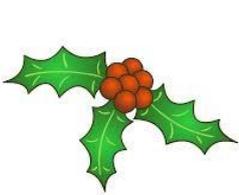




# Withernsea Primary School

‘All – Aspire and Love Learning’

## December 2016 Newsletter



It's now December and time to open all those advent calendars and start the countdown!!

On behalf of all the staff and Governors we would like to wish everyone Seasons Greetings and a Happy New Year! We thank you for all the support and encouragement that you have given the school and the children over the past year and look forward to a very successful 2017. We hope you are able to join us at some of our Christmas events and activities. We look forward to 2017 with lots of wonderful learning opportunities.

We appreciate our partnership with parents and carers and hope that together we ensure all our children achieve well.

Thank you – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Christmas Concerts



Rehearsals and practices are now well under way and we are greatly looking forward to the Christmas festivities. We have already sent out the Christmas calendar with dates and activities that are taking place - please collect a spare from the South office if you didn't receive a copy or have misplaced it, or you can look on the website.



## Winter / Weather Protocol



We hope the weather remains reasonable and does not cause major disruptive problems. However, there is always the possibility of anything given the weather! Should there be major snow or flooding disruption, we would send you a text if it affects school. Please make sure we have your most up-to-date mobile number; also we would put relevant messages on Radio Humberside.

We will use the dojo school story as a message as well. If you can, please sign up to dojo – sign-up sheets are available from your class teacher - it's informative and the children love having their work displayed for everyone to see.

Please can we ask that all children come to school suitably dressed for the cold weather. Unless it is raining, we do go outside at playtimes and lunchtimes for fresh air and to run-around. We also walk between the two buildings for lessons as our Library, Music room and Cookery room are all in the South building. If your child comes to school in wellington boots, can you please make sure he/she has a change of footwear for indoors – thank you.



## Attendance

Good attendance is critical. By half term we had nearly 40 children with attendance of less than 90% (this is now classified as persistently absent). We are hoping by Christmas that this number will have decreased. We want to support you in ensuring your child is at school as much as possible, if you do have concerns, perhaps over an ongoing medical condition, please contact us as we do want to help and work with you.

Even 90% attendance means your child is missing the equivalent of half a day a week which adds up to 19 school days over the course of a school year. It does start to affect their academic progress.

## Attendance for November

Thank you for good attendance. Congratulations to 1JT, Miss Teall's class – 96.6%) for very impressive attendance during the month of November.

Class	Percentage		Percentage
<b>F2CG</b> – Miss C Good	92.5%	<b>3ML</b> – Mr M Lindgren	93.1%
<b>F2AB</b> – Miss A Brown	93.4%	<b>4CC</b> – Mr C Cundy	95.1%
<b>F2SN</b> – Mrs S Noble	93.2%	<b>4CW</b> – Mrs C Wright	96.3%
<b>1TS</b> – Mrs D Thomson / Miss E Smith	94.9%	<b>4FS</b> – Miss F Seager	94.1%
<b>1ST</b> – Mrs E Sansam / Mrs D Thomson	94.8%	<b>5RE</b> – Mrs R Egan	96.0%
<b>1JT</b> – Miss J Teall	<b>96.6%</b>	<b>5JW</b> – Mr J Welbourn	95.3%
<b>2HT</b> – Mrs H Todd	95.6%	<b>5KB</b> – Mrs K Banks	95.4%
<b>2TK</b> – Mrs T Knight	96.3%	<b>6EA</b> – Miss E Atwood	96.0%
<b>2BH</b> – Mrs C Bagnall / Mrs L Hilton	90.3%	<b>6RL</b> – Mrs R Lindgren	91.6%
<b>3LF</b> – Mrs L Feeney	89.9%	<b>6LH</b> – Miss L Harrison	95.2%

## Free School Meals

If you are eligible for Free School Meals or your family circumstances change and you become eligible, please make sure that you claim. Your child would have the option of taking a free meal, as Pupil Premium paid into schools is based on the number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals. This will directly affect the money paid into school to spend on staffing and resources. In these stringent economic times every penny counts and it is important we have the money which school is entitled to have to best support our children. If you look on our school website it goes into details about how we spend our Pupil Premium money and also the impact and the difference it is making.



## North Building mornings

The teachers come out in the mornings to meet the children and Mrs Harper is usually around near the year 2, 3, and 4 entrances and is happy to pass on messages. Please could parents say goodbye to children on the playground and not follow them into school, especially with pushchairs.

Unfortunately the building was built 80 years ago and we have fairly narrow corridors and lots of children so the addition of adults and pushchairs create further bottle necks.

Reading mornings and activity mornings are obviously an exception to this and we all need to be patient trying to get around – so bear with us.

Also when the teachers have taken the children inside and lessons have started, the teachers do need to focus on the children and are not able to have conversations at this point in the day. Quick messages can be done via the dojo system and we employ a Home-School liaison officer and Parent Support Advisor for those longer conversations; they are available throughout the whole school day - please use them. Please use dojo messages for non-urgent messages – for example, if your arrangements change for who's picking up your child – please let the office know so they can make sure your child and their teacher know – as teacher's can't always be looking at their iPads - it depends what lessons they are doing- thank you. We don't want to miss those sorts of messages – thank you.

## Incident on Hull Road

We had a recent incident where a child was knocked by a car on Hull Road. Fortunately injuries were minimal and it would have been far worse had the driver been going faster - fortunately they were driving very slowly. We know it's busy before school and home time – but it's important cars do adhere to the 20 mile hour driving speed. Please also be patient with the lollipop crossing she is there to keep our children safe and also encourage children to use the crossing. We do lots of work around road safety and pedestrian skills. Please can parents also model good crossing and road safety as well so we can really hammer home the message - thank you.



