



# Acomb First School Fortnightly Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Upcoming dates

See Diary dates sheet attached to the Parentmail.

## Miss Williamson's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic first half term of the school year we have had! The children have all settled in really well and are all working really hard.

It was absolutely wonderful to see so many of you at St John Lee's Church for our Harvest Festival. I was incredibly proud of the children's confidence and resilience in performing in front of so many people so early in the term.

I must thank you all for all of your generous donations towards both the Harvest collection for the West Northumberland Foodbank and also to support our developments in Willow class (Reception) outdoor learning environment.

We have included an updated version of the Dates for the Diary sheet as we have added in many more exciting events. Please do look carefully at it as there are lots of events for children and families outside of the school day.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at school or by email:

[hannah.williamson@acomb.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:hannah.williamson@acomb.northumberland.sch.uk)

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Hannah Williamson



### **Playground leaders have been appointed**

We have finally finished all of the interviews for all of the important jobs that children can do in school. This week was the last of the interviews where we have appointed 9 amazing playground leaders who will all work hard with Miss Hamilton to develop exciting opportunities at playtime and lunch time. They will also be responsible for looking after all of our precious playtime equipment. Well done to these brilliant ambassadors of our school!



### **Parent workshops**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend the phonics workshop that Miss Derby led. It was great to see so many parents so keen to support their children.

We have our next workshop about Accelerated Reader this week. These workshops are to help you understand the systems we use in school and enable you to support your child so please do try to attend. A form for these workshops will be sent out for you to sign up to. We are initially running an evening workshop for all of these. If you cannot make this time but would like the information, please do get in touch and we will try our best to accommodate you.



### **Positive behaviour management**

### **Safeguarding and behaviour**

As I have mentioned previously we have updated our behaviour policy. We now use a trauma informed relational approach to behaviour in school. For any parents who would like more information about these please have a look in our policy. We also have an updated safeguarding policy on there so do please take a look.



### **Bingo with Pie and Peas – save the date!**

We are in the process of organising a Bingo night with pie and peas. This is an adults only event. This will take place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 6.30 – 8.30pm and is sure to be a fantastic night.

Tickets will be available through the completion of a form on Parent Mail nearer the time.

All proceeds will go to developing the school provision further.

### **Attendance Matters**



#### **Attendance**

As you know, good attendance is hugely important in ensuring your child has the best chance of reaching their full potential in school.

I have had a number of holiday requests this term. I do ask that you book all holidays during the 13 weeks each year the children have off school. When children miss chunks of school this can have a lasting impact so please do be mindful of this.

Our whole school average attendance up to this week is 95.90%



#### **Key Stage 2 residentials**

We have some really exciting trips and visits for all children this year. Year 4, like in previous years, will be going on their residential to Robinwood on 1<sup>st</sup> May. The form and payment plan for this will be set up this week to give you plenty of time to manage your budgets.

In addition to this, we have planned an overnight residential at school for all of Chestnut class. Mr H Outdoor Experiences will be running this and it is sure to be two days of the most exciting fun. This will take place on 20-21<sup>st</sup> June 2024. The cost of this will be £80 per child.

We will have meetings about both of these residentials nearer to the time but I wanted to give you as much notice as possible.



### **Halloween Discos**

We will be sending out a form for you to sign up to the Halloween discos. Tickets will be £2 per child for the disco and a hotdog and drink. There will also be an opportunity to sign up for face painting. This will need you to complete a form so we have your permission. For the dates of these please see the Dates for the Diary sheet. Children can bring outfits into school to get changed into at the end of the day.



### **Parent Teacher Association**

We are very keen to find some new members of the PTA. We are looking for members who can volunteer before and during events to support us and also for people who would like to be part of the running of the PTA.

Please come along to the meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 3.30 – 4.30pm



### **Remembrance and Children in Need**

We have a wonderful selection of poppy accessories on sale in school. Children can give a donation for these before 9am until Remembrance Day.

We have also ordered a range of Children in Need accessories which we will be selling. This is following the school council decision to continue to support Children in Need. We will let you know when these become available.



### **Safeguarding**

Keeping children safe from harm is our number one priority. We will always act upon any concerns individuals have, or any disclosures from children. However, if you have any concerns outside of school, or if you have a concern about a child or young person's welfare, it is essential that you call One Call on: 01670 536400