

Northwood Primary School

Newsletter 4 – December 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't quite believe that there is only one more week to go until we have finished the first term of this academic year. As always this is a very busy time at Northwood with lots of exciting activities and events going on throughout the coming days.

Staff Leaving

Mrs Hill is leaving Northwood next week to pursue potential teaching opportunities in another school. Miss Summerhill will become the class teacher for Class 6 from January. We wish Mrs Hill every success in the future. Mrs Howlett is also leaving Northwood next week and is retiring from the profession. We have appointed Mr Swainston to work in partnership with Miss Robinson in Class 12 from January. We wish Mrs Howlett every success as she enjoys her retirement. After a period of sickness, Mrs Cowe has made the decision to retire from her Teaching Assistant role in our school. We wish Mrs Cowe well for the future.

On behalf of Northwood I would like to say a huge thank you to these members of staff who have worked at the school for many years and contributed greatly to its success. Northwood will miss you all.

Staff Arriving

From January Miss Douthwaite will be joining our Speech and Language Base team as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Mrs Nelson will join our support staff every afternoon. We welcome Miss Smith and Miss Bailey to our cleaning team at Northwood. Mr Wilson is now part of our Year 6 team every Friday. I'm sure you've noticed our new Receptionist, Sarah Thompson, who we are delighted has joined us and finally Mrs Wassell, Deputy Head Teacher, is returning to Northwood after a year on maternity leave.

Key Stage 2 Carol Concert

Following the success of last year's fantastic Christmas Carol Concert, we will be holding the Key Stage 2 (Year 3 to Year 6) Carol Concert in the local Northlands Methodist Church. This is a wonderful setting for our carol concert and will be a memory making moment for our children at Northwood. The concert will be held on Wednesday 19th December from 2:00pm onwards. Due to limited seating as well as Health and Safety regulations within the church the ticket allocation is 1 per child. A letter went out yesterday regarding this event, we apologise for the delay in giving you this information due to the availability of this wonderful setting.

National Tree Dressing Week

Tree Dressing Week falls on the first week of December. It is a chance for the whole community to gather and celebrate the leafy friends we all have in common. It's also a chance for communities to reflect on the social and cultural history of their local area, and the role trees have played in shaping this story. As a school each year group helped celebrate Tree Dressing Week by decorating a tree of their choice in the school grounds.



Attendance

As one of the school's key priorities, we are delighted to let you know that attendance from the beginning of September is the best it's ever been at Northwood! Whole school attendance is currently 95.6% and we would like to thank you for working in partnership with the school to ensure that your children attend school. Although this is a positive picture, there is still room for further improvement and we look forward to working with you across the school year to make attendance at Northwood even better.

Children in Need and Christmas Fair

We would like to thank you for your generosity in raising £189.73 for Children in Need. Last Friday's Christmas Fair at Northwood was the best yet and it was great to see so many of you at this event. We raised over £700 which will be used to enhance our outdoor learning facilities for the children. Thank you so much for your support.

Upcoming Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 12th December – Year 3 Christmas Party
- Thursday 13th December – Year 4 Christmas Party
- Friday 14th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
- Monday 17th December – Year 5 Christmas Party
- Tuesday 18th December – Year 1 and Year 2 show for parents am and pm
- Wednesday 19th December – Morning: Nursery Christmas Party, Afternoon: Reception Christmas Party
- Wednesday 19th December – Year 3 to Year 6 Christmas Concert at Northlands Methodist Church (2pm)
- Thursday 20th December - 100% Attendance Club and Attendance Raffle Winners visit to the Pantomime at Darlington Hippodrome.
- Friday 21st December – Year 6 Christmas Party

- School closes on Friday 21st December at 3.30pm and reopens on Monday 7th January 2019.



On behalf of everyone at Northwood Primary School I hope you all enjoy the festive season and have a fantastic Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Zoe Beach,
Head Teacher