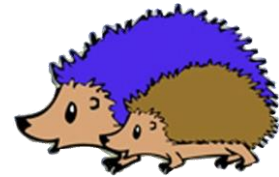


PITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hallgarth Lane, Pittington, Durham, DH6 1AF

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22nd October 2019

Dear Parent,

Hasn't the half term gone quickly? It has certainly been a busy half term.



MacMillan Cancer Care

On behalf of the staff, children and governors of the school, I would like to say thank you for your support towards our MacMillan Coffee Morning. We raised the grand total of £202.90 which has been sent to the charity on behalf of the school.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the House Captains who were a great help to me in serving juice and biscuits to the children - indeed they also entertained the children with a range of music and dance moves!



Harvest



Reverend Heather and Reverend Liz joined us at school for our Harvest Festival Assembly earlier this month.

I would like to thank the children from Year 6 who kindly helped me present the Harvest assembly through story, poems and songs. Thank you to you all!

We collected a huge amount of tinned produce which Heather and Liz have taken to the Durham Food Bank on behalf of our school.

Attendance

We have been closely monitoring our school attendance this term in an attempt to halt, and hopefully reverse, the three year downwards trend of attendance that we have created. Our aim is to achieve a whole school attendance of 97% over the course of the year. It is **currently 97.11%.....**so well done!

Below is a breakdown of the attendance across the school.

Year Group	% attendance	Number of unauthorised sessions	Number of Late arrivals after register closed
Reception	96.97%	0	0
Year 1	95.07%	16	1
Year 2	96.19%	16	0
Year 3	97.80%	29	0
Year 4	97.79%	8	0
Year 5	97.67%	3	0
Year 6	98.12%	6	0

If your child's attendance is below 90% then you will shortly be receiving a letter from school in the post notifying you of this percentage. In most cases this is due to a short period of absence due to illness and is nothing to worry about. However, if you then plan to take your child out of school for a holiday next half term, then the attendance figure will be impacted negatively. If there is anything that the school can do to help you increase your child's attendance at school then please do ask. We are here to help.



Lumiere

You should have received a Save the Date notice for our impending Lumiere Event on Monday 11th November from 5pm to 6.30pm.

We are holding our own Lumiere event in Pittington Primary School.....we thought that we could be just as good as the Lumiere designers exhibiting in Durham. The children are designing their own glass jars to contribute to the event and each class is designing and creating their own light sculpture. It is an event not to be missed!

We would like to invite you to come to school on Monday 11th November from 5pm to 6.30pm to marvel at our light creations, find your child's glass jar, take part in a night time hunt and join us afterwards for a coffee or tea. Tickets are £1.50 and will be on sale after half term.

It would help us enormously if you could send any requests for tickets in a sealed envelope with your child's name and year group clearly marked. If you could mark the envelope Lumiere then that would also be greatly appreciated. The envelopes will come directly to me and I will enlist the help of the Year 6 House Captains to sort the tickets out for you. I have attached a slip at the bottom of this letter that you can use to order tickets.



Diary Dates

A copy of the Diary Dates is available on the school website and a copy has been circulated to you.

Reminder: Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th November - Parents' Evening for children in Years 1 to 6. Details will be circulated after half term.

National Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCA)

The NSPCA will be visiting school on Friday 8th November to deliver an assembly to Reception/Key Stage 1 and another one to Key Stage 2 children to talk about keeping themselves safe.

These assemblies will be followed up with workshops for children in Year 5 and 6 on Friday 22nd November.

Pittington Christmas Tree

Pittington Village has secured the necessary funding and permissions to have its own Christmas tree. We have supported their fund raising efforts by wearing our Christmas jumpers or favourite jumpers in October in exchange for a donation towards this cause.

The official switch on of the tree is arranged for Sunday 8th December. All parents, children and staff are warmly invited to the event. A copy of the official invitation has been emailed to you. I will be running an after school activity after half term for those children in Key Stage 2 who would like to sing at the event.



Sporting Success

We were delighted with the success of our Year 5 and 6 school football team who secured second place in the Meadowfield Football League. They received silver medal. Well done.

Thank you to those parents and carers who have helped with chauffeuring duties to ensure the children have arrived at the venues on time. Thanks to Mr Bainbridge too for managing and organising such a great team!



Inspection

Our school kitchen staff, Mrs Scott, Mrs Pickering and Mrs Goldsmith, have recently had an unannounced kitchen inspection. They did exceptionally well - achieving full marks! Well done ladies, we are very proud of you!

Professional Development Day

School closes on Thursday 24th October ready for the half term week. The staff will be undertaking Emergency First Aid Training on Friday 25th October. School reopens on Monday 4th November.

Cathy Lee

Head Teacher

Lumiere Tickets

I would like _____ tickets for Lumiere please, at a cost of £1.50 each.

I enclose _____ in cash.

Name of child: _____

Year Group: _____

Class Teacher's Name: _____