



# Hotspur

# Bulletin

Friday 8th March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Two things are on my mind as I write this today. You may have heard in the news about Headteachers writing to parents and carers about the impact of budget cuts on their schools. Today about 7,000 head teachers in England have written to 3.5 million parents saying that schools are facing a "funding crisis". I have written before that due to the historic situation in Newcastle the National Funding Formula has actually been positive for us. Funding has shifted from the secondary to the primary sector. However we are used to managing low expectations around funding. We are not looking on annual increases normally – just remaining at the same levels. So I am in full support of those highlighting the situation but don't currently need to worry you about our financial situation. We are JAM (just about managing).

Yesterday was World Book Day (WBD). We don't do the 'dressing up thing' and occasionally get challenged about this. It is not because we don't want to promote books but I feel that WBD has lost its way in some schools. Buying or making costumes is a huge pressure on families and doesn't have a corresponding impact on children developing a passion for books. However there will be an opportunity for children to dress up in whatever they like next Friday. There is no expectation of buying or making outfits for this – so please don't. We welcome all choices of clothes in return for a small donation to Comic Relief.

**Miles Wallis-Clarke**  
**Headteacher**



## Our City Our Story

Yesterday some children from Y6 performed as the Buzzards Wings in this event which is part of the City of Dreams Initiative. They were fantastic and great ambassadors for our school and community.



## City Hall Concert

Letters have gone out today to KS2 about taking part in the City Hall concert this year. Please return these to school – or alternatively complete the information via our school website.

## Red Nose Day

- Red Noses are available for a donation of £1.25 from the school office.

**COMIC  
RELIEF**

## Events next week

### Monday

- 2.30pm - 4.30pm—Y5/6 High5 Netball
- Parent/Carer Consultations

### Tuesday

- 4.30pm GB: Staffing

### Wednesday

- Parent/Carer Consultations

### Friday

- Comic Relief Day
- KS2 Swimming Gala

**Attendance Award Winner; 6Y**

## Golden Children This Week



### NEW DANCE CLASS

Claire will be offering a new Ballet and Contemporary class (for Y1 upwards) starting on Thursday 14th March from 3.15pm-5.30pm.

To secure your place or for more information please email [Claire.danceteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:Claire.danceteacher@hotmail.com).



### Easter Holidays

Looking for something to do in the Easter Holidays? Why not take part in IGNITE 8th-12th April 9.00am-5.00pm. The week will include dance, drama and singing and will end with a performance for family and friends. This will take place at Hotspur. You can reserve your place at [www.divisiondancecompany.com](http://www.divisiondancecompany.com) or to use childcare vouchers please speak to the school office. The week will be run by Claire McGrath.



### OUSEBURN CHICKEN RUN 2019

Come and join the fun with all the family. On the 13th April at 11am there will be a sponsored walk around the Ouseburn Valley. Please pre-register for the event at [ouseburnfarm.org.uk](http://ouseburnfarm.org.uk)



We are on the lookout for any artists, makers, creative types or just folk who enjoy helping out for



an exciting Science Fiction themed project at Hotspur. On the afternoons of 21st, 22nd and 23rd of May the children at Hotspur will be making banners, masks, flags and head-dresses, amongst other things, for a carnival-like procession on the Friday afternoon. If you can or know of anyone who might be interested in delivering a resource making workshop to groups of children or would be keen to help out and are free on those dates then please email [jack.gardner@hotspur.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:jack.gardner@hotspur.newcastle.sch.uk) for more information.