



Weekly Bulletin 12th November 2021

Headteacher's Message

It was good for the school to be able to gather for Remembrance Day Worship yesterday. We joined together as a school family and remembered conflicts past and present and to pray for peace. Our thanks to Year 6 and Fr Peter for preparing and leading our service.

In school this week a number of events to enrich the curriculum have taken place. The whole school have taken part in the 'Forest of Promises' initiative linked to COP26. Pupils have made leaves to create a 'tree of promises' about the changes needed to address climate change. The promises have ranged from cycling rather than getting a lift in a car, making food and snack choices that are kind to the planet and reusing and recycling more. It has been great to see the children engage in this work and how they can be the change in making a difference to the world in which we live. Our thanks go to Mrs Claydon and Mrs Armstrong for coordinating the 'Forest of Promises' display on the fence outside school. As well as this, our Year 5 children have enjoyed a visit to the Hindu Temple in Newcastle to support their learning in RE and Year 3 attended a multi-skills sports festival on Tuesday where they further developed their PE skills.

Next week we are marking both Inter-Faith and Anti-Bullying Weeks in school. Please do take the opportunity to talk to your children about what they have been doing.

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things going on in school. For example, news from our ECO team, Worship group, V.I.P. (Very International People) and SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group). This week our focus is on our School Council and the Chair and Secretary have shared an update on this below with an 'event' they want to share linked to Anti-Bullying week.

Stay safe and well,

Mr Rumbles



School Council Update

Hello,

Our names are William and Eleanor

William has been elected to be Chairperson of the School Council and Eleanor has been elected for our School Council Secretary. To be elected, we had to present a PowerPoint to the whole school and tell them why we would be good for the roles of Chairperson Secretary.

The vote took place in Parliament Week and everyone from Year 1 to 6 had to vote for the Chairperson and Secretary. The other classes have also taken part in a class council vote and two pupils will represent their class in School Council meetings. On Wednesday we had our first School Council meeting where we discussed any suggestions from pupils and any activities we could do for Anti-Bullying Week, which happens next week.

To start Anti-Bullying Week, there will be an **odd socks day on Monday**. Everyone can wear odd socks to help us celebrate that we are all different and unique. If you like to wear tights, you may wear different coloured tights if you want to. You do not have to participate but you can if you wish.

The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week is 'One Kind Word'. Each class will be given a big poster and we have asked every pupil to write one kind word on it and they will all be shown in Celebration Assembly on Friday.

Dates

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Friday 12th November – FOSS Disco (Postponed until further notice)

Monday 15th November – Y4 Bethany Centre Visit

Monday 22nd November - Influenza Childhood Immunisation Programme 2021-2022 (Rec-Y6 – Consent Required)

Saturday 27th November (11:00am-1:00pm) – FOSS Outdoor Christmas Fair

Thursday 9th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 14th December- Infant Nativity 10:00am – Y1 parents

Wednesday 15th December- Infant Nativity 10:00am – Rec parents

Thursday 16th December- Infant Nativity 10:00am – Y2 parents

Thursday 16th December – KS2 Christmas outdoor singalong - 3pm Parents welcome.

Friday 17th December – Christmas Service 10am

Friday 17th December – School closes for Christmas half term holidays

Thursday 6th January 2022 – School re-opens for Spring Term 1

Wednesday 12th – Friday 14th January 2022 – Y6 Residential to Robin Wood Activity Centre

Whatever the Weather Christmas Fair - 11am - 1pm Saturday 27th November

The Whatever the Weather Christmas Fair is just over two weeks away (Saturday 27th November 11-1)! To make it as fun as possible for everyone we are looking for the following donations:

1. Cakes, biscuits and treats to sell at the cake stall - **please drop off at School on Friday 26th November**

2. Kids Christmas Jumpers - as with the pre-loved uniform stall we will be running a Christmas Jumper version at the Christmas fair so we can all be ready for Christmas Jumper day at school on 9th December.

3. Bottles and bottle bags for the mystery bottle stall

4. Soft toys, books, games and toys in good condition for the toy tombola

5. Fairy lights so we can make the school grounds look as magical as possible. **This one is not a donation, just a loan please!** If you can label your fairy lights we will ensure they get back to the right owners following the fair.

If you could please drop off your donations to **school in the week prior to the fair (between 22nd and 26th November)** that would be great. Any donations you can give would be very much appreciated!

