



**Wylam First School**

Rocketing to success

**Newsletter 3**  
**31.10.22**

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy Halloween! I hope that you all had a lovely half term break and enjoyed the very mild weather we were blessed with.

Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to all who attended our harvest festival on Tuesday 18th October. There was a fantastic turnout. I was so proud of our Y4 pupils who organised and ran the whole event. Their harvest soup was lovely and I have heard that the apple and rhubarb crumble was also very nice! A special thanks to Miss Palmer and Mr Mordue who also worked very hard to ensure that the event was a success. Their presentation, which focused on food sustainability and food poverty, was powerful and unfortunately very appropriate for the current climate. Thank you so much for all of your donations towards our collection. Your food donations went to The Miner's Cafe & Community Hub food bank in Prudhoe who posted a message of thanks on their facebook page. Also thank you for your kind donations towards our allotment project - we raised over £200 which will all go towards purchasing seeds and tools for next year's crops. We have decided to continue to support the food bank throughout the Autumn term by working on a project led by Kat Conaty and Rachael Shaw-Kew. We will send out more information on this shortly.

This term is always a lovely term in school. For the first time in 2 years we will be able to run our Christmas performances which we are very excited about. It seems strange to believe that some of our pupils have never taken part in a Christmas performance. Along with all of the festivities we are excited to get our school choir up and running again. Kat Conaty is going to take the lead on this along with delivering whole school singing sessions on a Monday afternoon. We are hoping to get our school choir out and about this Christmas time spreading some Christmas cheer which will be lovely. Over the next few weeks we will begin our preparations for our performances, handing out parts and learning lines and songs. If your child has a speaking part please can we ask that you work with them at home to learn their lines.

Also this term we have a whole school focus on friendship and positive relationships which coincides with Anti Bullying week (Monday 14th - Friday 18th November) and Odd Socks day on Monday 14th November (which marks the beginning of Anti Bullying Week). The Student council are supporting this focus by evaluating current school policies and presenting in assemblies. On Monday 14th November, to celebrate differences and individuality, children can wear odd socks or brightly coloured tights/leggings to mark the beginning of our Friendship week.

## News

### **Break the Rules Day**

I was so disappointed today to see so many children breaking the rules!!! Only joking. Well done everyone for the fantastic costumes and rule breaking antics. The children very much enjoyed flaunting their rule breaking, particularly in assembly and as a result have supported the PTA in their fundraising. Thank you to all who took part and donated.

### **Visit from the Fire Service**

On Tuesday the Fire Service will be in school leading assemblies about Bonfire Night safety to all classes from

Reception to Y4.

### **NSPCC assemblies**

Last half term I led the NSPCC assemblies entitled **Speak Out, Stay Safe** with Y1-Y4. The **Speak Out, Stay Safe** programme aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. It is so important that our children know what to do and who they can talk to if they have any worries. The children showed great maturity throughout the assembly. More information about this can be found on the NSPCC website.

The student council have now introduced **Talk to Us boxes** in each classroom. The boxes have a dual purpose. Children can leave suggestions for the student council or can share any worries they have. The class teacher will open the box regularly, passing suggestions on to the student council or supporting any child who has raised a concern or worry.

### **Reading helpers**

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to give up some time to come into school and listen to children read. Miss Dodds will be in touch soon.

### **Children in Need - Spotacular!**

Children in need will take place on Friday 18th November (the end of Friendship week). To support Children In Need children can come to school on that day wearing something spotty for a donation of £1.

## **Information**

### **Staffing update**

Unfortunately Mrs Hamilton will still be absent from school this half term. Mrs Shaw will be working in Y3 at the end of the week until the end of term.

We will be hosting a student, Annie Robinson, in EYFS this half term who has been in school today to meet the children. She will work alongside Mrs Baxter, Mrs Greenham and Mrs Myers. Mrs Myers will continue to work in EYFS for the remainder of the term.

Mrs Stokoe will also be working in school on a Tuesday and Wednesday morning providing tutoring as part of the National Tutoring Programme.

### **Parents evening**

On Tuesday and Thursday this week we will be holding our parents evenings (Tuesday and Wednesday for Y3). This will give you an opportunity to talk to the class teacher about how your child has settled into the term and to look at their books and the progress they have made so far. This year the meetings will take place in the classroom. The external classroom doors will be open so please enter the school through the appropriate entrance. The corridors are small with limited space, so please arrive for your appointment time only.

