



Newsletter 4th November 2016

ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON Church of England VA Primary School

Dear All

Welcome back to the second half term this autumn. It is amazing how quickly time has zoomed by, this half term is extremely busy with lots of things to look forward to.

Our value this half term is Compassion which fits nicely with last half term's value on generosity. As a school the parents and children are always very generous and compassionate in their consideration of the needs of others. It is important to teach our children to notice the needs of others and to act on it in some way. Please take some time together with your child to look at the attached leaflet on Home School Values of Compassion.

With that thought in mind...**Thank you** - Joy Shreeve would like to thank all the cake makers, cake buyers and the Friends for the wonderful amount of money raised for the OCCED children's home in Kathmandu. The final total was £158.20. Joy's friend Dr Monica is currently in Nepal and Joy will email her to tell her about our fund raising cake sale

Green Pastures – Thank you for the generous donation of £325 for school fund raised through the Great Bake Off last month

Shoobox Appeal - Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest Christmas project. Each year the families from our school wrap and fill empty shoeboxes with small gifts for a boy or girl. These are then distributed to needy children world-wide. We have always had an amazing response to this appeal; I am sure this year we will all be even more aware of those children who are in greatest need. Shoeboxes are given based on need, regardless of background or religious beliefs, it is an unconditional gift of love.

Leaflets detailing how to fill your shoebox appropriately are available from the school foyer. If you have any spare empty shoeboxes please bring them in so others can take one and fill it up! The date to bring your shoeboxes into school is by **9am Friday 18th November**. **The Shoobox Service is at Bergh Apton Church on Sunday 20th November at 11.00am**. It is a moving service and lovely to see the children presenting the boxes. All Welcome.

Children in Need – goes spotty. Please come to school dressed in spots and pay £1 to Children in Need on **Thursday 17th November**. No spotty clothes?? I've been reliably informed that the easiest way is to buy a packet of stick on spots from somewhere like Staples and just stick them on! As we have just

Dates for this month:

November

Mon 7th – Years 1, 2 and 3 'flu vaccine
Thurs 10th – Non-uniform day, photographs and bring a bottle/chocolate also on the 10th at 8.30am – Meet and Mingle
Sat 12th – Family Portraits
Wed 16th – Class 1 parents invited to join us for lunch
Thurs 17th – Children in Need, come to school dressed in spots
Thurs 17th – No Gym Club
Fri 18th – Shoe Boxes to be in school by 9am please
Sun 20th 11am – Shoe Box Service at Bergh Apton Church
Wed 23rd – Class 1 trip to see performance "We're Going on a Bear Hunt"
Mon 28th – Dress the Christmas tree
Wed 30th – Class 4 Christmas Cakes

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had a Cake Sale we thought we wouldn't have a Cake Bake this time...unless there is a real desire amongst you to hold one...let me know!

Parent/Teacher Meetings take place next week. Hopefully you have all received your appointment slips.

Invitation to Reception Parents to join us for lunch Wednesday 16th November at 12 midday. Please return the reply slip by next Friday 11th so we can inform the kitchen.

Anti bullying week – 14th - 18th November. Please take a few moments to read the handbook for parents that is coming home. We are very aware that bullying can make a child's life a misery and we work hard with our children to ensure they know what to do if they feel they are being bullied. Sadly all schools have some element of bullying, children become bullies for a wide variety of reasons and as a school our commitment is to try and change bullying behaviour in children and to give them support to manage the problems they are facing in their own lives; happy, secure children aren't bullies.

Naturally parents become very upset if they feel their child is the victim of bullying. However, it is worth reading page nine of the booklet which explains what bullying is, and what it isn't!

It is also important to remember that very young children are only just learning to become social beings and need to be taught that pulling hair, pushing, snatching and scratching isn't acceptable behaviour. Teaching social skills in a reception class is an important part of an under fives education. Some children arrive at school with advanced social skills in the same way that some arrive with advanced reading skills, but some need to be taught them.

Older children – please read the section on Cyber-bullying which sadly seems to be an increasingly common feature in the lives of children and young adults.

I commend the booklet to you. If you have any concerns or worries about this issue please don't hesitate to make an appointment to speak to me or your child's class teacher.

Meet and Mingle – following on from the success of the September meet there will be another occasion to Meet and Mingle on **Thursday 10th November from 8.30am.** (We will be ready from 8.30 this time!) Please stay at drop off time and meet other parents for a coffee and some light refreshments. Babies and toddlers are also welcome.

Cross Country Event. Well done to all the children who took part. Lots of our children were in the top 20 of their age group. Particular congratulations go to: Sam Crannage – 1st Y4 boy, Ben Hooper 2nd Y4 boy and Harry Debbage 3rd Y5 boy, also to Charlotte Gilding, Imogen Thomas, Maddy Hamilton, Lizzie Hartley, and Tristan Sykes who have all qualified for the next round in November.

Reminder Flu Vaccine via nasal spray for Years 1, 2 and 3 - Monday 7th November. Parents have been informed and signed a consent form if they wish their child to receive the vaccine.

NON-UNIFORM DAY Thursday 10th November and the Christmas Fayre We are asking children to contribute either an item of chocolate for the Christmas Tombola or a Bottle of "something" for the Bottle Stall in return for having a non-uniform day.

School Photographs by Deena Images will also be taken of the children wearing **NON- UNIFORM** on **Thursday 10th November.** If you have younger children not at school, you may come into school a little earlier so they may have their photograph taken with their sibling(s) and/ or with you.

Family Photos Deena will also be taking Family Photographs on the morning of Saturday 12th November here at school. A sign-up appointment sheet is displayed at the office window.

All these will be in time for Christmas!

C4 residential to Brancaster – July 2017. These letters have gone out. Please return your reply slips to the office by next Friday 11th Nov.

Inhalers – these must be in school at all times. Please contact your doctor if you need to have a spare one. Thank you.

Class 2 trip to Cinderella Workshop at The Elizabethan House – Please see attached report and photographs on the great experience had by the children just before half-term.

November 17th – Please note there will be NO Gym Club that day. This doesn't affect the Tuesday group.

Christmas Cakes – Class 4 will be making Christmas Cakes as usual on the mornings of Wednesday 30th Nov and icing them on Wed 7th Dec. Further details to follow.

Collection for Mrs Colleen Gotts – we will be making a presentation to Colleen on our last day of term. Any donations may be handed into the school office in an envelope clearly marked “for Mrs Gotts”. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Teresa Osborne

Attachments

- Compassion – Home School Values
- Say NO to bullying booklet
- Scholastic Book Club – Please return any orders you wish to place via the school by Friday 25th November
- Reply slip for Reception parents booking lunch on 16th November
- Report from Class 2 re trip to Cinderella Workshop at The Elizabethan House