



## Consett Junior School

### November 2017 Newsletter

Welcome back after the October half-term. It has been an exciting start to the next half-term with so many children excited to celebrate Halloween, we hope they got more 'treats' than 'tricks' in whatever they did! The disco was a great success and all children behaved impeccably, thank you to all parents/carers for the wonderful costumes, they certainly showed the work that goes on behind the scenes. Photographs of the day will be on the website this week.

This is an eight week term, and although we are straight back into lessons and learning, we also have many exciting events planned; M & M Productions in school to perform 'Cinderella'; new clubs to start the term, and sorry... 'Countdown to Christmas Movies Club' is very popular and the children love it, but it is reminding you each week how soon it will arrive; we also have our fabulous Christmas performance at the theatre. Children are already rehearsing songs and speaking parts so please allow them to do this at home, we hope our new families are also excited for this event.

Thank you all once again for supporting school and your children each day with homework, wearing the correct uniform, being prepared for the school day, showing your support with extra curricular clubs and all the 'extra' things you do.

#### October Attendance

The whole school attendance for October was 95.53%. This is quite a drop compared to last month, however, we have had many children off due to the winter bug virus, which is unavoidable. However, we are grateful to families for following our policy to try to minimise the number of children who are affected by this. Thankfully this has helped and we are finding the number of children absent has declined.

As year 3 have achieved the best attendance overall for October each child will be given a cake on Friday as their reward.

Class 2 have achieved the reward for the best class attendance for October at 97.60%, which is brilliant! Their reward for this is a free non-uniform day (On Friday 3rd November).

Year 6 have the lowest attendance for October at 94.35%, which is disappointing, especially as this is a very important year for them with SATS looming. Everyday counts for year 6 children as they will be concentrating on specific learning areas which is very valuable for the May SATS. SATS tests week is Monday 14th—18th May 2018 (no absences this week).

Please ensure your child continues to arrive at school on time, as children who arrive late not only miss out on their education, but their arrival in class disrupts all other children.

As stated in the last newsletter, the topic of holidays in term time was discussed at the last full governors meeting. Following this, any holidays that are requested in term time that hit the 'triggers' for issuing penalties will now be referred. An easy to follow fact sheet will soon be sent home, but for your information this means that if your child is off 14 session or more in a 12 week rolling period, this **WILL** be referred. If your child is off for 10 sessions **then** is off a further 4 sessions with or/no reason provided, this will count as a trigger. If we feel your child is off for many 'ad-hoc' days in the 12 week period and feel the reason does not justify a day off school, this will also count as a trigger. Many families do not realise that a day here and there is not many, but it does become known as persistent absence and we do monitor it. We do want to support our families and ask you work with us in following policy so that it does not trigger a referral. It is the responsibility of the school to monitor attendance so ensuring we have all information possible goes a long way for us to establish the best support for improvement. We also want you to know that we get no financial gain from issuing fines, and the school receives no additional funding into the budget, this is a county process and the fines are requested and returned to them.

## November 2017

S u n	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-day	Thursday	Friday	S a t
5	6 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band and school fund due After school band School nurse drop-in 8.50 - 9.30 a.m. Anti-Bullying assembly, parents/carers invited. This is 9.15 a.m. start in the school hall	7 - After school Karate Club	8 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route	9 - Yr 3 swim 12.10 noon Cross country training Long route After school Coding Club (Full) - Year 4 & 5 After school Multi - Skills Club (Full) - Year 3 & 4	10 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3 Year 3 & 4 Nasal Flu Immunisations	1
1	13 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band and school fund due After school band	14 - After school Karate Club	15 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route	16 - Yr 3 swim 12.10 noon Cross country training Long route After school Coding Club (Full) - Year 4 & 5 After school Multi - Skills Club (Full) - Year 3 & 4	17 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3 Children in Need Day Text confirmations will be sent out for Grandparents afternoon tea.	1
2	20 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band and school fund due After school band	21 - After school Karate Club	22 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route	23 - Whole school Christmas show at the Empire theatre. Children need a packed lunch and collected from the theatre NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS	24 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3	2
6	27 - Yr 4 swim Dinner Money, Band and school fund due After school band Travelling Book Fair in School all week for children and families.	28 - After school Karate Club 'M & M' productions in school to perform 'Cinderella' to the whole school.	29 - 12.10 noon Cross country training Short route	30 - Yr 3 swim 12.10 noon Cross country training Long route Grandparents Afternoon Tea - Places must have been pre-booked and confirmed. After school Coding Club (Full) - Year 4 & 5 After school Multi - Skills Club (Full) - Year 3 & 4	1 - Fun Friday Lunch (orders must be placed on the Monday of this week). After school Art Club (Full) - Year 3	5

**December key events: Tuesday 5th - Some band members and signers at Tesco at 1.30 p.m.; Monday 11th - School nurse drop-in session 3.00 - 3.30 p.m.; Tuesday 12th - Karate grading during the school day; Wednesday 13th - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day, children on packed lunches can book a dinner on this day (letters will go home in a few weeks); Friday 15th - 100% autumn term attendance afternoon; Wednesday 20th - Whole school Christmas Party Day (letters to follow); Thursday 21st - Autumn term attendance letters to go home; Thursday 21st - Year 5 & 6 Carol service at The Salvation Army (10.00 a.m.); Thursday 21st - Year 3 & 4 Carol Service at the Methodist Church (2.00 p.m.); Friday 22nd - Last day of term with a Non uniform day for a £1 fine. School re-opens for the children on Tuesday 9th January 2018.**

## October attendance overview

Class 2 have achieved the highest % attendance for October and their non-uniform day reward is Friday 3rd November

Year Group	% attendance	Unauthorised absences	Lates
3	96.61	14	27
4	95.52	8	3
5	95.62	23	1
6	94.35	40	9

## School Dinners

Don't forget your child can move meal arrangements at any point throughout the year, but we do need to know and we do need 2 weeks notice, this can be shorter at the discretion of the catering team. There is also the option of a Fun Friday Pass for children on packed lunches that wish to have a school meal on a Friday only. This must be booked on the Monday of the week your child wants the dinner.