### **Poppy Appeal 2022**

We will be supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal again this year. Children will be able to purchase a poppy or a poppy accessory from Monday 7th November. They will be on sale during break time.

### **Y4 Trip to Laing Art Gallery**

On Monday 7th November we organised a Y4 trip to the Laing Art Gallery in Newcastle. We have just been informed that there is a planned rail strike on that day. We are currently looking at options for this and will send out further information to Y4 parents shortly.

### **Maths Workshop**

We will be holding a maths workshop on Wednesday 9th November. The format will be similar to our Literacy workshop where parents will be invited into the hall to learn all about how we teach maths at Wylam, then can move into the classrooms to work with their child on some maths activities. Don't worry if you are unable to attend, all of the information will be posted on our website after the session.

## **PTA Events**

### **Wylam's Got Talent**

Wylam's Got talent is back again this year and promises to be a fantastic night of entertainment. This is being held on Saturday 19th November at the Wylam Institute. Tickets are on sale now and sell out fast so to avoid disappointment make sure you purchase yours as soon as possible. Tickets can be purchased from the school office or from Stobos. Tickets are £12 which includes a pie supper.

### **Christmas Fair**

The PTA Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 2nd December, 4:30pm-6:30pm. This year the Christmas Fair will be held outdoors in the school grounds. There will be a range of stalls, games, refreshment and activities to take part in, along with performances from our school choir and a visit to Santa! More information will follow regarding donations for the event.

The PTA are currently looking for raffle prizes so if you have any contacts with business owners or organisations who would/could make a donation this would be much appreciated. As you can imagine it takes a lot of work to set up an event like this, so the PTA would also appreciate any volunteers to support with the setting up/clearing away, organising stalls or helping out on the stalls. Please contact a member of the PTA or the school office if you are able to help.

### **Qatar World Cup 2022**

We will be celebrating the beginning of the World cup (20th November) on Monday 21st November where England will play their first match against Iran at 1pm. On that day the children can come to school wearing the football kit or colours of the team they will be supporting throughout the World Cup. We will show the match in classrooms in the afternoon.

### **Wild About Adventure**

This half term Paul Mordue will be working with Y2 on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child has wellies in school and a warm coat so that they can take part in the activities.

### **Y3 Skipping Festival**

Y3 will be taking part in a skipping festival at the Wentworth Sports Centre on 22nd November. Children are to come to school in their PE kit.

### **Y2 Multi Skills Festival**

Y2 will be taking part in the Newcastle Foundation multi skills festival on 22nd November at NUCASTLE, the Foundation facility. Children are to come to school in their PE kit on that day

## **Reminders**

### **Newcastle United Ladies v Bradford City Women**

Just a reminder that Newcastle ladies are playing at St James' Park on Sunday 27th November at 2pm. Amy Hargrave, our Newcastle Foundation coach, plays for Newcastle Ladies and would love the support from Wylam First School.

### **Flu Immunisation**

The immunisation team will be in school on 11th November to administer the nasal spray to pupils from Reception to Y4 where consent has been given.

## **School Calendar**

Monday 31st October

Back to school

	Break The Rules Day
Tuesday 1st November	Fire Brigade visit
Tuesday 1st November	Parents Evening
Thursday 3rd November	Parents Evening
Monday 7th November	Poppy Appeal
Monday 7th November	Y4 trip to Laing Art Gallery
Wednesday 9th November	Maths parent workshop
Friday 11th November	Flu Immunisations
Monday 14th November	Odd Socks Day
Monday 14th - Friday 18th November	Friendship Week
Friday 18th November	Children In Need
Saturday 19th November	PTA - Wylam's Got Talent
Monday 21st November	World Cup Day
Tuesday 22nd November	Y3 Skipping Festival Y2 Multi skills festival
2nd December	PTA Christmas Fair
<b>Christmas 2022</b>	
Monday 12th December	KS2 Christmas performance 9:30am KS1 Christmas performance 1:45pm
Tuesday 13th December	EYFS Christmas performance 9:30am
Wednesday 14th December	KS1 Christmas performance 9:30am EYFS Christmas performance 1:45pm
Thursday 15th December	KS2 Christmas performance 1:45pm
Friday 16th December	Christmas Lunch + Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 19th December	EYFS Christmas Party
Tuesday 20th December	KS1 Christmas Party
Wednesday 21st December	KS2 Christmas Party
Thursday 22 December	End of term Christmas Service 1:30pm Last day of term
Monday 9th January	Teacher training day
Tuesday 10th January	Back to school

Best wishes.

**S Gibbon**  
**Head Teacher**