a Christmas party picnic on the day (which will replace their normal school meal). Therefore, **they will not need their own packed lunch on this day**. The lunch provided will include sandwiches, pizza slice, vegetable sticks, a cupcake and a drink. However, if you feel your child would not eat this picnic meal they are still welcome to bring their usual packed lunch. On this day, children will also be given a small Christmas gift from school.

**Santa visits- On Monday 13th December** our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children will visit Santa at the Town Hall. As you can imagine, this causes much excitement and is always a lovely event to attend. Year 2,3 and 4 children will make their visit on the morning of Thursday 16th (followed by their party on the afternoon!). I am sure they will all sleep well after this and will be very keen to stay on his nice list!

**Friday 17th December** is our Church visit and Christmas movie afternoon. Our children will help Father John deliver a Christmas service and then return to school for lunch and a movie with popcorn. The perfect way to end the term. Unfortunately, parents cannot attend the church with the children but I am sure we will get some lovely photos for social media and the website.

In order to keep up to date with events in school we do recommend that you download the eschools app to your mobile phone. This means that communication will come direct to your phone and you can keep copies of diary dates for future reference.

**Community events**

St Andrew’s Church fair is being held on Saturday 20th November at 10.30 in the church hall. Santa will be there, along with North Park choir.

Solan Trust Christmas fair -There is a family fun filled event on Sunday 21.11.21 from 12 - 4pm at Spennymoor Leisure Centre. Santa is coming along with his sleigh, live singers, stalls plus more.  Free Entry!! All profits go to Team Solan.

Pre -Christmas toy donations

Some of the children from across our school have decided that they would like to help local charities out at this time of year by asking families to have a pre-Christmas clear out! We are inviting all families to bring to school any donations of good quality (working) toys that we can then distribute to local charities. These can then be distributed to families in need or sold by the charities to raise essential funds. We would welcome donations (to be dropped off at ‘The Hub building’) on Monday 22nd November or Monday 29th November between 8:30am-9am. Children from our school will then organise the distribution of these. It is wonderful to see young children who want to help their local community.

**Jobs in the community**

School Crossing Patrol

We have been notified by DCC that despite 2 job adverts, there has been no interest in the crossing patrol post. The job has now been advertised again and we encourage you to mention it to anyone who may be interested. It is vital we get this position filled for the safety of our children. The job information can be found here: [https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/School\_Crossing\_Patrols/216518](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.northeastjobs.org.uk%2Fjob%2FSchool_Crossing_Patrols%2F216518&data=04%7C01%7Cj.bromley200%40kingstreet.durham.sch.uk%7Ca0cfe99b4d51481b356a08d9a91964bd%7C45dfff5283644d73bf3a8f98bdf10d87%7C0%7C0%7C637726748796910911%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=wF7B3QiiWaj3EMcrfDJaqgd0fCzlRLOzZ0pnrEf7k2k%3D&reserved=0)

Lunchtime supervisor post.

We will shortly be advertising a post for a lunchtime supervisor (7 hours per week) and would welcome applications from within the local community. If you are interested in the post, it will be advertised on North East Jobs in the next few weeks.

As always, if you have any questions or queries please speak to a member of staff on the yard or make an appointment at the school office. We are also happy to answer any queries by email on kingstreet@durhamlearning.net

Yours Sincerely

Joanne Bromley

Headteacher