 4/10 /23

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| **Dear Parents,**  Welcome to the latest newsletter! It has been an incredibly busy start to the new year and there are lots more exciting things planned. Don’t forget to look at the dates at the end of the letter! | |
| **Focus on PE**  Mrs Graham, our new PE lead, writes;  I am really excited to be taking on the role of PE lead. This year, I want to focus on engaging children of all different ages in different sporting activities and to give all of our children a range of different experiences. I want as many children as possible to take part in competitive activities across our part of Northumberland.  The year has got off to a great start with the climbing wall in school and all of the KS2 girls taking part in an afternoon of football at Ovingham Middle School. I am planning lots of Early Bird PE sessions and different after school clubs through the spring and summer terms. We already have boxing sessions for KS2 booked in for the spring term as well as after school gymnastics clubs for all ages. Details of these will follow after Christmas. If you, or anyone you know, can offer any time or skills which will help develop our PE in school, please do get in touch as we are always on the lookout for new ideas!’ | |
| **Climbing Wall**  Everyone really challenged themselves on the climbing wall and- despite the weather forecast- everyone had  lots of turns! It was a great way to start the year.  A person climbing a rock wall  Description automatically generated A person climbing a rock wall  Description automatically generated A group of people climbing a rock wall  Description automatically generated | |
| **Football festival -part 1**  It was an absolute pleasure for Mrs Hall and I to take all of the Y3/4/5 and 6 girls to Ovingham Middle School for a football afternoon. Despite the very last-minute arrangements, and slightly tricky transport situation, it was a great afternoon. The sun shone, everyone had fun and the train home was on time!  We’ve made some good contacts, too, with other schools for future events. | **Football festival – part 2**  Mr Hill is organising our very own football festival for the afternoon of Thursday 26th October. Children from Greenhead, Henshaw and Wark Primary Schools will be joining us for the afternoon and taking part in a range of activities and games with a football theme. |
| **Harvest Lunch**  We would like to invite one adult per family to a harvest lunch on Tuesday 17th October. Mrs Bridges is planning one of her amazing roast dinners.  There will be a letter coming out shortly.  **Please complete and return the letter by TUESDAY 10th OCTOBER** so that Mrs Bridges can get the food orders in on time. | **School photos**  The photographer will be on school on Wednesday 18th October to take photos of the children.  There is a different company providing our photos this year so we are hoping they will be better value.  . |
| **Parent Consultations**  We are holding parent consultation meetings on Monday 13th  and Tuesday 14th November.  These will be fact to face meetings but, as always, we are happy to accommodate requests for a virtual meeting nearer the time. | **New online payments and messaging service via ParentPay**  After half term, we are swapping to a new online messaging and payment service called Parentpay.  We are hoping that this will be a smoother system than our existing provider and it will also bring us in line with other schools in our MAT. In addition to online payments, it will be possible to make cash payments at PayPoint stores.  Comprehensive information about how to set up an account will be sent to you shortly by Mrs Hudson. Please take the time to read this carefully and please bear with us as we all get used to a new system! |
| Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do get in touch or catch me before school. If I don’t know there’s a problem, I can’t sort it out!  Kind regards,  Mrs Trotter (Headteacher) | |

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| **Dates for your diary** |  |
| **October** |  |
| Tuesday 17th October | Harvest lunch in school |
| Wednesday 18th October | School photos |
| Thursday 26th October | Football festival in school |
| Friday 27th October | Break for half term |
| November |  |
| Monday 6th November | Back to school |
| Monday 13th November | Parent Consultations 3.15- 7pm |
| Tuesday 14th November | Parent Consultations 3.15- 5.30 pm |
| **December** |  |
| Thursday 14th | Christmas Lunch |
| *Monday 18th* | *Christmas Play dress rehearsal- provisional date* |
| *Tuesday 19th* | *Christmas play evening performance.*  *PROVISIONAL DATE* |
| *Wednesday 20th* | *Christmas play afternoon performance.*  *PROVISIONAL DATE* |
| Thursday 21st | Christmas party |
| Friday 22nd December | Break for Christmas |
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