



Ancaster  
Church of England Primary School

## Newsletter 6 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016



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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 6. I hope this communication finds you well. The school has been a hive of activity over the last couple of weeks and we have had some real treats in the form of exciting visitors and excellent learning. Over the past few weeks we have had lots of external visitors visiting the school who have been incredibly complimentary about the school and the achievements that have been made over the last few years. This type of feedback is excellent to hear as they were incredibly supportive of the new refurbishments, the high quality of the teaching, learning and assessments as well as the leadership of the school and have all positively commented upon the excellent behaviour across each class and the wider school. This is truly an excellent place to be and the hard work of all involved with the school from the pupils, staff, governors, parents and PTFA and into our volunteers shows that we are all striving for this school to be the best we can possibly be. Thank you for your ongoing support. **Best Wishes, Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)**

### Children in Need



Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need last week and helped us raise a phenomenal £290 for this very worthwhile and important charity.

The children looked brilliant dressed up in their fantastic spotty dotty costumes 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.

### Reading Parent Workshop

#### Advance notice of date-6pm 7<sup>th</sup> December

To ensure that parents feel comfortable with the increased expectations in reading and making the most of reading at home, we have arranged for an expert in this field to deliver a high quality talk to parents which will give you hints and tips for this crucial time. Jeannie Bulman will ensure that parents have strategies for developing reading further at home as well as guiding you through the more trickier comprehension questions that children are asked as they develop their reading skills and move on from phonics.

We would like to see as many parents as possible at this event as we know that Jeannie will deliver a friendly, informative and useful session that will undoubtedly impact on your ability to complement the work being undertaken at school in relation to reading.

**There will be a creche for school age children manned by school staff so you can bring your children without needing to worry about a babysitter!**

### Ben Smith Visit



Last week we welcomed the very inspirational Ben Smith into school to talk to the pupils about Anti-Bullying. As last week was 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 a Pride of Britain award for his fantastic challenge that 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 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](#)

### Breakfast and After School Club



**If you are looking to access either of the clubs in January, please remember that you will need to fill out the nursery's own paperwork prior to children being able to utilise the Breakfast or After School Club. Please let us know if you need any help in accessing the forms or otherwise contact the nursery on 01400 231500.**

## Parent Questionnaire

At the recent Parent Meetings, parents were asked to complete a Parent Questionnaire and the results have been collated from the full set of responses. We had 74 full responses and we're delighted with the feedback that has been provided from the parent community. The information shows that the Parent Body of Ancaster are incredibly happy with the provision in place for their children and that the work that the school is undertaking to 'be the best school we can be' is having a very positive impact. The comments accompanying questions were also incredibly supportive and showcase just how much we work together to provide the very best possible outcomes for your fantastic children. Thank you for taking the time to provide this feedback. As a school, we find parental feedback incredibly useful and want to thank you for your ongoing support.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Comments
<b>My child feels safe at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.</b>	60 parents (82%)	14 parents (18%)		100% satisfaction
<b>My child makes good progress at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.</b>	59 parents (81%)	15 parents (19%)		100% satisfaction
<b>My child is well looked after at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.</b>	65 parents (89%)	9 parents (11%)		100% satisfaction
<b>My child is taught well at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.</b>	64 parents (88%)	12 parents (12%)		100% satisfaction
<b>My child receives appropriate homework for their age.</b>	52 parents (71%)	20 parents (27%)	2 parents (2%)	98% satisfaction
<b>The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.</b>	59 parents (80%)	14 parents (19%)	1 parent (1%)	99% satisfaction
<b>The school deals effectively with bullying.</b>	55 parents (75%)	19 parents (25%)		100% satisfaction
<b>The school is well led and managed.</b>	59 parents (80%)	14 parents (19%)	1 parent (1%)	99% satisfaction
<b>The school responds well to concerns I raise.</b>	58 parents (79%)	15 parents (20%)	1 parent (1%)	99% satisfaction
<b>Overall, does the school promote good behaviour?</b>	65 parents (89%)	9 parents (11%)		100% satisfaction
<b>I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.</b>	59 parents (80%)	15 parents (20%)		100% satisfaction
<b>Would you recommend Ancaster Church of England Primary School to another parent?</b>	Yes 73 parents (99%)		No 1 parent (1%)	

### *Confirmed Changes for January-Executive Headship*

Now that the staffing structures for January, when Mr Eden undertakes the Executive Headship of Ancaster and Welbourn, has been agreed, we can now let parents know that Mrs Talbot will become a Non-Teaching Deputy Headteacher from January. She will be responsible for the management of the school in the absence of Mr Eden and will also have designated key duties and tasks centred around the improvement of key areas.

We are delighted to welcome Miss Emma Castle who will be teaching Class Switzerland (Y1) from January onwards. To ensure she is prepared, Miss Castle has been undertaking transition days and getting to know the class and has already made a wonderful start-please join us in welcoming Miss Castle to our school family. Mrs Owen has also gained a promotion within school to join our Senior Leadership Team and will be undertaking additional responsibilities to support the continued development of the school. As these final plans are confirmed, you will now be able to see how strong the leadership of Ancaster is moving forward and what the leadership structures look like. This is a very exciting time for Ancaster and allows for such wonderful opportunities for both schools to gain the maximum amount of support and challenge to improve further.

#### **Dogs in School**

Please be aware that dogs of any size are not allowed on our school site even if they are being carried. Please can all parents be aware that dogs are not permitted on school grounds.

#### **Parking outside School**

We have had a number of parental complaints over the way that people are parking outside school. We have contacted the police who will be doing random spot checks and speaking to people about their parking, but please can you get into good habits and only park in places which do not compromise safety.