



Week beginning 1 December 2022 – Edition no. 5

Important notices/reminders

Clubs next half term

We are looking at reducing the number of sports clubs as requested by parents, and holding the following after school clubs (there has also been a decline in the Tuesday club numbers and therefore this may not run next term):

Spring 1

	Club	Chat and Relax on?
Monday	Miss Tweddell's sign language / Sports Club	Yes
Tuesday	Full of Beans	Yes
Wednesday	Dance with Pippa	Yes
Thursday	Full of Beans	Yes

Spring 2

	Club	Chat and Relax on?
Monday	Mrs Hilton's Board Games / Sports Club	Yes
Tuesday	Full of Beans	Yes
Wednesday	Dance with Pippa	Yes
Thursday	Full of Beans	Yes

PE kit

There has been a steady trickle of responses to the question I posed last term – thank you for the time taken to send in a response. From the 24 replies a quarter were not in favour of the PE kit change (children coming into school in PE kits). In school we have seen PE lesson time increase and children more readily available for learning. However, I understand that this arrangement does not suit everyone, therefore I am proposing a hybrid system where children can come dressed in PE kit if they wish to continue doing so on their PE day (Monday) or bring kit with them. The second PE lesson of the week for Spring 1 and 2 will be swimming on Tuesday afternoon. A letter outlining what is needed will be sent out before the end of term. Arrangements remain unchanged for Early Years.

Ways to communicate

Mrs North is available to talk to most mornings whilst securing the perimeter gates and continues to offer Tuesday and Thursday Open Door afternoons (1pm – 3pm) if you'd like to pop in and see her, or make an advanced appointment. She is around at the end of a day in various places but you can call into Reception to speak with her. If easier you can call Gillian to pre-book an appointment. In the first instance though it is best to see your child's teacher, and then if further discussion is needed, an appointment with Mrs North. Just a reminder that emails to the school office are looked at on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday when the Office is open, and messages can be left on the phone's answering service on other days. There may be a slight delay with responses to messages relayed in these ways on a Wednesday and Friday but we do endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Events roundup so far. Lots has been happening since the last edition.

- **Illuminated non-uniform day** was a great success and the children were definitely bright!! This was in celebration of Star and with the theme of the term – Illumination. Photos in next edition.
- **Be You assembly** – We had a visit from the Be You team last week talking about children's mental health. We sent home a paper based first-aid kit that might help children when they are feeling sad/out of sorts. We can get the team in to work with individuals and groups of pupils where the need arises. If you would like to talk about possible support in this area please see Mrs North.
- **Children in Need breakfast** - Thank you for all the support that went into this event, and for attending. £200 raised and a lovely chance to chat and eat.
- **Christmas Wreath making** – Thank you to Mrs Hilton for organising a wonderful event. Lots of greenery and creativity was on display and many doors around the Shire and Hexham will now be adorned. A great event to start to feel that Christmas feeling!!!
- **Posada** – Speaking of which the Posada set will soon be making its journey around the homes of Whitley Chapel families. Please do return your forms to Andrew via the school if you would like to be part of this.
- **The School Production is underway** – we have decided upon 'Stable Manners' as it continues our sheep inspiration this term. Every child needs to have a named carrier bag brought in next week to start collating costume items. A list of what each character needs will be sent out next week.
- **Parkrun** – so nice to see 10+ children and families attending this 2km run last Sunday morning. Despite a chilly start to the morning the competitors were soon warm and running through the park. Well done to everyone who took part, and thank you to parents and staff who supported this event by joining in, cheering from the side-lines and/or volunteering.
- **Laing Gallery visit to us** - The children enjoyed a visit from Alina who showed them how the Anglo-Saxon monks would have created the pages of the Gospels. The children have created their own lettering which we will be using in a range of ways over the rest of the term.
- **Star** – our lovely sheep has now left for pastures new and will be residing in Hexham Abbey for the next few days for the duration of the Festival of Flame. Last chance to see our sheep there

draped in the blanket that the children helped to create.

- **Charlie**, our lovely tortoise, leaves today. We have taken a whole school photo of him and wish him well in his new



home.



