



Newsletter 5 09.12.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please see below for information, news and an updated dates list from school.

People's Kitchen Collection

Thanks to one of our wonderful Reception parents who came to visit Honeybee Class for Star of the Week to talk about the People's Kitchen. Following the visit, Miss Storey and the Honeybees decided that we should do a collection for the People's Kitchen next week so that we can donate some useful food and clothes to families in need this Christmas.



We will put a trolley at the front of school every morning and afternoon next week for anyone to leave donations. Items in need are non-perishable foods, warm hats, gloves and coats. The items will then be collected and taken to the People's Kitchen ready for distribution. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Readathon

We hope that you all enjoyed some extra reading during the Readathon. Lots of children were enjoying talking in school about what they were reading and enjoying. Well done to everyone who took part. We raised a whopping £1327.32 which will be split between school (£1058.32) and Children in Need (£269.00). The money for school will be used on new books for the library.



Sponsored Bounce Match Funding

Our Sponsored Bounce was great fun and as you know, we raised £2539.98. We are delighted to be able to inform you that we have had a donation from PaddlePod to match fund the amount raised. This takes the total raised to £5039.98. Thanks to PaddlePod for this amazing gesture!

Odd Socks

On Odd Socks Day, we raised £197.78 for the Anti-Bullying Alliance. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Trees

At the end of last week, Mrs Lancaster put out a polite plea to local businesses to ask if anyone would like to donate a new tree to school. Huge thanks to Bird House Properties Ltd for donating a beautiful tree which we have put up in the library where all of the children can see it every day. It looks fantastic and is much more attractive than the previous tree which had seen better days and didn't match our wonderful new building.

Thanks also to Jess Quinn who managed to persuade a local company to donate a real tree which Mr Scott has put at the front of school. It also looks fantastic!



Kind Advent

I hope that you have been enjoying our reverse advent calendar. We are continuing to talk about kindness and advent in school and we always try to notice and reward kindness from the children.

Staffing update

Suzanne Gorman is leaving us at the end of this term to pursue a new adventure working for Newcastle Libraries. Mrs Gorman has been with us for several years as a teaching assistant and we have all benefitted from her expertise and support in the classroom and at lunchtimes. Good luck, Mrs Gorman!

Jill Jennings has joined the teaching assistant team after working with us as a midday assistant. Mrs Jennings has lots of experience as a nursery nurse and a TA in a local school and we are sure that she is an excellent addition to the team.

Parking and Park and Ride

We know that parking on site is very difficult at drop off and pick up times. The situation is made worse by the lack of parking around the site and the necessity for lots of parents and carers to drive. We always encourage sustainable travel to and from school and we hope that many of you will continue to walk, scoot and cycle. Well done to those of you who brave the weather every day! We are working with Newcastle City Council and Newcastle Great Park Consortium to accelerate the reopening of the park and ride facility and we understand that there is ongoing work to establish a continuous path on the north side of the road from school to the park and ride site. This will create a safe space to park and a safer route into school which will become even more essential as we expand in numbers and have a larger staff team. We will keep you up to date with any news.

In the meantime, please take extreme care when entering the school site and using the car park by:

- Observing the 5mph limit
- Parking only in the bays or safely in the bus turning area if open (but do not block in other drivers)
- Only turning left out of the site (there is a large NO RIGHT TURN marked on the road which is currently largely ignored)
- Stopping at the pedestrian crossings if anyone is waiting or approaching to cross
- Being aware of small children who might be difficult to spot, especially on dark winter mornings and afternoons

When you are on site, we ask that you are courteous and polite to other site users, drivers and pedestrians while always modelling positive behaviour to children. Please be aware of the school safety zone and the double yellow lines around our site when you are parking off site. Thank you.

Spare Clothes

We have an ever diminishing supply of spare tights, socks and underwear in school. These items are essential for days when children have toileting accidents, water spillages or after splashing in puddles and falling onto the wet yard. We'd be grateful for donations of clean unwanted items which we could use. If you are given any spare clothes by school following a messy incident, please return them, washed, to us when you can.

Robinwood

The Y4 adventurers had an amazing time at Robinwood last week! They overcame fears, pushed themselves to try new things, worked as teams, laughed a lot and celebrated each others achievements for three days and two nights. Thanks to Mr Burnett, Miss Campbell, Mrs Mingoia and Miss Storey who gave up their time to make the trip possible – and who were immensely proud of the children during the visit and on their return.



Head lice

Please remember to regularly check your children's hair for head lice. We don't check hair in school and we don't send letters when there is a case of head lice. Children don't have to be absent from school if they have head lice but we encourage parents and carers to treat cases as soon as possible and to let us know. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Celebrations

Further information about individual year group celebrations will be communicated by ParentMail on Monday 12th December.

Best wishes

Helen McKenna

Headteacher



Dates for Autumn Term 2022

Tuesday 13 th December	Reception (Honeybee and Ladybird) Nativity 9.00am
Wednesday 14 th December	Year 1 (Birch and Hazel) Christmas Performance 9.00am Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 15 th December	Year 2 (Fern and Bramble) Christmas Performance 9.00am <i>The 9.00am shows will start as soon as the children are ready, this might be slightly later than 9.00am for the younger classes. Each performance will last for approximately 30 minutes.</i>
Friday 16 th December	Year 3/4 (Deer, Squirrel and Skylark) Christmas Performance 2.00pm <i>Year 3/4 performance will last for approximately 45 minutes -1 hour.</i> Reception Stay and Play 8.55am – 10.00am
Monday 19 th December	PTFA Christmas Fair 3.30pm – 5.00pm
Thursday 22 nd December	Outdoor Christmas sing-along 2.00pm, <i>weather permitting!</i>
Thursday 22nd December	Children break up for Christmas holiday
Friday 23 rd December	Training day for staff – school closed to children
Monday 9 th January	School reopens for children