



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Newsletter 4 - November 2017



Sports Festivals, Year 4 Rugby Tournament - A team of Year 4 pupils made it to the final of this competition held on our school field before half-term. Well done to them all for their excellent skill and sportsmanship - Mr Harrington was delighted with their performance and conduct!

Year 4 Visit to The Dome at Spanish City - Last week 30 of our Year 4 pupils visited The Dome to visit a 'live construction site'. They were given a short tour to see the renovation works taking place and took part in a workshop activity. We are watching the progress of this project with interest and are looking forward to the rest of the year group visiting later in the year.

Year 4 - have embraced their **Egyptian** topic this term. Today, historians from the Museum's Department at Durham University came and delivered a range of activities as part of our Egyptian Day bringing the topic to life in the classroom. They were very impressed with our children, who certainly looked the part in costume.



Bags to School - a collection will take place on Monday 13th November. Please leave your bags outside the school office on the day.

Our Playground - We are delighted to see an increase in the number of children travelling to school on their bikes and scooters. Our children are very careful in the mornings, pushing their bikes and scooters across our busy playground. Please ensure they follow the same procedure after school and only ride bikes and scooters once they have left the playground. We are looking at ways of increasing the range activities available to the children at lunchtime, in the winter months when we do not have access to the field. We currently have fantastic Sports Leaders from different year groups who help Ross, our sports coach run 'Fit for Life' sessions on the playground. He plays games, fostering teamwork and co-operation and children can 'dip in and out' during the lunch hour. We will be using some of our Sports Premium funding to order additional equipment e.g. balls, skipping ropes etc. We have also taken delivery of two activity tables with a train track top and a race track. **If your child has a small spare toy car or toy train that they would like to donate to a 'shared box' for everyone to use**, please leave them at the office. The children would then be able to play with these at lunchtime. Finally, we would also like to create some 'Imagination Boxes' for the children to use at lunchtime. **If you have any old dressing up outfits / accessories that you would be willing to donate please leave them at the school office.**

Parking - a reminder that there are parking restrictions in Cranleigh Place and Earnshaw Way which are being enforced by regular visits from traffic wardens, the camera van and Community Police Officer. Please be considerate of local residents when parking and if it is possible to walk to and from school please do so.

Pirate Day - was a good opportunity for Year 1 to apply their literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum. They found time to make pirate flags, crack pirate codes, make their own treasure maps and followed a treasure hunt around school. They also took part in a Pirate Dancing workshop with specialist dance teacher, Laura Prince (lpdanceineducation)



Children in Need - Next Friday, 17th November, the children have been invited to come to school dressed in **spots OR**



fancy dress. They will do different activities to raise money to help others - we will post the final total on our school website and the monies collected will be sent off to help this worthy cause.

Anti - Bullying Week - (13th - 17th November) Next week staff will be working with the children, exploring our core values of friendship and kindness. Children will have class assemblies, circle time and complete activities as part of their PSHE curriculum. We work hard to ensure that our children feel safe, happy and secure in our school. If you ever have any concerns please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance - we are always available to help.

Christmas Fair - the Christmas Fair will be held on **Friday 8th December starting at 3.30 pm** in the school hall. The P.T.A. committee will be sending out more information in school bags. If you are able to help with refreshments / on a stall we would be very grateful - please email your details to southridgefirstpta@gmail.com



Advance Notice: children will be able to come to school on the day of the Christmas Fair wearing their Christmas jumpers and / or Christmas accessories e.g. hats, tinsel etc.

Christmas Lunch on 20th December - We have received the following information from Catering Services:

Please can you pay for your child's Christmas lunch by debit / credit card via JOINOS www.joinos.com Meals cost £2.15 and must be paid for on line. If you do not have access to Joinos can you please contact catering.services@northtyneside.gov.uk to set up an account and request a Joinos Code. **Meals are free for those eligible for free school meals and for all children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 but the children must still be registered on Joinos.** If your child usually has a packed lunch they are still very welcome to order a Christmas Lunch via Joinos.

Nursery places - September 2018 - Thank you for returning application forms to apply for a place for your child in Nursery. Places will be formally allocated in February 2018.

Governor Visits - This half-term our governors have been monitoring maths in school and observing the children in lessons as they develop 'Maths Mastery' techniques. Governors have reviewed our published data and our proud of the standards achieved by our children. They also monitor the academic progress made by all the children as they move through school to ensure they are well prepared for middle school. They are also reviewing our recent Fire Risk Assessment and the security of the school site.

Southridge Choir - if your child attends choir on a Wednesday evening we would like to invite you to join us for part of the last choir session. The children would love to share some of their songs with you in a very 'informal' performance but it will certainly be heart- warming. **Please arrive at 4pm on Wednesday 29th November. The choir will also be singing Christmas songs in Sainsburys for half an hour at 10am on Wednesday 20th December.**

Diary Dates:

NOVEMBER	
13 th - 17 th	Anti-Bullying Week begins
13 th	Bags to School Collection
17 th	Children in Need
DECEMBER	
1 st	After School Clubs finish
7 th	Year 4 Christmas Performance 2pm
8 th	Christmas Fair - wear your Christmas jumper / Christmas accessories.
11 th	Reception Party Day (to include a Theatre Visit in the morning and a party tea in the afternoon.)
12 th	Year 3 Performance 2pm
13 th	Year 2 Performance 2pm
14 th	Last swim for Year 3
15 th	Early Years Performance - Reception and Nursery - 9.30am and 2pm <i>This is a joint performance. Reception will take part in both performances and parents will be asked to indicate a preference. Morning Nursery will take part in the 9.30am performance only Afternoon Nursery will take part in the 2pm performance only</i>
19 th	Year 1 Performance
19 th	6 Force Disco Yr 1 and 2 at 5pm - 6pm Year 3 and 4 at 6.15pm - 7.15pm



	£3.00 entry on the door
20 th	Choir sing in Sainsbury's 10am Christmas Lunch
21 st	Party Day - Year 1 - 4
22 nd	BREAK UP

January 8th - Training Day

January 9th - Pupils return to school