*A note from our cook, Mr Maddison:*

*"Thank you to all children who were new to meals this week for our Halloween dinners, as always the manners of all children were excellent. As the colder weather draws upon us we would be happy to see many more children on meals to warm them up for afternoon lessons! All our meals are cooked fresh daily and there are always four meal choices available" Thank you!*

## Locherbie Manor 2018

For the current year 5 children booked to attend Locherbie Manor in 2018, this is a reminder that you can pay small amount from your balance over the year using your payment card, you will be amazed at how soon it will be paid off by paying smaller amounts. Don't forget your child will need a sleeping bag for this trip, and as camping equipment is in the sales now you may well pick up a bargain!

## Poppy Appeal Sales

The Royal British Legion is asking the nation to Rethink Remembrance by recognising the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces community, past and present. By wearing a poppy, you aren't just remembering the fallen: you're supporting a new generation of veterans and Service personnel that need our support.

We are now selling poppies for 20p each, or you can buy other merchandise, details and prices can be found on our website. Children can make purchases during the first morning break. Please ensure children keep 'wrist slap bands' in their bags for home time.

## Charity

### Halloween Disco

Thank you so much to all children who attended school dressed in their costumes, contributing 50p to our nominated charity 'Children with Cancer UK' so far we have made over £100 for this charity.

### Children in Need - 17th November

Letters will go home tomorrow from the school council. The school council met before the holidays and agreed the activities for the day in order to raise as much as we can for this charity. The fundraising activities include wearing something spotty on the day for a 50p fine, and also a sponsored trek (details to follow). All other activities range from 25p to £1, should you wish to provide your child with money on the day. We will also be requesting donations of cakes for the cake stall.

## Donations

Please continue to send in donations of tissues and carrier bags, they are always in demand. We should soon be receiving our Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal box, as you start (or finish) your Christmas shopping can you spare a thought for the very local families who will struggle to provide a toy for their child at Christmas and perhaps purchase a small gift that can be given to these families for Christmas. You may be surprised just how many families who are very close to us who are struggling financially to provide for their children. All gifts must be new and unused and can be for any age of child, thank you in advance!

## School Fund

Please remember to send in £1 (or less if you have small change) each week which can be put in the 'spinner', at this time of year it is very useful for additional resources and parties. Children are receiving many achievements rewards now and this help to buy new and exciting gifts!

## Whole School Christmas Show

This year the whole school Christmas shows will be at the Empire Theatre on Thursday 23rd November. The production actually starts at 1.30 p.m. Show tickets are on sale now from the theatre (not school), priced at £4.50. The children will walk to the Empire from school around 10.00 a.m. for a full rehearsal before the show starts at 1.30 p.m., please ensure they have a coat. All children will need to have a packed lunch on this day, if you require a school packed lunch an order form has already been sent home and the deadline for ordering is Wednesday 15th October. Children must be collected from the theatre on this day between 3/3.15 p.m. The Infants school have been informed of this date, should the show go over slightly. There are no after school clubs on on this day. Year 3 & 4 will do their show of 'Tinsel & Tea-Towels' first, followed by the Year 5 & 6 show 'Silent Night'.

## Clubs

Swimming - **Year 4 swim last lesson on a Monday; Year 3 swim last lesson on a Thursday.**

### Cross Country Training

Cross country training will continue on the usual days, it is colder now so a hat, jacket and gloves are essential. Children from year 4 can now run on Thursdays too, but we will talk to them to ensure they are aware of the longer route, they are very keen and sometimes forget how hard it can be. Our last county race at Burnhope was fantastic, although very wet, they all did fantastic. And received a special mention and treat in the last assembly before the holidays.

### After school karate club—members only

This club is every Tuesday from 3.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m. and starts again on Tuesday 7th November. This club is on every week until Christmas (including the final week), and the grading is on Tuesday 12th December.

### Band

Band rehearsals for all children are after school each Monday until 4.30 p.m. Band is £1.50 each week, if you think you are behind with payments please ask your child to ask Miss Waters about how much is owed.

### After schools clubs

We are now in the first week of the new clubs for this half term. Code club is now full. Free Art club for year 3 is full and will continue this term. Countdown to Christmas movie club tickets are on sale on a Monday for that week and the movie is displayed in school. You must buy a ticket or have paid for the term (£1.50 per week). We will provide juice and the children can bring in fruit. None of these clubs are on in the final week of term.

## Grandparents Afternoon Tea

We are hosting an afternoon tea specifically for our grandparents on Thursday 30th November. Due to size of the hall we are limited to the number of places we can offer for this event (60 adults), however, should we have a large number of people wanting to book a place, we will run a second afternoon tea the following Thursday. However, we can only offer 2 spaces per family. Year 3 will still swim on this day, but if your child's grandparent is attending this event, they will remain at school so they can join them for the slideshow. The cost of this is £3 per adult which must be paid when booking your place. Letters have already gone home about this and can also be found on the APP and website.

## OurSchoolsApp

Please remember to download this App to your devices, we very rarely send school texts, so you are at risk of missing valuable information that is shared on this App. It can be downloaded on any Iphone or android device. [Please be aware that you can turn notifications off in the 'settings' of this app, and still receive them to your device, just remember to check daily for new alerts.](#)