 7/11 /23

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| **Dear Parents,**  Welcome to the latest newsletter and to the second half of the autumn term. A warm welcome, too, to Amy who has joined us in Year 5 this week. We hope you will be happy here at Newbrough.  There are lots of important dates this for this half term at the end of the letter.  Some of these have had to change- apologies if this causes any issues for anyone. | |
| **Class 2 visit to Prudhoe Castle**  Class 2 rounded off their history work last half term with a fantastic visit to Prudhoe Castle. They loved it so much that several of the children went back during half term! Well done everyone for your enthusiasm and for being such great representatives of our school.  . | **Class 4 visit to the Baltic**  Class 4 have also been out and about again but this time, they visited the Baltic in Newcastle as part of their art work on ‘Landmarks’. The artwork they have produced is absolutely amazing. You’ll be able to see some of it on display in school during parents’ evenings next week. |
| **Art Days**  Class 2,3 and 4 all had their ‘art days’ at the end of last half term. Class 2 and 4 were looking at Landmarks while Class 3 produced some work on the theme of Fantasy Worlds. The children acrosss the school have produced some stunning work which you will be able to see on display in school. Class 2 used different materials to produce sculptures; Class 3 were investigating different painting techniques and Class 4 were learning different printing techniques. | |
| **Christmas Play: Change of dates**  We have had to change the date of our Christmas play performances again so huge apologies for this. I know some of you may have already booked time off work for it but unfortunately, it is unavoidable.  The dates are now:  **Monday 18th December 10 am - Dress rehearsal**- you are welcome to bring toddlers to this.  **Monday 18th December 2 pm - Afternoon performance**  **Tuesday 19th December - Evening performance**  As in previous years, there will be a limit of 2 tickets per family for each performance. | |
| **New online payments and messaging service via ParentPay**  Our new online messaging and payment service, Parentpay, is now live. Thank you to those of you who have already signed up for it.  Comprehensive information about how to set up an account has been sent to you by Mrs Hudson. Please take the time to read this carefully, ask for additional copies if you need them and please bear with us as we all get used to a new system!  For a short time we will continue to send messages via Parentmail as well as we are aware that some people are not yet live on the new system. However, this will be for a limited period. Do get in touch if there are any problems. | |
| **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.  We hope to be trialling an online booking system through Parentpay - details to follow. | |
| **Nursery Consultation**  We are currently considering extending our nursery provision and are asking parents and others in the community for their views.  Please let us know your views by completing the survey at: <https://forms.gle/cYUP8j2wDkJvXdqK6> | **School photos**  Please return all outstanding orders for photos to school by **Monday 13th November.** |
| **Friends of Newbrough Primary School**  The AGM for the Friends is on Monday 20th November at 7.30pm in the Red Lion.  The Friends do an amazing job raising crucial funds for our school which pay for resources like new books or IT resources and help fund the buses for  school trips -which means we can keep prices reasonable. I know they would be delighted to see some new faces at the meeting! | **School Council**  Our new school councillors are:  Marnie, Leon (Class 4); Jackson, Dylan (Class 3); and Georgie and Frankie in Class 2.  They are going to be leading on some projects in school including a ‘Seeds2trees’ project where the children are going to be growing trees for community planting projects. |
| **New clubs this half term**  All the spaces are now full for Y3/4 Forest School Club.  Mrs Graham is going to be running a ‘Board games’ club for children in Class 2 this half term starting next Monday. There will be a separate sign-up letter coming home about this shortly. | **Sports Crew**  We also have a newly trained band of Sports Ambassadors, the ‘Sports Crew’ (Luke, Aidan, Max and Aubrey; Hamish and Phoebe; and Livvy and Iris). More from them below:  *‘We are the ‘School Sports Organising Crew’. We are the group of children who organise sports around the school. We are promoting Active60 and school games. Meeting days are Monday at first break’* |
| **Non-uniform day in exchange for hamper donations**  The Friends are organising a Christmas Hamper raffle again this year so we will be holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 1st December** in exchange for donations of Christmas food hamper items. More details will follow. | **Reading books**  We’ve just invested in some replacement reading books to go with our phonics scheme. These books cost at least £6 each so please, please encourage the children to look after them. They are quite flimsy! Quite a few have also gone missing so please could I ask that everyone has a good look around at home to see if you can find any books which belong to school. Thank you! |
| **Attendance**  Attendance is becoming a huge focus nationally.  There are many reasons why it is important; here is just one:  **The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment.** | |
| **Climbing Boulder**  It’s lovely to see the children playing on the field after school when the weather is fine. Our rules in school are that only children in Class 3 and 4 should be accessing the climbing boulder and only when they are closely supervised by an adult. You know your child and their limitations but please make sure you are closely supervising any child on the boulder and please remember our rules are there for a reason. | |
| 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) | |
| **Dates for your diary** | |
| **November** |  |
| Monday 13th November | Parent Consultations 3.15- 7pm |
| Tuesday 14th November | Parent Consultations 3.15- 5.30pm |
| Monday 20th November | Friends AGM - 7.30pm Red Lion |
| **December** |  |
| Friday 1st December | Non-uniform day |
| Thursday 14th December | Christmas Lunch |
| Monday 18th December | Christmas Play dress rehearsal - am  Christmas play performance 2pm |
| Tuesday 19th December | Christmas play evening performance |
| Thursday 21st December | Christmas party |
| Friday 22nd December | Break for Christmas 3.15pm |
| **January 2024** |  |
| Tuesday 9th January | School reopens to pupils |