



## Allendale Primary School October 2015 Newsletter

### Good News!

Always good to start with sharing some good news. The Love Northumberland Awards were hosted at The Alnwick Garden. The village Trail project undertaken by last year's Y6 pupils, won the Best Children's Project category. Lillie and Luke from the School Council, with 2 Governors, Mrs Dunn and Mr Lee were there to receive the award from the Duchess of Northumberland.

In the same week, Allendale Primary School was awarded the Gold School Games Mark for our work to increase sporting opportunities and participation.

### School Games:



Well done to the Y6 football team whom Mr Charlton took to Hexham Middle School to compete in an inter-schools tournament. They won 3, lost 1 and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

10 Y6 children and Mr Charlton have made a very early start today, as they have been invited to attend a Young Ambassadors sporting event at Durham University.

Tomorrow, 42 children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, will be representing Allendale Primary in a North East Region team cross country event at The Gateshead Stadium. Cross Country is not everyone's favourite event but we're very proud that so many of the children are willing to represent the school team. Hopefully they will have a fantastic day and enjoy the experience.

### Parents Evenings:

Parents Evenings will take place on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** and **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**; we have had to move it from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> due to staff training commitments. You should have received a form to opt for your preferred day and time with this newsletter. A hard copy has been sent for those parents who receive an e-mailed newsletter. Those parents with more than one child in school will be given times close together.

### **School Site:**

Staff are becoming increasingly concerned about the numbers of parents parking in the bus pull in outside school or on the yellow zig-zag lines opposite school. This is potentially dangerous as children are alighting the buses and crossing in front of cars or children being dropped off by car are passing behind or in front of buses. Also parents and children are requested not to walk across the bus park whilst the buses are entering and exiting in the morning and after school. We encourage pedestrians to walk along the footpath to the road and cross directly opposite the park. I have been in contact with the programme officer at Highways but at the moment NCC seem reluctant to do anything about the traffic situation outside school.

The school site is private property. Whilst the Sports Hall is in use every night, children should not go onto the playground or field to play. We do not want any further damage.

Lastly, the top field is being developed as a wildlife area; however, it is used for cross country and outdoor learning sessions. Someone is walking their dog there, leaving some very undesirable deposits which are deeply unpleasant for children and staff to be working around. If you see anyone using this to walk their dog, please tell us!

### **PTFA News:**

The i-pads purchased by the PTFA should be arriving in the next couple of weeks and will be available for all classes to use when they are set up.

The next bag2school collection is **Thursday January 28<sup>th</sup> 2016**. This may seem like a long time away but if you are having a wardrobe tidy in preparation for Christmas, bags can be brought in anytime and will be stored until the collection.

The next PTFA event will be the staff abseil on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October** at Deneholme. For £1 children can vote for a member of staff to do the abseil, (some staff have volunteered!) and those over 8 can opt into a draw to do the abseil themselves. A big thank you to Mr and Mrs Beck for offering their time and facilities.

The PTFA are also holding a Halloween Party on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October from 5pm to 7pm**.

### **Astronomy:**

The National Park has a telescope that they would like to find a home for approximately 2 years. We wondered if there were any parents who have an interest in astronomy who would be interested in running some night sky sessions occasionally using the telescope. Please let Mr Charlton know if you are interested.

### **Harvest Festival:**

Our Harvest Celebration is on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 9.30am** at the **Methodist Chapel** on Shield Street. There will be a charity collection at the Festival or for those parents who are unable to attend, donations can be sent into school.

### **Allstars**

Mrs Atkinson has now started her maternity leave and is due to give birth to her twins in the next couple of weeks. We welcome Miss Lyn Kennedy to the after school club and Mr Jonathan Atkinson will shortly be joining Miss Warrior for the breakfast club. Bookings can be made through school or to Arfona directly by e-mail at [allendaleallstars@hotmail.com](mailto:allendaleallstars@hotmail.com)

### **Y5 BikeAbility**

Y5 BikeAbility Training will take place on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October**. Children are welcome to bring their bikes on Monday morning and leave them in the school hall overnight.

### **School Council and Eco Council:**

The children have voted for their new Eco and School Councils.

The School Council for this year is Max and Faith (Y6), Nathaniel and Jessie (Y5), Molly and Joseph (Y4) and Jem and Josie (Y3).

Miss Guttridge will be working with the Eco-Council around school. The Eco-Council for 2015-16 consists of Rhea and Charlie (Y6), Daisy and Freddy (Y5), Sam and Emily (Y4), Esme and Will (Y3), Sasha and James (Y2) and Tom and Ophelia (Y1).



### **Christmas Cards:**

I hate to mention the 'C' word so early but we are running our Christmas card project again this year. The children have already been busy designing their cards which will be sent to parents next week. You can then decide whether you would like the design to be made into Christmas cards.

### **School Uniform:**

Our school uniform policy is available on our website. Children should not have trainers as school shoes, although they are allowed to change into trainers for playtimes if they are doing football. In winter months children can come to school in boots but must have school shoes to change into for indoor use. Please put your child's name in their uniform as this makes identifying lost clothing so much easier.

### **Head Lice:**

We have had a couple of reports of headlice in school. Please check your child's hair regularly to prevent their spread.