



Butterknowle Primary School

Bishop Auckland, Co Durham, DL13 5PB

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Newsletter 14- Friday 14th December 2018

Whole School Attendance this week is 92%

Blackbirds – 87%

Owls - 93%

Robins – 95.5%



This week our book worm class of the week is OWLS – 92% of children have been reading their books at home with parents, carers or family members. Well done Owls!

Christingle



We had a wonderful end to last week with our Christingle Service at Lynesack Church. Rev Brian led us in an engaging and thought provoking service and it was wonderful to see so many friends and family members in attendance. Many thanks to church warden, Mrs Simpson, Rev Brian's wife Brenda, and Barbara for playing the organ.

BREAKING NEWS ... Bishop of Durham is coming to our Christmas Dinner

We have just had the exciting news that the Bishop of Durham and his parliamentary assistant will be joining us for dinner next week! He is coming to announce the winning design of his Christmas card competition. Bishop Paul came to Butterknowle Primary School as part of his Prayer Walk around the diocese last summer. At the time, he was impressed by the strong community spirit and warm welcome received. He is making a return visit to thank the children for their Christmas card designs.

The Christmas Truce



On Friday we performed our Christmas production, 'The Christmas Truce'. A limited edition of colour souvenir programmes with photographs of all the cast are available to purchase at £3.00. Money raised will help towards the production costs for this year's show. Copies of the full cast can be purchased from the Teesdale Mercury. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this performance. In particular we would like to thank the following:

- The people and organisations for the props and WW1 artefacts we have borrowed for this production; Kirsty Brien (rifles, netting, taupalins, shadow puppets), Gainford Drama Group (sandbags, costumes), Paul Simpson (WW1 costume), Mr Dauber (rifles)
- All our wonderful pupils for working so hard to learn their lines, great acting and fabulous singing.
- School staff for all the rehearsal time, production of costumes, props and scenery.
- Village hall, especially Graham Copley for providing us with a wonderful venue and facilities.
- Kevin Richardson for inspiring the children to find out more about life in the WW1 trenches.
- Friends for organising the refreshments and raffle.
- A special thank you to Richard and Rowen for providing the musical input into this year's production.

Winter weather arrangements

We endeavour to keep the school open during adverse weather conditions. In the event of school closure, please look on our school website for up to date advice and information.



Whole school pantomime trip



On Thursday this week the whole school went to see Sleeping Beauty at the Georgian Theatre in Richmond. There was lots of audience participation and one of our children was picked out to come onto the stage! Mason made a fabulous musical debut under the close supervision of the Queen. Well done Mason you did us all proud at 'Buttonhole'!!

Arrangements for next week!

It's our last week next week and there is a lot happening! We don't want you to miss out on anything, so please keep checking your newsletter and emails for updates.



- **Monday** – Pyjama Day, children can come to school in their pyjamas.
- **Tuesday** – Party Day, children can come to school in their party clothes. Parties will start at 1pm followed by a special visitor and a party tea to complete the afternoon. We need any donations of food for the party to be dropped off at school by Tuesday morning. Thank you.
- **Wednesday** – Christmas Community lunch at 12.00. Christmas Jumper day and also the chance to buy a pom pom to support our Tanzanian fund.
- **Thursday**– End of Term assembly at 2pm. All welcome.
- **Friday** – School Closed for staff training

Start of the day school times.

Please could we remind all parents and carers that children who are not attending breakfast club should not arrive on the school yard before 8.45am as there is no adult supervision. A member of staff is on duty from 8.45am onwards.

Annual Parent and Carer School Questionnaire

Thank you to parents and carers who have returned their questionnaires. We really appreciate your opinions on how we can make our school the best. If you have lost your copy, pop into the school office and pick up a copy. Your views really do matter.

Advanced notice for January 2019

Swimming lessons arrangements.

Robins and Year 2 will continue to attend Friday swimming lessons after Christmas for 6 weeks. After February half term on Friday 1st March 2019, all nursery, reception and Year 1 pupils will be going swimming.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) arrangements.

Starting week beginning Monday 14th January the whole school takes part in a four-week programme of Relationships and Sex Education. If you would like more information about the content of these lessons, please contact school.

From January, Mrs Carr will be in school each week on:

- Mondays – all day
- Wednesdays – am
- Fridays – am, alternate weeks

If you would like a meeting with Mrs Carr, please contact the school office to arrange a suitable time. Mrs Carr can also be contacted at Woodland on 01388 718271 or Frosterley on 01388 528358 when not at Butterknowle.

BUTTERKNOWLE VILLAGE HALL
ROCK THE NEW YEAR IN
WITH
ROBSON FIELD
31st DECEMBER 2018
8.00pm till 12.30am
£5.00
FAMILY TICKET 2 ADULTS 2 CHILDREN £12.00
FULL BAR...MUSIC...DANCING...GAMES...RAFFLE
BRING OWN FOOD
TICKETS: 01388 710855
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
THE ROYAL OAK BUTTERKNOWLE

Dates for your diary

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| Mon 17 Dec | Pyjamas, games and movie day |
| Tue 18 Dec | School Christmas Party at 1pm. Donations of party food needed |
| Wed 19 Dec | Christmas Jumper Day – bring a donation for our Tanzania appeal.
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 |
| Tue 8 Jan | School Opens for start of Spring term |