

Acomb County First School Newsletter 3



Friday 18th October 2019

Head Teacher Message

As the end of this half term fast approaches school continues to be a hive activity including amazing curriculum opportunities, fun and celebration! Children have had a superb time this week for our focus week on flood and water safety. They have had lots of practical and hands on experiences outside of the classroom which have not only enriched our curriculum, but have also proved to be very relevant within our local community and in a wider global context.

We would like to say a big thank you to Colin Hall from the Environment Agency who has coordinated the week so successfully. Thank you to John, Steve, Sean and Nick at Hexham Fire and Rescue for an amazing day on Monday. The children enjoyed the throw line challenge!

Thank you to the Environment Agency field team Paul, David, Kenneth, Lee, Mark, Sarah, Emily, Kevin and Brian for the fantastic day on Tuesday. The equipment demonstration was described as 'epic' by one of our Year 4's!

Thank you to Helen Parkin from NCC's FCERM team for Thursday's informative workshops on the water cycle, drainage and water surface issues.

Ironically, it was too wet to take the children down to the Red Burn this morning for our geographical field visit. Colin has agreed to reschedule it for another week which is something to look forward to after half term.

In the meantime we will explore maps of the area and investigate photographs of Morrison Terrace and the Red Burn before the flood defences were installed.

The opportunities and experiences that our children have had this week have been brilliant. They have been inspired take an active role in water and flood safety in our community in the future, and I am confident that we are creating the next generation of Village Flood Wardens for years to come!

Next week continues to be just as busy with our Harvest Festival on Wednesday afternoon and our 150th Anniversary celebrations on Thursday after school.

Please remember, if you are unsure of anything or if you need our help in anyway, don't hesitate to call us, email us or visit the office.

Have an enjoyable and restful half term and we look forward seeing you on Monday 4th November.

Mrs Clarke



Attendance

The good start to the year has continued, attendance figures are 97.73 % since the beginning of the term. We really appreciate your efforts to arrive at school promptly ready to learn! As we were able to maintain our whole school attendance target of 96% last year our new target is to maintain an attendance figure of 97% and above this year, we can do it!



Aldi Kit for Schools

Every time you spend over £30 in any Aldi store you'll receive a Team GB sticker. Bring your stickers to school to help us complete our poster. Once we have collected 300 stickers on our poster, we will send the poster back to receive an exclusive sports kit and to be in with a chance to win £20,000 for school!

Dinner Money and Swimming Money

Can any money including any outstanding payments from last year, be paid as soon as possible. Please send in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with your child's name and details of what the payment is for. Dinners cost £2.20 per day, £11.00 per week or £83.60 for the whole half term. Please do not allow debts to build up.

House points

Our new House Points are already having a positive impact in school and children are earning lots of points for their fantastic manners, positive attitudes excellent work. House points can be awarded by any member of staff and can be awarded for any reason.

Totals so far:

Alnwick	Chillingham	Bamburgh	Warkworth
291	310	286	294

School Admissions

The online admissions portal opened on the 12th September for applications to Middle School, details of how to apply online have been sent to Year 4 children via Parentmail. Please contact the Admissions team on 01670 624 889 if you have any questions.

The following link will provide further information and guidance:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1.aspx>

Class news

Reception - Miss Dunlavy

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in Reception. We have been learning all about the different parts of a castle and even had a go at building our own drawbridge using the correct materials!

In maths, we have been looking at patterns. The children have made some fantastic repeating patterns and worked really hard using lots of different colours.

This week has been Flood Safety Week. We have had lots of visitors in and seen some really amazing vehicles. The children have loved sitting in the tractor and the fire engine! We have learned all about what each vehicle is used for and were fascinated by the remote control grass cutter!





Class 1 - Mrs Barber

Class One have loved our flood safety week! We have enjoyed taking part in all of the different activities. On Monday we had a visit from the Northumberland Fire and Rescue service, they helped us learn all about how to stay safe in floods and how to help somebody who is stuck in the water. We really enjoyed learning all about the jobs that the firefighters do and exploring the equipment that they use.

Class One have also enjoyed finding out about what happens to our water when it goes down the drains. On Tuesday we had a visit from the Environment Agency. We loved looking at all of the equipment that they use to help prevent and stop flooding.

We even got to use the hydraulic trailer and tip the wood that had been collected out of the trailer. On Thursday we went outside and located all of the drains in our school and used coloured chalk to draw a picture of different fish, this is to help us to remember what happens to our water when it goes down the drain.

We have enjoyed this week and loved asking lots of different questions, whilst also being able to share our ideas too. Mrs Barber was so impressed with our enthusiasm and our behaviour.



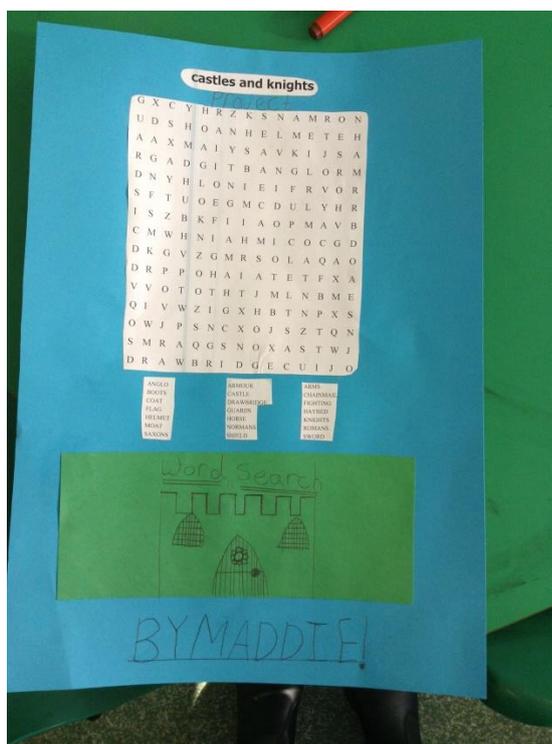


Class 2 – Miss Strachan

The children have had an amazing time in PE over the last few weeks. We have been really trying hard with our football skills and control of the ball. Mr Hill and Mr Thompson has been very impressed with our sportsmanship when playing competitive games. We are also looking forward to our mini football tournament coming up!