We are also still short of volunteers so if you have an hour to spare between 11 and 1 on Saturday 27th November to help out the FOSS team and make the fair a big success please get in contact with us via FOSS on Facebook or at FOSS.shincliffe@gmail.com.

Thanks so much! FOSS team x

ECO

We really need your help! We will be collecting plastic and tech right up to the Christmas holidays. If you have any of the following, please bring them in to school and help us with our recycle to read challenge:

- Broken or old plastic toys (no batteries or electrical elements)
- Any old tech, which is still working: e.g. mobile phones, wireless speakers, tablets, MP3 players, wearable tech (fit bits etc) and digital cameras. Items can be donated without chargers and cables and it isn't a problem if they have a cracked screen. Please can we ask that batteries are removed before they come into school. If they are part of the device, they are still fine to hand in

Thank you to everyone in advance – we really appreciate all your help!

Newsletter

- If your child is wishing to change to *Packed Lunches* please inform the school office with one week's notice as you may still be charged.
- Please remember that parents are responsible for supervising their children before the school gate opens each morning. If you are going to be late picking up your child please inform the school office

NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* online programme

I am pleased to tell you that this term we will again be participating in the **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe. online*** programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly, interactive way. Children are taught to speak out if they are

worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline. In the online assembly, the *Speak out. Stay safe.* messages continue to be delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec. We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme you can find more information on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

Talking PANTS with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'Talk PANTS', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

Childline Under 12's Website

Childline also have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. Your child can visit it at www.childline.org.uk/kids.

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website www.nspcc.org.uk/parents.

NHS Update - Influenza Childhood Immunisation Programme 2021-2022

The nasal influenza vaccination is being offered to all children in Reception-Year 11. Our team is scheduled to visit Shincliffe CofE Primary School on Monday 22nd November 2021 as part of this programme. If you would like your child to receive this immunisation in school, please ensure your consent form has been submitted within one week of receiving your letter.

Please see below for details of how to consent for your child, as well as answers to common questions about the influenza vaccination programme.

How do I give my consent?

1. Go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/>
2. Enter the School Code 114229 and click "Find School".
3. Complete the form with your child's information and parent/guardian contact information*.
4. Click the green "Submit" button.

*If you provide a valid email address you will receive an automatic email confirmation to say your form has been submitted. We will also email you to let you know that your child has been vaccinated in school. If your child has specific medical requirements one of our nurses may need to get in touch before we are due to visit school. We never pass on your contact information to third parties.

Why is the influenza vaccine being offered?

This vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against influenza (flu) and stop the spread of the virus within schools, families and the wider community. Influenza is an unpleasant illness that can lead to school absences and sometimes causes serious complications requiring hospitalisation. Vaccinating your child doesn't just protect them – by helping to stop the spread of influenza this winter they will also be protecting vulnerable friends and family of all ages.

How is the influenza vaccine administered?

Unlike most vaccinations, the nasal influenza vaccine is a quick and simple spray up the nose. There are a small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate. In these cases we offer an intramuscular injection as an alternative. Please check the link below for more information.

*Does the nasal influenza vaccine contain pork gelatine?
Can my child have the injection instead?*

Yes, the nasal influenza vaccine contains trace amounts of porcine gelatine. If you would like your child to receive the injectable influenza vaccine, which does not contain porcine gelatine, please do not complete the online consent form. Instead, please give us a ring on 0300 003 2554. You will need to bring your child to a local community clinic as we cannot give the injection in school.

Where can I find out more?

Please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine> for more information about the childhood influenza vaccination programme.

You can contact the childhood immunisations team on hdfc.immunisationteam@nhs.net or 0300 003 2554 or 01423 557693. We are a small team and we cannot always answer the phone straight away, so please leave a message if there is no one available to take your call. We endeavor to respond to all queries within one working day.

Childhood Immunisations Team

Covid-19 Local Authority Update

In recent weeks, we have seen an increase in COVID-19 cases across County Durham. In particular, there is a marked increase within school-age children which, as you know, is impacting on students and staff. The vaccination programme continues to roll out and is proving effective in reducing serious illness and deaths, however, we are noticing an increase in hospital admissions of patients with Covid-19. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

In response to this we believe it is important to take proactive steps to reduce the spread of infection, bring cases down, and minimising the risk of further disruption to education. Our priority remains, to maximise the number of children and young people in face-to-face education and minimise any disruption.

