



Butterknowle Primary School

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Happy St. Andrews Day!

Newsletter 12 - Friday 30th November 2018

Whole School Attendance this week is 96%

Blackbirds – 100%

Owls - 88%

Robins – 99%



This week our book worm class of the week is Owls!

Butterknowle Boots Update...



This week, Blackbirds and Owls finished off their animation by adding backing tracks and original artwork based on the Butterknowle street scene as the backdrop. The results are stunning and we can't wait to show everyone the finished films.

Christmas raffle tickets sent home today.

Every family will receive £20 worth of tickets to sell. Please could ticket stubs and unsold tickets be returned to the school office, with any monies, by Wednesday 12th December.

Our raffle prizes are growing in number and we would like to thank you for your contributions so far. Don't forget that prizes can be donated any time up to the day of the raffle on Friday 14th December.

Parents meeting with Mrs Carr

As requested by parents, there is another opportunity to meet Mrs Carr on Tuesday 11th December at 3.15-4.00pm. Governors will also be available to answer any questions. If you have any questions, but are unable to attend, please feel free to email your queries to school and we will ensure that they included at the meeting.



Juniors learn how to programme BBC micro-bits



On Tuesday, Robins Class learned how to programme BBC micro-bits. Mr Petty, an ICT specialist from Cockfield Primary School shared his expertise with staff and pupils.

Micro-bits are a small piece of tech hardware that can convey messages using a light system, a bit like banner streams you see in shops and other places. The children used computer-coding skills to instruct the Micro-bit to relay a message. Most children liked the Christmas messages, such as "Ho Ho Ho!" or "Happy Advent". They quickly understood how to code and were able to connect the hardware to our computer system to get the micro-bit working. Hopefully we'll soon be sending messages round school at the touch of a button! Who needs Christmas cards?

Countdown to Christmas 2018



Fri 7th Dec Christingle Service

Lynesack Church at 2pm. Pupils will be leaving school at 1pm to walk to church. Parents and carers are welcome to walk with us, or meet us at the church for the service. The service ends at 3pm and we request that parents collect their children from church. Any uncollected children will walk back to school with staff. This is a community event – open to all. There will be a collection for our Tanzania Fund, which is raising money to send a child to school for a year.



Thu 13th School to Pantomime at Richmond.

We will be leaving school at 12.30pm and returning at approx. 4.30pm. Please come into school and wait for your child. This is a school uniform event.



Fri 14th School Christmas Play.

Children will stay in school at 3.15pm. We will provide a buffet tea and get them changed into their costumes before bringing them up to the village hall for the start of the show at 4pm. Pre-schoolers can be brought straight to the village hall at 3.45pm in their costumes.



Mon 17th Whole School Pyjama Day!

Come to school in your cosy PJs for a morning of learning about traditional Christmas board games and a Christmas film in the afternoon.



Tues 18th School Christmas Party at 1pm.

Come to school in your party clothes. Donations of party food welcomed. There will be a visit by an important guest! Pre-schoolers who do not normally attend on Tuesday afternoons, are welcome to join us. Our Stay and Play under threes are also welcome to join us for the party.



Wed 19th Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

– This event is now fully booked. Starts at 12 noon. Donations to our Tanzania Fundraiser.



Thu 20th End of Term Assembly and Farewell to Ms Fenoughty.

This special assembly starts at 2pm. Parents, carers, family and friends of the school are warmly welcomed. Accompanied pupils may go home for Christmas, once the assembly has finished.

Annual Parent and Carer School Questionnaire

We really appreciate your opinions on how we can make our school the best. Please complete and return the Parent and Carer Questionnaire sent home last week. If you have lost your copy, pop into the school office and pick up a copy. Your views really do matter.



Winter clothing and footwear.

As the cold weather approaches, please remind your child to wear a warm coat, gloves, scarf and wellies to school. Indoor shoes or sensible slippers may be kept and worn in school. If there is snow, we recommend waterproof trousers or an all-in-one suit so that they can enjoy the snow without getting wet through! As ever, please make sure all items are labelled!

Winter weather arrangements

If at all possible we will endeavour to keep the school open during adverse weather conditions. In the event of school closure, the following procedures will be:



- At 7am – The headteacher and caretaker will assess the weather situation, school health and safety and travel conditions and make a decision.
- Between 7.30 am and 8.00am, if it is decided that the school will not open the school closure will be posted on

the ‘News Feed’ on the front page of our school website. We will send out emails and a text message to all parents. Parents are encouraged not to phone school unless there is no alternative as we only have one telephone line and this must be kept clear for emergency calls only. In the event of deteriorating weather conditions during the school day, we will:

- Contact parents to collect pupils where possible.
- Send staff home if travel conditions deteriorate and staff may experience difficulties getting home.
- At least two members of staff will remain on school site until the last child is collected.

This information is also on the school website under ‘Parents’ tab.

Firefighter clothes collection

Please bring in any unwanted clothes items into school for our next Firefighter’s Collection on **Wednesday 12th December**. Money raised goes to this worthy cause as well as school receiving a percentage of this money.



Butterknowle Sea Scouts fundraising

Christmas coffee morning 8th Dec 9.30-11.30 am Butterknowle Village Hall. Coffee, Competitions, Crafts and more!



HELP UK Air Ambulance services by recycling your used postage stamps!!!!

All funds raised will be distributed equally to all UK Air Ambulance Services. Please send any used stamps into school and pop them into the box located at the school entrance.

Afterschool clubs after half term

Mondays	Football club
Tuesdays	Arts and Crafts
Wednesdays	Computer Club
Thursdays	Homework Club
Fridays	Board / Card Games

Dates for your diary

Fri 7 Dec	Christingle at Lynesack Church 2pm
Tue 11 Dec	Sport Festival (EYFS) at Staindrop School
Thu 13 Dec	Sleeping Beauty Pantomime Trip to Georgian Theatre, Richmond. Details to follow
Fri 14 Dec	Christmas Play at Village Hall 4pm
Mon 17 Dec	Pyjamas, games and movie day
Tue 18 Dec	School Christmas Party 1pm
Wed 19 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day Community Christmas Dinner at 12pm
Thu 20 Dec	End of Term Assembly at 2pm, last school day
Fri 21 Dec	School Closed for staff training