



Newsletter 5 17th November 2017



Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 5-I hope this communication finds you well. Last term (September-November), attendance was 96.88% for the whole school which is judged as 'good' attendance figures for our school. We are always aiming for attendance to be 97+% and know that we are working with you to ensure each and every pupil is at school every day unless there is a valid reason why they shouldn't be. Please continue to be reminded that any requests for holiday will be **unauthorised** as family holidays are not deemed to be an exceptional circumstance. The breakdown of the school is as follows; **Wales-97.50% Spain-96.76% Peru-98% Japan-95.11% Thailand-97.48% New Zealand-96.84%** Please help us to ensure your child's attendance is the best it can possibly be as any unnecessary days away from school represent lost learning time that cannot be replaced. I very much look forward to seeing you over the course of the next two weeks in and around school.

Best Wishes, *Mr Sam Eden (Executive Headteacher)*

Uniform

Children at Ancaster Church of England Primary School always wear their uniform with pride and we have noticed recently, some children have not been wearing the correct uniform. Please be reminded that this is;

Girls Uniform: Grey skirt/trousers, white shirt/polo shirt, grey socks/tights, royal blue jumper/cardigan

Boys Uniform: Grey trousers, white shirt/polo shirt, black/grey socks, royal blue jumper
Our school sweatshirts can be purchased from Nationwide uniforms online - click on the following below to order directly.

<http://www.nationwideschooluniforms.co.uk/school-uniform/primary-school/ancaster-c-of-e-primary/>

Fantastic Fireworks!



Our fireworks night was such a wonderful event with a fantastic family feel throughout the evening. We had more people than ever before with over 400 people joining us, raising a phenomenal £1268 profit! This is the best yet and we have so many people to thank for helping make the evening such a success. Please join the school in saying a big thank you to all of the PTFA and their helpers and the 'firework men', who without them, there wouldn't be a show and not least each and every parent, family and community member who attended for supporting the school and making the event such a spectacular evening!

Poppy Donations



Thanks to all who donated to the Royal British Legion via the Poppies that we have had in school recently. The school raised a mammoth £145.32 and was met a huge 'thank you' when the money was donated. We held our own enrichment day to commemorate Armistice Day and there were some wonderful pieces of art created by the whole school which were shared on Twitter. Please can we also say a big thank you to Mr Clark-Monk for giving up his time on this very important day to come and speak with the children and lead us in a minute silence.

Parking



Further to the letter sent out to parents earlier this week, the parking has appeared to have improved. Please don't let this be a temporary fix and ensure that the parking issues and concerns raised in the letter are resolved. There is a car park at the Social Club in which a park and stride scheme could easily be initiated, by parking and walking the short distance to school, which will help alleviate the traffic in and around the area. Thank you for your continued support.

Christmas Fayre 15th December 1.15pm



As usual, we hope you can join us for our annual Christmas Fayre in school on the dates and times above. This is always such a festive and fun way to begin those Christmas celebrations and we do hope that you are able to join us. If you, or someone you know is wishing to run a stall, please see Mrs Beard at the school office who will reserve a space for you. More details on the logistical arrangements that will be in place to manage the fayre, will be released to parents nearer the time.

Parent Consultations

We had 94% of our parent body make, and attend, parent consultations with Class Teachers last week. We aim for 100% as these meetings are a statutory requirement. If you have not had a meeting, we will be contacting you to arrange a meeting or you can do so by speaking with the Class Teacher.

Ben Smith Visit



This week we welcomed back into school the very inspirational Ben Smith to talk to the pupils about Anti-Bullying. As this week has been Anti-Bullying Week, this was a great opportunity for the children to listen to another person speak up about this very important issue. Ben Smith recently won an award at Sports Personality of the Year for his fantastic challenge that he set himself a target of running 401 marathons in 401 days to raise money for two Anti-Bullying charities. Having completed that challenge with huge amounts of success, Ben spent time visiting local primary schools again and Ancaster was lucky enough to be one of those schools. The children listened with awe and wonder and asked very meaningful questions to Ben who was more than happy to share his experiences with everyone. To follow Ben and his journey, his Twitter feed can be found at @401challenge and he is about to begin planning his next challenge which spent time talking to the children about.

Children in Need



Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need and helped us raise money for this very worthwhile and important charity. The children looked brilliant dressed up in their fantastic spotty dotty costumes, own clothes and pyjamas. The cake sale was a roaring success and the children enjoyed their special playtime treats. Thank you so much for supporting the school and the charity. The total raised will be published in the next newsletter.

Wooden Christmas Baubles from the Church

Sue Heighton, Churchwarden, has been in touch with the school to let us know that we have plain wooden bauble shapes for sale for £1 each from the school office, with the idea that they are decorated and/or have a message added. These wooden baubles can then be either kept by the purchaser, left in church or brought to the carol service Sunday 17th December at 4pm to be blessed and hung on a tree.

Starting School in September 2018?

If your child, or someone you know is due to start school next September, please be aware that the application round is now open. Should your child have a sibling in school, make sure that this criteria is outlined in the application as this will strengthen the application and secure a place at the school. If someone you know is interested in sending their child to our school we would love to hear from them and will be happy to show them around. This year we have had a record number of enquiries again for places and look forward to welcoming the newest intake of children into school ready for the next academic year.

Spelling



You will be sent home age appropriate spellings for your child which are indicative of the spelling rules and patterns your child will need to know by the end of their year group/age phase. If you do not receive these spelling lists, please see your child's Class Teacher, who will provide them for you. Any work you can do to help your child confidently spell these words and words with similar spelling patterns will help them with