LFD Testing advice

We would recommend you have a supply of LFD testing kits at home in the event you are requested to use them. You can order home testing kits to be delivered to your home here www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests Or you can collect LFD kits at Community Collect sites across the

County. To find your nearest collection point please enter your post code here maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk. If you pick up tests from a pharmacy, you may be asked for a 'collect code' this helps the NHS match your details to the tests. To get a 'collect code' please visit test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/collect-lateral-flow-kits Please register the result of your home test at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or*
- high temperature and/or*
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)*

If your child does develop symptoms, they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. Book a free PCR test at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test . If positive, your child should isolate for 10 full days after their symptoms appeared. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at 111.nhs.uk/ or by phoning 111. If your child has a positive test result but does not have symptoms they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 full days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. You must always register the result of your home test at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

Help, support, and further information.

To help you comply with the requirement to self-isolate, the County Durham Together Community Hub can provide access to essential supplies, financial support and emotional support as well as other services. Please visit www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help or call the Community Hub on 03000 260260 for further details. There is also support available the coronavirus section via durhamlocate.org.uk

Finally, we would like to thank you for everything you've done to keep your family and community safe, and for your patience in continuing to support our school during this challenging time.

Leave of Absence during Term Time - a reminder

Head Teachers **are not able to grant any** leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Where leave is granted, Head Teachers must decide the number of school days a child can be away from school.

If you wish to make an application for your child's term time leave of absence, you must fill out an application form, which can be requested from the school office or via the school website. The application form asks you to outline the reasons why you feel your application for leave of absence during term time should be regarded as 'exceptional.' Following the submission of your application, you will be notified as soon as possible of the School's decision.

Parents / carers should be aware that if you take leave of absence during term time without making a prior application to the school, or if you make an application but your requested leave of absence is not authorised and still take the child out of school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Similarly, if you keep your child away from school for longer than agreed / authorised, the excess absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

St. Mary's Church Notice

November Wild Church is a Climate Service:(drafted from Churches Together) outside St. Mary's on Sat 20th Nov at 4.00 p.m. Details will follow. All welcome.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Extra Bank Holiday

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday has been announced for 3 June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As on previous similar occasions (e.g. the 2012 Diamond Jubilee or 2011 Royal Wedding), the DfE has therefore amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the school year 2021/22 for maintained schools to a minimum of 189 days, in order to allow schools to close that day or on another day.

Schools not already on half term break on the day of the bank holiday will be able to close that day. Most schools will, however, be on half term at the time of the bank holiday. This change to the Regulations will allow maintained schools to be able to close at another time to give staff and students an extra day off.

In line with other Durham County Council schools, Shincliffe CE Primary School are taking Tuesday 4th January as their extra Bank Holiday. Our INSET day will move to Wednesday 5th January 2022. Children will return to school on Thursday 6th January 2022.

For more information please go to our website:

<https://www.shincliffe.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/>

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of compassion this half term and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Fr. Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

Further information on the value of endurance:

More information on this half term's value:

Compassion' and 'sympathy' have much in common and both are stronger in meaning than simply 'feeling sorry for' someone. The words have their roots in the idea of 'suffering with' someone, putting yourself in someone else's shoes and experiencing what they experience. This leads to a desire to act, to do something. It is not about 'doing good' from a position of strength or 'remembering those less fortunate than ourselves'. Compassion requires an act of imagination and humility to share in the lives of others.

In the Gospels we find many stories of Jesus showing compassion to the sick and the downtrodden of society. Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone. In the school community this means showing kindness and respect to each other. It is related to the way in which new people are welcomed into the school family and nurtured and supported. It is reflected in the ways in which members of the community support each other through difficult times, such as bereavement. Christians would say that God Himself is the perfect example of community—the three persons of the Trinity are bound together in the ultimate closeness which makes them one. In a church school the idea of community

will always be a strong one— schools share a common life and common goals—we aim to nurture and sustain all our members.

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- In what ways do we encourage members of the school community to show kindness and respect to one another?
- How do we foster links with charities for those in need?
- How are new members of the school community nurtured and supported?
- How does the school help, and encourage pupils to understand and empathise with members of their community who have suffered traumatic experiences, e.g. bereavement?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school.

Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.