

# North Park Primary School

'Achieving and growing, together in friendship.'



Bessemer Green,  
Spennymoor,  
Co. Durham  
DL16 6PP

Head Teacher: Mrs P Monk  
Deputy: Mrs E Atkinson  
Tel: 01388 815943

E-mail: [northpark@durhamlearning.net](mailto:northpark@durhamlearning.net)  
Web-site: [www.northpark.durham.sch](http://www.northpark.durham.sch)

## December 2021 Newsletter

It has been lovely to end the term with our Christmas performances and parties this last week, especially given the difficulties schools have faced due to Covid both locally and nationally; although these have only been single class events, I hope they still brought some Christmas magic for you – we are so proud of the children, many of whom have not had the chance to 'perform' for you before. I would also like to thank the staff who have worked tirelessly this term, often under difficult circumstances, battling through absences to end the term in style.

***I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and healthy Christmas and my best wishes for 2022.***

### Covid 19 precautions

We continue to keep arrangements in school under regular review - where any future changes are needed, we will let you know as soon as possible. Thank you again for your continued support and understanding during these challenging times. Please remember:

- Let us know as soon as possible if your child has any symptoms; organise a PCR test and keep your child at home until the result is known. If the test is negative children can return to school. If the test is positive children should isolate, in line with guidance, for 10 days. We appreciate parents sharing negative PCR results with school for our records (via the main office, email, etc.) as we need to report this to DFE and LA.
- If someone else in the household has a positive PCR result, please book your child a PCR test as a precautionary measure. A negative result means that your child can return to school. The DFE have updated guidance to advise from 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are **strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days** and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:
  - fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses or more of an approved vaccine
  - all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, *regardless of their vaccination status*
  - people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
  - people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccineChildren under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.

### What have we been up to?

- We say farewell to Miss Shaw who has worked with us this last term in Nursery and Year 2; we wish her well as she begins training for a new career. We also welcome Miss Bloomfield who joins the Year 2 teaching team in the coming year. She will work alongside the rest of the staff teaching groups in Year 2.
- Poppy Appeal - thanks to your generosity and kindness we raised £255.77 for the British Legion Poppy Appeal.
- We are lucky to have once again been supported by Mission Christmas this year, which has meant we have held class raffles for prizes – children in each class may be the lucky winner of a present or sweet
- The children from Nursery to Year 4 were invited to meet Santa last week in the town hall – he says



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they have all been good so he will come again on Christmas Eve! Don't worry - he also promised to visit the children in Year 5 and 6!

- Thanks to Friends of the School for organizing Guess the Name of the Reindeer and Guess the sweets in the jar.
- Thanks to staff and your generosity we have raised £100 for the People's Kitchen to provide a Christmas lunch for the homeless; that will provide 20 meals – amazing!
- Thanks to Mrs Logan for organizing the family visit to the Pantomime at the Gala this week – a great time was had by all!
- Thank you to the Kitchen staff for our delicious Christmas lunch.
- Well done to Year 6 for their amazing family assembly this month – we were also proud to see you representing school too at the Spennymoor Remembrance service.
- Well done to the singing group for two amazing performances at St Andrew's Church Fair and the Town Hall Carol Service.
- Well done to Lily S in Year 5 – she won the Mayor's Christmas Card Competition for her amazing design of Santa Claus.
- Thank you for your feedback in the Parent survey; we are looking at the information with Governors. Remember you can also do this online at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login>

Keep looking out for photographs on **Facebook** of all of this, as well as other lovely activities the children are **Reminders:**

- A reminder that **attendance** is mandatory. Local Authority regularly review attendance with us and they continue to monitor attendance; the LA will intervene if your child accrues **seven days or more** of unauthorised absence in a term (this includes ALL unauthorised absence – holidays and any other unauthorised sessions, including late after registration). Holidays are not authorised unless in exceptional circumstances.
- Breakfast club and after school club are operating as normal. Registration forms for After School Club are available at the main office.

Sincerely,

Mrs P Monk



SCHOOL MEMBER



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## Diary Dates\*

*\*some activities may be subject to change as a result of Covid restrictions*

### December

17 **School closes for the end of term**

### January 2022

5 **School re-opens for teaching purposes**

19 Year 5/6 Basketball Tournament

21 KS2 swimming gala

26 Show Racism the Red Card – Year 5 and 6 workshops

### February

2-3 Captain Chemistry science workshops in school

8 Year 4 Family Assembly

8 Y5 Multiskills festival

14-18 Multicultural week

16-17 Adam Bushnell – Author – workshops in school

**21-25 Closed for Half Term**

28 Closed for PD day

### March

1 **School re-opens for Teaching Purposes**

10 Football Shield and Cup

18 Intra School sport competition

25 Mrs Wood's group – Mother's Day Tea

24 and 31 Parent Evenings – after school – appointments to be arranged at a later date

### April

5 Year 5 Family Assembly

8 **School closes for Easter holiday**

*School holidays can be found on the school website and Durham County Council Website.*

