



## Allendale Primary School October 2017 Newsletter

Parents' Evenings are being held next Tuesday and Wednesday; appointments will be sent home tomorrow. If you are unable to attend either day next week, please contact your child's teacher to arrange an alternative time.

The Governors will have boards up in the waiting areas and are keen to receive your feedback.

Yesterday we hosted the Fire Service who ran safety workshops with each class; the look around the fire engine and siren proved very popular!

Today our cross country team from Year 3 to Year 6 are at the Gateshead Stadium for the Northumberland Schools Championship. Hopefully they've had a successful and enjoyable day; sadly we can't take all the children who wanted to be part of the team - lovely to see cross country is so popular! - but it's an annual event so younger children will have further opportunities and we host an intra schools event so everyone gets an opportunity to take part in that.

Tomorrow, Lapwing, Curlew and Kestrel Classes have a workshop with the author Judy Hayman. Judy has written several books for children and visited us a couple of years ago so we're looking forward to her visit.

The NSPCC are in school again on Thursday. Y5 and Y6 children have a workshop following up issues discussed in assembly last week.

Mr Vincent is running 2 Parents' E-safety information sessions on Thursday at 3.45pm, straight after school and 6.00pm. Please let Mrs Clarke know if you wish to attend.

The PTFA are holding a Marble Night on Friday 3.30pm - 5.30pm, lots of different activities and games on offer.

Next week is Y5, Y6 BikeAbility week. Children are welcome to bring their bikes on Monday and keep them overnight in school until the end of the course. All children must wear a helmet for BikeAbility; level 1 training will take place on the playground and level 2 out on the roads in Allendale.

The Harvest Festival will take place in school on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm. We will be having a collection for the MOET School in Malawi whom we supported last year. The money goes towards teaching the children how to grow crops and become self-sufficient. Pattison who is the Principal of the school, places a very high emphasis on this.

Y4 girls will receive a letter about Netball Club which is planned for Thursday afternoons from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Please support us if you're shopping at Tesco. We are raising the funds to develop the wildlife garden at the top end of the field so all tokens are much appreciated.

As well as a Facebook page, we are now on Twitter, @Allendale\_Sch where you can follow news updates and find out what's on.

We hosted a road traffic meeting to discuss how we can make our access to school safer for parents and children. The 20mph zone is now in place. It would be appreciated if cars weren't parked opposite the yellow zig zag markings during the morning drop off and afternoon collection; this would give a clearer sight of the road and any oncoming traffic when parents and children are attempting to cross.

We are again taking part in the Christmas card project. It was problematic last year as the company introduced new software which clearly wasn't fit for purpose; however, they have assured us that all glitches have been ironed out for this year's project. It will be slightly different this year. The children will design their card which will then be sent off to be scanned into the system. The artwork will then be returned to school and sent home. Parents will then have the opportunity to view the scanned work and order on line.

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding a Nursery Open afternoon for prospective parents to come and have a look around school if they are considering sending their child in January or April 2018, (or beyond that). Children who turn 4 on or before January 18<sup>th</sup> are entitled to start in January 2018 and children who turn 4 on or before 17<sup>th</sup> May can start in April 2018 at the beginning of the Summer Term.

The next bags to school collection will be in January 2018. However, any donations can be brought into school to be stored until then.

When we surveyed parents in June 2017, there were a lot of parents who wanted more use made of Homework Diaries or Home School books. We are encouraging the KS2 children to use these and have parents sign them so that you are aware what the children are reading and what their homework is each week. Also, at the start of term, each class teacher sent home a letter explaining when the children would need PE kits, when homework would be given etc. If you did not receive this, we will put a copy on our school website for your information.

Finally, if you have any worries or issues about anything in school, please come and see a teacher or me; things can be resolved and/ or explained but if we are not made aware of them, we can't offer any explanation or take action. We don't always get everything right but we do try our best.

Mrs A Hawkins  
Headteacher