



Dinnington First School

Newsletter November 2016

Welcome back after the half term holiday. This half term we will be preparing for Christmas celebrations and I do hope that you will be able to join us whenever possible.

Safeguarding

We have recently reviewed and updated our Safeguarding policy and it has been approved by governors. The updated copy will be placed on our website. Please remember that the Designated Safeguarding Officer is Mrs A Farrar and in her absence Mr Donnelly. Our Designated Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Appleby.

Operation Christmas Child

Before half term leaflets about Operation Christmas Child (shoe box appeal) were sent to you. The boxes should be returned to school by Monday 14th November as they are being collected on that day.

Anti-Bullying Week

During the week beginning the 14th November all PSHE work will have an anti bullying theme. The theme for the week is 'Power for Good'. During the week we will focus upon helping the children to understand that they are powerful and that they can use their power to stop bullying taking place.



Christmas Productions

This year we will be performing two Christmas shows. One for Early Years and one for Key stage 1 and 2. Parents will be sent a letter

with details about ticket allocation.

Performance dates are included at the end of this letter.

Buddy Stop

We have recently held a competition to design a new Buddy Stop. The winner of the competition was Bailey Starkey from Year 4 and he was presented with a prize at our assembly of achievement. The newly designed Buddy Stop will be placed in the yard next week. Please encourage your child to go to the Buddy Stop if they have no one to play with and remind them that class buddies wear a green buddy cap.



Northumberland in Bloom

Dinnington Village has received a Silver Award and the Whickam Award from the organisers of Northumberland in Bloom. We are very pleased to have contributed towards this achievement as the assessors visited our site and were very impressed with our garden and forest area. The certificate and plaque are on loan to us until the end of this term.



Clubs

All clubs have resumed this week.

Tuesday	Construction Gardening Football Plasticine Stories
Wednesday	Code Club Year 4 (lunchtime) Drawing Reading Steel Pans
Thursday	Forest School Curling Year 3 and 4

Clubs start at 3:00pm and end at 3:45pm (curling 4:10pm) All clubs will run for a further four weeks and you will be informed if any club is not taking place. The last session for all clubs with the exception of steel pans will take place in the week beginning 28th November. The last session for steel pans will take place on Wednesday 7th December.

Children in Need

We will be supporting the Children in Need appeal by holding a non uniform day (£1 fine) on Friday 18th November. The School Council are also organising a cake stall after school on that day.

Attendance

Average attendance for each class for last half term is as follows:

Reception	97.8%
Year 1	98.9%
Year 2	98.4%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	96.3%

The overall attendance for the school for last half term is 97.9% and as you can see Year 1 has the best overall attendance for the half term.

This month 96% of children achieved our arrival time target of 12 and those children will receive a wrist band congratulating them on this. In particular I would like to congratulate the children in Year 2 because all of the children in this class reached the target. Year 1 had the least number of children reaching the target.

The target for November is 22 and it would be great to have an increase in the number of children reaching this, particularly in Year 1.

Nut Allergy

One of our children has a severe nut allergy and I would like to ask all parents not to include nuts and any products containing nuts in their child's packed lunch e.g