## Y5 Meridian Centre

Year 5 will be holding an exhibition at the Meridian Centre on Thursday 8 December showcasing British Culture. Please come along and support us from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm – thank you.

## Staffing updates – January 2017

We wish Mrs Hilton well as she leaves us at Christmas. We will be appointing another teacher to work with Mrs Bagnall to replace her.

## Movember

Mr Sutherland, Mr Lindgren, Mr Welbourn, Mr Murray and Mr Milnes would like to thank all the people who sponsored them during Movember. Altogether the total raised is around £450. Here's a picture of the team on the last day, unfortunately Mr Welbourn was on a training course on the final day so we had to photoshop him in (you can hardly tell!).



## Get into Teaching

Thank you to the two visitors who came for the recent 'Get into Teaching' day. It was a really positive experience and I know they got to observe and reflect on some excellent teaching during the day.

We do not have any plans to hold a similar event in the future, but the school has registered with the **School Experience Portal**. If anyone is considering a career in teaching they can log-on to the portal and choose from a series of dates that we have made available to come into school and observe/support in class for the day. We have ensured that the dates available cover different days of the week to suit people's work patterns. A school experience day gives people the chance to get an insight into school if they are considering it as a career choice and gives valuable experience that can be used as part of an application for teacher training courses. If you are interested, you can register using the following address:

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/school-experience>

# Healthy Schools Page

## Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner for pupils will be on Wednesday 7 December.



## Out of School Club

The provision and use of this has been carefully monitored over the term.

In January breakfast club 7.45 - 8.45 am will continue and places for this can be booked online – please ask at the office for further details if you would like to start using this service.

Unfortunately not enough children were using the after school club to make it viable so it will close at the end of this term.

Parents who were using it have been given 4 weeks' notice in addition to the school holiday time.

However, Friday after school club 3.20 - 5.45 pm will continue to run as it was the night that was viable and well used. Again, use the online booking service for **Friday evening only** - thank you.



## Anti-Bullying

We completed a questionnaire with all pupils from Year 2 upwards about bullying.

We asked if they had any problems this year, if they had been supported and if the situation had been resolved or if it continued. Whilst we stress to the children it is important to tell an adult and seek help, sometimes they do not.

When they don't tell anyone it often doesn't get sorted out so please reinforce the message – please tell an adult in school. We were pleased to report that there were very few incidents; where any problems have been reported we have worked with the children to ensure they get resolved. It does seem to be an effective strategy. We have encouraged the children to try to recognise when they have fallen out with their friends rather than calling it bullying.

Bullying is much more than a falling out or a disagreement and is much more serious. It is important children can start to recognise the difference. We will of course still support and help even with small disagreements as these can be very upsetting.

We have focused this term on name calling, how it makes people feel and what children can do about it.

We linked this in with National Anti-Bullying Week.

## Headlice (will not be taking a Christmas Holiday)

Please can everyone 'Once a week take a peek' - to try and eradicate this problem. If you are not sure what you are looking for or how to check, Mrs Allen, Mrs Heath or – Miss Leech will be happy to show you what to do.



The Health Service does not have the resources to provide a 'nit nurse' and even if they did it still does not eradicate the problem as treatment is the responsibility of parents. If school becomes aware of a child with headlice we will contact the parents to seek treatment.

It is really important that parents do not do a one-off treatment and think they have solved the problem as lotions tend to kill the lice but not always the eggs. It only takes one egg to get missed, hatch and off the whole cycle goes again. Headlice prolifically lay eggs. It is also important to check the whole family including adults and to be aware it is a community issue.

Wherever children gather together e.g. football teams, dance groups, playing together outside etc. if they have head contact with each other headlice can travel. The problem does not go away at holiday times - please continue to check even when we are not at school – thank you.

### Term Dates – 2016/2017

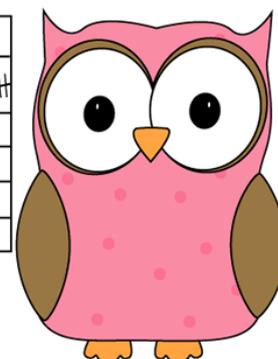
#### **Autumn Term 2016**

Close - Friday 16 December at **2.20 pm**

#### **Spring Term 2017**

Re-open – Wednesday 4 January  
Close for half term – Friday 17 February  
Re-open Monday 27 February  
Close Friday 7 April at **2.20 pm**

Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat



Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on Friday 7 April.

#### **Summer Term 2017**

Open - Tuesday 25 April  
Close for May Day - Monday 1 May  
Close for half term - Friday 26 May  
Re-open - Monday 5 June  
Close - Tuesday 25 July at **2.20 pm**

Please note the school will be closed in the afternoon to F1 (pm) children on Tuesday 25 July.

## Christmas Fair



The School Christmas Fair was a great success and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, students, parents, carers, family and friends for the support given. You were all very generous with either, donations for stalls, or for attending the Fair. Also a big thank you to Father Christmas and his elves!



A special thank you to **Tesco** for their generous donations towards the refreshments, this was very much appreciated. We are pleased that approximately £2,022.00 was raised from the Fair and this will go towards School Fund to assist in providing extra resources for the children.



Thank you all once again.



We hope you enjoy all our  
Christmas activities and events.



*Merry*  
*Christmas*