Upcoming events to look forward to

- **Drone picture** of the children creating a 'sheep' aerial photo – has been delayed due to weather from this week. Hopefully we will be able to do this the week beginning 5th December. We have changed the way we will do this so there is no impact on clothing the children are wearing but we will still get a great shot!!
- **Christmas Fayre** – please do join us 6th December. 3:30pm – 5pm – refreshments, stalls, raffle tickets and much more.
- **Workshop from Hazelsong theatre – Thursday 9th December.** We have another set of workshops happening next week, this time from Queen's Hall Arts Centre as a thank you for having hosted one of their sheep. This was not mentioned in the December dates round up as it has only just been offered. This is also related to the Gospels and we will show the work from this in the next newsletter.

Properly Proud

Term 2 awards so far.....

Freddie, Olympia, Harley, Freddie, Nate, Hazel, Finlay, Eilidh, Matthew,
Charlotte, Rebecca, Matthew, William R, Freddie, Nate, William S

New since last newsletter

Lillie, Laurie, Isaac, Eilidh, Keira, Ava, Laurie, Lillie, Lilly, Ava, Rebecca, Isaac, Olympia, Freddie,
Nate

Proud moments have been for a range of reasons, from getting the next stage up in swimming, to performing a musical piece in Collective Worship, to taking part in their first ever parkrun, to getting a personal best, to completing a task in school to the best of their ability, to being a good friend. Children can award themselves, or be awarded by a teacher or parent. Send them in with a photo, certificate or just a summary of their proud moment so they can be added to the board each week.

Then when they have shared in Celebration assembly their name is added to a small star peg as a permanent reminder of their proud moments.

Well done everyone!
We really enjoy sharing
your proud moments
with you!!

Celebration Assembly

61 proud pegs this term

Autumn 1

Autumn 2

Spring 1

Spring 2

Summer 1

Something NEW to Slaley, Hexhamshire and Healey!

An Advent calendar created by the local Community Environmental Group (CEG). A virtual, fun, factual advent calendar with a difference, which firstly reduces waste and secondly, opens doors to surprising things, to make you smile and think. With videos, quiz, things to make, fun tips to save money as well as contributions from local photographers, our Schools, Churches, Parish Councillors and Community.

This really is the only advent calendar to have this year!

To see the concept, try the link below. You can see a few windows giving you a flavour of what is to come.

<https://calendar.myadvent.net/?id=k6o2bki4pyeshc2q45g4uea7ylbok0op> For this trial, start with door 1. The real calendar will start on 1st Dec.

For a suggested minimum donation of £2.50, access to the full calendar will be available to you. This can be given to any CEG member or transferred to:

Account name: **Community Environmental Group** Sort Code: **20-83-73** Account no.: **23838269**

As the reference put your name and AdCal.

Make sure **you also send an email** to greenadvent2022@gmail.com confirming payment and we will send you a link to the Calendar before 1st December.

All funds raised will be used by the CEG for local environmental initiatives. Previous events have involved:

- Fruit tree planting and general tree planting
- Electric car / bicycle information event
- Litter picking
- Meadow cutting
- A successful "Just One Thing" Earth day event
- Commitment to Slaley Commemoration Hall battery project

Going forwards:

- A wildflower verge protection project has a part funding application in process, which will help fund training workshops for the community.
- A Spring Solstice event is being planned
- Locations for further fruit trees are under discussion
- A scything course and flower identification events are to be held at Quakers Hole

Enjoy the calendar and if you would like more information on the CEG the same email as above can be used.



a SHORT, NIXON, REED, BURN, HERDMAN, RILEY, FORSTER,
and PORTEOUS production

A CHRISTMAS MURDER MYSTERY

Whitley Chapel
Parish Hall
• Friday 9th December
• Saturday 10th December
• 7pm for 7.30pm
• Curtain up

gone wrong
contains adult humour!

Bar, Raffle &
Interval Ice Creams!
£7 per person
in aid of Whitley Chapel Parish
Hall & Slaty Show!

For tickets contact Katherine Halliday Rowell:
07793 061482 katherinehallidayrowell@outlook.com

West Northumberland Foodbank

You can help by donating any of the following food items at St Helen's Church. Shortages are shown underlined: Cereal, UHT Milk, Sugar, Tinned Meat, Coffee, Cook in Sauces Pasta, Tinned fish, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned Pasta, Microwave Rice pouches, Tinned fruit, Biscuits, Tinned desserts, Instant noodles/instant pasta, Tinned Veg, Washing powder / tablets, Razors, Bleach, Toothpaste, Washing up liquid, Deodorants, Household cleaning sprays, Toilet Rolls, Baby wipes, Shower gel, Nappies (Size 4 / 5 / 6), men's toiletries.