

Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 7-I hope this communication finds you well. First of all, can I wish you all a Happy New Year-I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break and enjoyed the festivities. The children have been so eager to share their news and tales; we are all so pleased to be back in school with the children, working hard together! We have now begun our latest curriculum topic of 'Journeys' in which each class is focusing on a different aspect of geography. All classes have sent out a curriculum map and letter, detailing the latest information from the class and the learning due to take place this term-we hope you find this information useful. These documents can be found on the school website pages should you misplace your copy. We have many more exciting activities planned for the coming terms and I look forward to sharing these with you in future newsletters. Have an enjoyable 2 weeks and I look forward to seeing you in and around school.

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

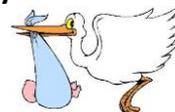
Share and Shine Time!



This term, family sharing will take place week commencing 5th February and this is the children's opportunity to share with you the learning that has taken place across the curriculum. The dates for these sharing opportunities are as follows;

- Class Wales -6th Feb at 9am
- Class New Zealand-7th Feb at 9am
- Class Spain- 8th Feb at 9am
- Class Peru- 8th Feb at 3pm
- Class Japan-9th Feb at 9am
- Class Thailand-9th Feb at 3pm

Baby Mania Continues



Baby mania continues to sweep Ancaster as Mr Eden has recently announced the very happy news that Mrs Eden is expecting their second child. Whilst it is still early days within the pregnancy, we are all looking forward to welcoming another addition to the growing Ancaster family later this year. Please join us in wishing both Mr and Mrs Eden all the very best in the coming months and we will keep you posted nearer the time.

Snow

As the winter months continue, the threat of snow is always upon us. We will always endeavour to stay open in all but the most extreme conditions. Please keep up to date with the latest information on school closures and check the school website; this will be updated as soon as any decision has been made, listen to Lincs FM and look out for communication from school.

E-Safety

We have recently been made aware, by several parents, that children are using different social media platforms to be unkind to others outside of school. When we have spoken with these children, they can sometimes be naïve about how their online actions attract the same consequences to those of everyday life. Please use the materials on our school website to help guide conversations regarding this at home and ensure that you are checking on the actions of your child, whilst they participate in these activities. If you have any concerns, please see your child's Class Teacher.

Christmas Fayre



Our annual Christmas Fayre was one of the best ever with a wide range of stalls, not only from the school but also from the wider community. This opportunity to connect with local businesses is fantastic and it was excellent to see so many people enjoying the festivities.

The visit from Santa proved incredibly popular with special class visits to deliver the presents kindly gifted from our wonderful PTFA and then taking up residence in the best ever grotto that Ancaster has ever seen!

The great news is that once all the money had been counted, a mammoth £814.40 was raised towards school funds and this money will go back into the school to help promote and support learning opportunities across the curriculum.

New lunchtime and Playtime Arrangements



We have been listening to the children, parents and staff who have, over time, explained that there is a feeling that the Key Stage 2 lunch time should be longer. Having spoken with a number of children, we feel that the new arrangements we are launching will impact positively on every child across the school as well as in the classroom on learning outcomes.

From Monday 15th January, Key Stage 2 will have a 1 hour lunchtime from 12.15pm-1.15pm (an increase of 10 minutes). In order to facilitate this longer lunch, we have decided to no longer hold a daily scheduled afternoon break. Instead, if teachers feel that their children need a break, they are able to coordinate this at their own discretion.

Having spoken with the children about these arrangements, they are thrilled with the prospect of a longer lunchtime.



School PE Kit

Each class has their own days in which PE is taught, and these can often change if other events take place so for this reason, it is useful if PE kits could stay in school all week. Please be reminded of the school PE kit expectations-we will be informing you if your child is repeatedly without their kit as at least 2 hours of Physical Education per week is statutory within the curriculum.

Indoor: Plain white T-shirt & Navy/black shorts or skirt (gym and dance is in bare feet)

Outdoor: Plain white T-shirt, navy/black plain tracksuit top & bottoms, spare socks, trainers

Disco Fever!



Friday 2nd February

Our wonderful PTFA are arranging another of our popular Discos on the above date-we hope your child can join us. Entry is charged at £1.50 with unlimited free drinks. Sweets and treats will be available to buy throughout! The timings are as follows;

EYFS/KS1 5.00-6.00pm **KS2 6.00-7.00pm**

We look forward to dancing the night away!

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 and closes on **January 15th 2018**. 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.

Value of the Term

In our drive to be more focused by values, in addition to our school values of friendship, achievement, respect, creativity and honesty, we continue to have a 'value of the term'. This term, the value is 'compassion' and we will be exploring this throughout Collective Worship each Monday as well as in class. Please follow this learning up at home by discussing the value of compassion and what this means for you and your family. More information can be found on the school website in the latest news section.

Informing the School Office of changes to picking up arrangements



We recognise that changes can occur with respect to collection arrangements at the end of the school day. However, we have recently noticed, once again, that the number of calls the school receives in a day asking us to inform children of changes has increased dramatically.

To reduce the additional burden this administration is placing on the school; please can we ask that, where possible, arrangements are made prior to the school day starting and changes are only communicated via the school office as a last resort. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Happy New Year from all at Ancaster Church of England Primary School-Let's make 2018 the best year yet!