



Acomb First School Fortnightly Newsletter

25th November 2022

Upcoming dates

Friday 2nd December
Mini reports to parents

6th & 7th December
Parents evening 3.30-
6.00pm

Thursday 8th December
Maple class visit Beamish

Christmas jumper day
(Maple class will celebrate
this on the 9th)

Wednesday 14th December
Whole school Pantomime at
The Queen's Hall

Friday 16th December
Nativity performances

Wednesday 21st December
Christmas dinner day

Friday 23rd December
Christmas carol service
1030- 1130

Monday 9th January
School re-opens

Miss Williamson's message

I cannot quite believe that it is December next week! The children are certainly counting down the days and we are all looking forward to sharing the festive celebrations with you.

We have had a wonderful two weeks in school since my last newsletter. It has been so lovely to see all of the children working so hard. I have had the privilege of looking at lots of children's work over the last couple of weeks and I have been so impressed by their progress and hard work. I am very excited for you to come in and see their work at parents evening soon.

Our first coffee and cake meeting with parents, governors and staff was just wonderful. I really enjoyed having the opportunity to chat to lots of different parents and I know staff and governors also enjoyed this opportunity. We will continue to develop opportunities like this where parents can come into school across the rest of the year.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at school or by email:

hannah.williamson@acomb.northumberland.sch.uk

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Hannah Williamson

Road Safety and Parking



As you know we celebrated road safety in school last week. We feel road safety is a very important part of our curriculum, particularly because of the challenges of the road that our school is on, especially with the lack of paths and parking of cars close to school. With this in mind, could I remind you that the zig zag lines outside of school mean this space is restricted and no stopping is permitted there at any time. This is essential in order to ensure the safety of all children at school.

Visits for Potential Reception New Starters



I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting lots of potential new parents over the last couple of weeks and showing them all of our lovely classrooms. There is still time for people to come around before the deadline for admissions for reception places which is on 15th January. If you would like to come for a visit or you know of any interested families, appointments can be made through Mrs Collingwood in the school office.

Children in Need Day



We had a great day on Friday 18th November of dressing in spots or bright colours to celebrate Children in Need and the end of Road Safety week. The final amount raised will be sent to us by Children In Need at the start of December so I will let you know the total in my next newsletter.



Chestnut Class Cake stall

The PTA did another fantastic job of fundraising through the first cake stall of the year. I would like to thank you all for your generous donations and for being so careful with regard to ensuring cakes were nut free as we requested. It really is appreciated. The grand total raised was an impressive £126.50.

Parents evening



We will have parents evening in the first week of December. This year you will be able to look through your child's books in their classroom before coming along to the hall to have your appointment with the class teacher. This will be a lovely opportunity to have a look at how your child is progressing before having your discussion with their teacher. The appointment time is the time to meet the teacher so please feel free to come a little earlier to look at books. Alternatively, you can look at their books afterwards if that works for you.



Carols Around the Tree in Acomb

There is a lovely community event happening on the 15th December. There will be carols around the tree followed by refreshments in the village hall, including mulled wine. There is an opportunity for children and residents to add a decoration to the tree so please bring along with something to add.



© CanStockPhoto.com - csp42272847

Christmas Dinner

Our annual Christmas Dinner is taking place on **Wednesday 21st December** for all children who are in school at lunchtimes - if your child is usually on packed lunch, your child is welcome to join us for this festive feast.

If your child is in Reception - Year 2, this is free. For pupils in Year 3 and Year 4, the cost is £2.20 (unless you are in receipt of free school meals.)



Holidays

I would just like to draw your attention to the holiday dates attached with the newsletter and can also be found on the school website in the school community – parents' section. The holiday dates for both this year and next year are listed and it is important to especially note the date for October week which is almost a week later than usual. In 2023, we break up on **Friday 27th October 2023** and return to school on **Monday 6th November 2023**



Reverse Advent Calendar

We all have an expectation of how Christmas should be but are all too aware that for many families, it is a time of added stress on already over-stretched budgets. Families that struggle from day to day suddenly have to try to stretch further to provide a Christmas dinner and presents for children and many simply cannot.

Our school is co-ordinating a huge reverse advent calendar and are asking parents and carers to check their cupboards or if possible to purchase an extra item of food in their weekly shopping from the list below. Items can be brought into school via the School Office, or sent in with your child.

The food items needed for the hampers are:

Sweet Snacks: Biscuits, Chocolates, Sweets

Savoury Snacks: Crisps, Nuts, Cheese Biscuits

Pudding Items : Sponge, Christmas Pudding, Cake, Mince Pies

Drinks: Squash, Fruit Juice, Fizzy Drinks (non-alcoholic), Tea, Coffee, UHT Milk

Breakfast Items: Cereal, Breakfast Biscuits, Marmalade, Jam, Part Baked Bread

Tinned Items: Baked Beans, Pasta Sauces, Tuna, Soup, Veg, Custard

Sanitary Items: Handwash, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Soap

Packet Mixes: Stuffing, Custard, Jelly, White Sauce, Gravy

Food Cupboard Staples: Pasta, Rice, Noodles, Cooking Oil

Please make sure all items donated are in-date. I will be delivering hampers and to the foodbank on Thursday 22nd December so this will be the last day we can accept donations.

These items will be used to make up hampers to deliver to needy families in the local area, with any extra being donated to the local Foodbank. If you know of any family who would appreciate one of these hampers, please let me know. It can be done confidentially by emailing me at:

hannah.williamson@acomb.northumberland.sch.uk



Key dates for 2022 – 2023

KS1 Statutory Assessment Tests (for Year 2 children) – May 2022

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check – Week Beginning Monday 12th June 2023

Year 4 Multiplication Test – Week Beginning Monday 5th June 2022