



Coxhoe Communicator

December 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are on the final run of our very busy Christmas period. It is packed full of fabulous, enriching experiences for children and their families and the atmosphere in school is really wonderful. Watch out on the App for reminders to help keep you updated.

We are very proud of all the children—those Christmas performances have been outstanding. They will have some wonderful memories to treasure.

After all that hard work this term—across all aspects of school—we are ready to celebrate with a party next week. Children will enjoy games, dancing, a Christmas film and a party tea. They will also enjoy a visit from the big man himself—Santa Claus will bring a gift for every child. We would like to say a special thank you to the Friends of Coxhoe Primary School and our families for their support in enabling this to happen.

We hope that you enjoy a lovely family Christmas together.

We look forward to seeing the children in the new year on Monday 7th of January 2019.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Bartle



Road Safety

We continue to have concerns raised by both residents and parents about the parking and driving around the school vicinity at the beginning and end of the school day. Could we urge all parents to walk to school when possible and consider park and stride if not. If driving to school is a necessity, then please ensure that parking is safe and respectful to local residents. We have requested a meeting with the Parish Council in January as they are working closely with the County Council in a bid to improve parking in the village. If you have any suggestions for ways to improve the situation, please contact school by the end of term.

SEND Reviews+ ICHP Reviews

Reviews meetings with parents are planned for all children with a support plan for the spring term. Individual letters will be sent to notify parents in January.

Online Safety

We have had a number of different incidents regarding online safety this half term. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of ensuring that your child is acting in an appropriate way whilst online. In school, we do lots of work around this and hope that children follow these steps at home as well. We advise that if your child is using a headset whilst playing online, that they are in the same room as you so that you can monitor what is being said.

We have now confirmed the date for our online safety workshops: Wednesday 6th February 2019. The morning of this day will be a parent and child workshop, the afternoon will be an opportunity for a range of children to work with our specialist and then after school, staff will have their training. We hope to see many of you there.

Thank you for your continued support.

Our First Dojo Party

In Class 8 we have had our first Dojo Party! We had an amazing time chilling in our pyjamas whilst watching 'Nativity' and eating popcorn. This party was well deserved as the children in Class 8 have been working exceptionally hard and showing impeccable manners. Who will be next? Updated School behaviour Policy is available on the school website.

Christmas Parties

Parties for the children will be held during the last week of term. To avoid waste, we ask for a £1 donation and the Friends of Coxhoe Primary School do all of the hard work in preparing a fun party tea. Please send in donations for your child in a named envelope. If your child has allergies, please liaise with the class teacher about the food on offer and alternatives required by Wednesday 12th December. If this is the case, some parents prefer to make a party tea for their child instead of their donation; however, we are happy to seek alternatives where necessary.

Children are welcome to come into school in their party clothes but please ensure they have appropriate shoes or children can bring party clothes in a named carrier bag to get changed after lunch. Staff are available to help younger children with this.

The fantastic PTA team are working very hard behind the scenes and if you would like to help at the parties they would be delighted. Please sign up using their WhatsApp group or at the school office.

Tuesday 18th December - Reception

Wednesday 19th December – Year 3-4

Thursday 20th December - Years 1, 2 5 & 6



Christmas Performances – reminders

We have a very busy week this week. We have enjoyed fantastic performances from KS2 at the Village hall and Reception. We are really looking forward to Year 1 and Year 2 in their respective performances. If you have any unwanted tickets, please return them to the school office.

Thursday 13th December - 2pm and 5pm Year 2 Christmas Play

Friday 14th December - 10am and 2.30pm Year 1 Christmas Sing-a-long

Christmas Lunch – Friday 14th December

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 14th December (Novelty T shirts/jumpers/hats/headbands may be worn with bottoms of your choice)

Staff Training this term has included:

ADHD

Diabetes

Skipping for all

Health & Safety

Safeguarding

Writing Moderation

Financial Education

Reminder—For health and safety reasons, the adventure playground, the conservation area and the outdoor gym are for school use only. Please do not allow children to use these areas at home time. Many thanks.

Attendance

As a school we are very proud of our excellent school attendance achievement and would like to thank all of our families for their support in maintaining this. Please be reassured, if children are suffering from cold etc. we can support them in school. Medicines such as Calpol can be administered in school if it is prescribed and parents complete the appropriate form.

The Government has restrictions in place with regards to leave of Absence in term time and it can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. All Leave of Absence must be applied for in advance and we may request additional evidence to support the reason. We do understand that school holidays are restrictive and the cost of a family holiday is much higher; however, research shows that good attendance is linked with improved achievement and high self-esteem.

Healthy & Safety – staff/visitor car park & entering/leaving school

On arrival into school, please ensure that parents bring children into the school yard and supervise them entering school. A number of parents and children have been using the staff car park as an access route into/out of school. All parents/carers and children should use the pupils and parents gate on Parson's Walk. Access through the car park is for visitors and staff. The Parson's Walk Gate will remain open until 9.00am. If children are late, they should still use this gate but enter through the Main Office door. If arriving after this time, access through the staff/visitor car park is necessary; however, this must be supervised by a parent/carers. If you have any mobility difficulties/other concerns, please discuss this with the Head Teacher.

Sporting Update

A huge well done to the netball team who managed to win the League title. Every player played their part and their success was thoroughly deserved.

In the final of the Sportshall Athletics, Coxhoe finished in an excellent 5th Place. The competition was strong. Again everyone gave their all, showing great effort and determination throughout - a credit to the school!

After winning the school gymnastics festival, class 10 attended a local gymnastics festival at South Durham Gymnastics Centre. The children displayed an outstanding routine to the 'Greatest Showman' alongside 9 other schools. Their behaviour was exceptional and they were an asset to the school. Well done class 10.

Upcoming events:

Friday 7th December - Boccia (Y5/6)

Thursday 13th December - Active 30 (Class 9)

Cooking Fun

Classes 3 and 4 have been reading The Jolly Postman in English. They have been looking at the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears as Baby Bear received a letter of apology from Goldilocks. The children have followed instructions to make porridge and they enjoyed tasting it. They used the experience to write their own set of instructions.

Science Update: Mars InSight Lander Challenge.

Last week our KS2 children took part in a science assembly, learning all about Mars' most recent visitor, NASA's InSight Lander. The children discussed the technology involved in launching the probe and the experiments that would take place over the next two years. As a challenge, some children have created their own factsheets, posters and even models based on the InSight Lander. The winning entry will be announced on Friday 7th December. Well done to all the children who took part.

French X Factor

Classes 10 and 11 will be doing a French version of the X factor where some children will be the judges, others will sing or form bands. Conversations and questions will be conducted in French. This enables children to use their knowledge and skills in a real life context as well as promoting enjoyment in languages.



Medication

Supporting Pupils with a Medical Condition is a policy written with DFE & Local Authority guidance. It has been reviewed this term by staff & governors and will be available on the school website by the end of term. This clarifies school policy around administering medication. Please ensure medication is brought into the school office and handed over to office staff. It can only be administered if parents complete the appropriate form. Please remember that it is parental responsibility to monitor expiry dates and provide new medication. Please ensure all relevant inhalers are always in school and replaced when expired. Remember – if your child suffers from Asthma, there are specific forms to complete to allow us to provide the relevant support.

