



Please find information about what is coming up this half term. So far, we have enjoyed Bikeability training, Anti-bullying week and Children in Need. Class 2 had a fantastic visit to Shildon Railway Museum and their behaviour and enthusiasm were noted by the staff at the venue. Well done Class 2 for representing us so well in the community! Rehearsals are underway for the Christmas shows and lots more exciting opportunities are coming up this half term.

Safeguarding

With the weather getting darker and often many children leaving at 16:15 after clubs, I just want to remind you of our safeguarding systems at the end of the school day. We always keep the children in the classroom and dismiss them from the back doors onto the playground. The staff look for the adults and watch to ensure the child meets with their grown-up. We really appreciate your patience and understanding at hand-over as it can get busy. If someone different is picking your child up, please can you inform the school office so staff are aware.

Christmas activities

We have lots of exciting Christmas activities planned for December.

Tuesday 5th December – Tree decorating

We have been invited to St. Peter's Church to take part in their Christmas Tree Festival. On the afternoon of Tuesday 5th December, we are walking to the Church to decorate a class tree. Every child is going to make a decoration in school that morning, which will then be displayed in the Church over the Christmas period. Families will be invited to visit the Tree Festival – further information from Reverend Barbara will follow.

Friday 8th December – School Christmas Fair

I have heard that elves are taking over book club again and running Elfridges throughout the day of Friday 8th December! Children are welcome to visit Elfridges and buy a gift for a loved one. They will be helped to wrap their gift and make it special, ready to bring home and put under the Christmas tree! Gifts are priced between £1 and £3. Children can buy more than one gift if they wish.

The Christmas Fair will take place after school from 15:30pm. We are offering some stalls to the local community and local businesses at £10 per table. If you would like to book a stall, please contact the school office to discuss availability and what you would like to sell.

Tuesday 12th December – Christmas performance times

Infants: 1:05 pm Juniors: 2 pm

Wednesday 13th December – Christmas performance times

Infants: 9:05 am Juniors 10 am

Wednesday 13th December – The Night Before Christmas Workshop

Class 1 and 2 are taking part in a very special workshop with Education Durham Outreach. Please see the information below:

Join us as we share the magical story with the children, go on a hunt for St. Nicholas' reindeer hiding around the school and make environmentally friendly reindeer food. Children will then go on to explore traditional Christmas toys and create their own festive craft to take home.

Warm coats and wellies are needed as some of this experience is outdoors.

Thursday 14th December – Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch

The children will also enjoy a Christmas film in the school hall on the afternoon. Children will be able to bring their own snacks, sweets and popcorn to enjoy while watching the movie.

Friday 15th December – Christmas party

Children can come to school in their party clothes and enjoy a class party on the final day of term.

Upcoming School Visits

Class 3 and 4 will be visiting Hardwick Park on Wednesday 29th November. The children will be outdoors for this session so will need to wear coats and footwear appropriate to the weather.

Class 3 workshop: Time Traveller Wild Adventurers – please see information below:

Time Traveller Wild Adventurers travel into the wild for a hands on activity based adventure in the historical period of the Stone Age. The children will take a step back in time to when Stone Age man roamed our region. Pupils will discover skills our ancestors had that are not so primitive.

Class 4 workshop: Evolving Ecosystems – please see information below:

Did you know that not all rainforests are tropical? Pupils will learn about the temperate rainforests with their ancient trees and discover the biodiversity within. Through games, challenges and exploration children will discover the micro habitats around them, learn about the unique biomes in their local area and find out what makes them so special.

Diary Dates

Please see below a list of dates for your diary.

Date	Event
Wednesday 29 th November	Class 3 and 4 visit to Hardwick Park
Friday 8 th December	School Christmas Fair (Friends of School) Elfridges throughout the day
Tuesday 12 th December (pm) Infants: 1:05pm Juniors 2pm	Class 1 and 2 Christmas Performance Class 3 and 4 Christmas Sing-Along
Wednesday 13 th December (am) Infants 9:05am Juniors 10am	Class 1 and 2 Christmas Performance Class 3 and 4 Christmas Sing-Along
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas jumper/Christmas dinner/cinema afternoon
Friday 15 th December	Class parties – children to come in party clothes School closes for the Christmas break
Thursday 4 th January	Children return to school

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please get in touch if I can help you in any way.

Kind regards,

G.E.Dodds

Headteacher