



# December 2016 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have a few updates you might be interested to know about...

Firstly, Jeanne and Betty are retiring from running our toddler group. The governors, the staff and I would like to say how much we appreciate the years of hard work and dedication they have given to our children over the last fifteen years. Neither Jeanne nor Betty have been paid for the time they have given to us – they have given their time out of generosity and community spirit and I commend them and thank them for making our academy a better place. We wish them both well in their retirement and we will be inviting them in to visit us on special occasions.

We have been lucky to have another volunteer who has offered to run our Toddler Group on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January. So, we welcome Pat to our team and thank her for her very kind offer. We are also saying a sad farewell to Mr Brown who moves, with his wife, to Australia in a couple of weeks. We will miss him and we wish him all the best in his new life. It has been a real pleasure working with him and I know many families will miss him when he leaves us. Good luck Mr Brown!

We all return to school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January. But first, enjoy your break, have a Merry Christmas and I wish you the very best for the New Year.

Merry Christmas,  
Mrs J. Goodfellow



## Dates For Your Diary



**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Xmas Jumper Day**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Year 1 and Year 2 Afternoon Christmas Production**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Year 1 and Year 2 Morning Christmas Production**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Nursery and Reception Afternoon Christmas Production**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Nursery and Reception Morning Christmas Production**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Last day of Autumn Term**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December - Christmas Holidays Begin**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 - Pupils return to school**





# SPOTACULAR

We raised **£320.80** for Children in Need 2016. Thank you once again for your support.



**Well done to all of our Year 6 pupils and SkillForce for Raising £190.25 For**



## Jewellery, Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

Children are NOT permitted to wear jewellery in school. Rings, chains, earrings and sleepers represent a considerable accident risk in physical education and play activities. Children who wear jewellery at school will be asked to take it off. Mobile phones and Smart watches are not permitted in school as they have potential to disrupt lessons and have been known to be used in some forms of bullying. Mobile phones and smart watches are extremely valuable and we want to minimise the risk of loss or damage to expensive property. (The governing body of our school has specifically requested that any child who brings a mobile phone to school should hand them to the school office where they will be kept secure until the child collects them at the end of the school day.)

## Community Christmas Events.



Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December

**Community Carol Service** 6:00pm St Nicholas' Church-Dunston.



### Sponsored Walk News:

We have finally counted the sponsor money collected by our pupils from Nursery to Year 6. We raised a grand total of **£2281.30**

Thank you so much for your support and generosity. We will be measuring up for a new school stage very soon.



### **It's time to say Goodbye to Mr Brown**

Mr Brown is leaving school at the end of this term. He has been a popular member of staff for the last six years. All staff and pupils wish Mr Brown the very best of luck in his new life in Australia.

**Mrs Ritchie will be returning to school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December. She will be teaching Year 2 on the run up to Christmas. In January, Miss Ritchie will be joining Miss Heron teaching Year 2 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each week.**

### Newsletter Free Draw



*This month's free Newsletter Draw was won By Ellie Mae McGuire in Class 1 / 2. She has won a bottle of wine for her Mum and a box of sweets for herself.*

*Parents must collect their prize from the school office.*