Homework projects have been arriving and Miss Strachan has been extremely impressed with how hard Class 2 has been working on their projects. We have seen some amazing word searches, presentations and model castles! Fantastic work everyone!

Class 2 have been throwing themselves into Flood Safety Week and they have been so enthusiastic all week! Some of Class 2's favourite things this week were the visit from the fire engine, sitting in a tractor and completing our STEM challenge! The children have learned a lot about flood safety and who and how people can help us.





Local events and notices

Acomb First School



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2019

Acomb First School



Thursday 24th October at 3:15 pm in the school hall

150th Anniversary Celebrations

*Join us for a journey through the years of Acomb First School and village life
Presentation by the History Society's Gordon Scorer at 3:30pm*

Traditional refreshments served by our PTA and Acomb's Women's Institute

School Direct Taster Sessions

Do you want to make a difference in the lives of young people? Come along and find out about the Tyne Valley Teaching School Alliance's School Direct Programme On Thursday 24 October; we are holding two sessions, the first at 9.30am and the second at 1.45pm.



The session will involve the opportunity to:

- Observe across school
- Meet our trainees and hear about their experiences
- Discuss the application and interview process

To book on one of the sessions, please call 01434 602808 or email admin@sele.northumberland.sch.uk

FREE digital skills training for beginners

Come along to our **FREE** four week training course perfect for any beginner wanting to learn new digital skills such as:

- How to use a computer or digital tablet
 - How to get online
 - Setting-up email accounts
 - Staying safe online
 - Using search engines
 - Online shopping
 - Using social media
 - Online form filling
- And many other skills...

Information

Location:
ACOMB VILLAGE HALL

Date:
24th October

Time:
2:00pm-4:00pm

Duration:
4 weeks course

To enrol on this course call **0345 600 6400**
or email **daniel.heppell@northumberland.gov.uk**



Northumberland
County Council

www.northumberland.gov.uk

Date	Event	Time	Notes
October			
Tuesday 22 nd October	Be Safe Be Seen Assembly - Coop	9 am	Children and staff
Wednesday 23 rd October	Harvest Festival – Acomb Methodist Church Donations for West Northumberland Foodbank	1.45 pm	Letter has been sent via ParentMail
Thursday 24 th October	150 year Anniversary Celebrations	3:15 pm	Letter has been sent via ParentMail
Friday 25 th October	Teacher Training Day	All day	School closed to pupils
Monday 28 th October	Half term holiday		
November			
Monday 4 th November	School reopens to pupils	8:55 am	
Tuesday 5 th November	Whole School Visit - Newcastle Castle	All day	Please return permission slips and payment
Thursday 7 th November	Reception Height and weights		More information to follow
	Open the Book Assembly	1.30 pm	Children and staff
	PTA Disco- Bring party clothes to school in a named bag. No payment needed.	3:15 – 5 pm	Please return permission slips by 24 th October
Monday 11 th November	Anti-bullying week		
Thursday 14 th November	Open Day – Free forest school mini sessions and activities in school.	9.30 – 11.30	For prospective children and families
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need	All day	More information to follow
Monday 18 th November	Class 1 Forest school	pm	More information to follow
Tuesday 19 th November	Class 1 cake stall	3:15 pm	School yard
Friday 22 nd November	Little Oaks Christmas Fair	7 pm	Village Hall
Saturday 30 th November	Village hall Christmas Crafts	All day	
December			
Thursday 5 th December	Open the Book Assembly	2.45 pm	Children and staff
Wednesday 11 th December	School Christmas lunch		More information to follow
Thursday 12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All day	Please note change of date
	Carols at the Pant	7pm	Refreshments at the Village Hall from 7:30pm
Monday 16 th December	Dress rehearsal Christmas performance Village Hall	am	More information to follow
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas performance Village Hall	2 pm 6 pm	More information to follow
Wednesday 18 th December	Queens Hall Performance 'A Viking Christmas' and Viking Workshop	All day	More information to follow
Friday 20 th December	Last day of Autumn term		School closed for Christmas break
January 2020			
Monday 6 th January 2020	Teacher Training Day	All day	School closed to pupils
Tuesday 7 th January	School reopens to pupils for Spring term		

February			
Tuesday 4 th February	Safer Internet Day 2019	All day	More information to follow
Friday 14 th February	Teacher Training Day	All day	School closed to pupils
Monday 17 th February	Spring half term holiday		
Monday 24 th February	School reopens to pupils		
March			
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day	All day	More information to follow
April			
Friday 3 rd April	Last day of Spring term		School closed for Easter break
Monday 20 th April	School reopens to pupils		
May			
Friday 8 th May	Bank holiday	All day	Please note the change of date
Wednesday 20 th – Friday 22 nd May	Year 4 Residential - Calvert Trust Kielder		More information to follow
Monday 25 th May	Summer half term holiday	All week	
June			
Monday 1 st June	School reopens to pupils		
Sunday 14 th June	Summer fair – provisional date TBC	11-1 pm	
July			
Friday 17 th July	Last day of term		

We have uploaded all of the current diary dates to the calendar and will continue to update the class pages with information regularly. Please note: It is occasionally necessary to change dates and times of events. Where a date or time changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.



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