



CHRISTMAS 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent, Carer

We have reached the end of the school term and what a term it has been! Schools across the country have been making education as normal as possible whilst keeping some COVID precautions. We have been relatively lucky compared to some schools, we have only had one small outbreak just before the October half term and few isolated cases.

This is down to the extra cleaning regime in school, the additional ventilation and the handwashing but also down to the sensible measures that families are taking too. Thank you all for helping to keep our school COVID free. However, I am also sure that you will share my concerns for future months as the Omicron variant seem to be very easily spread; please take good care of yourselves and your loved ones over the Christmas break.

Maintaining normality this year; it was such a joy to hold Nativity plays again and welcome some smaller groups of parents into school as an audience; it is your involvement and the support that you give your children that helps encourage them to achieve well.

This week I have been looking at the achievements of pupils across the school and I am proud to say that we have a lot of good progress in all classes to report on. In particular the new Little Wandle phonics programme is helping our youngest children learn to read. In the New Year we hope to provide parents with some more information so that you know how to support with this at home too.

May I wish you all a very happy Christmas and new year.

Kind regards

Mark Turner

January 2022

We look forward to welcoming our children back on Thursday 6th January 2022. We are taking our Jubilee Day on Tuesday 4th January and Wednesday 5th January is our Teachers Training day.



Reception and Nursery Places – September 2022

To apply for a Reception place for your child to start in September 2022, please complete the application form on www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Closing date is 15th January 2022.

Our Nursery also has availability please contact the office for information.



Positive Futures Advisor

Dear Parents / Carer,

It's almost Christmas and it has been great seeing families attending Children's nativity plays once again in school. The children were fantastic, thank you all for your support and encouragement.

For many families the festive period is a time of celebration, fun and Joy. However, for others it can be a time of stress, uncertainty and loneliness.

Some people may find the following information helpful.

Durham County Council Fun & Food

- Tips for coping at Christmas
- Search on Google - Kooth and Qwell news update
- Violence and Abuse : Harbour Working for a Safer Community - Tel: 03000 202525 (24/7)
- Mental Health & Emotional Support for Adults in County Durham
- Crisis Team Adults : 0191 441 5738
- Crisis Team Children : 0191 441 5733

With lots of children receiving electrical gifts this year the following maybe of interest:

Please search on Google for:

Digital Parenting-Vodafone 2021

Digital parenting – Vodafone UK News Centre

Wishing you all a very Happy and Safe Christmas.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2022

Go gently and Stay safe.

Lily x

Lily Morris

Positive Futures Advisor



The Christmas Present Appeal

We would like to offer our sincere thanks and gratitude to Majors Eric Pearce and Carole Pearce at the Salvation Army in Sherburn Hill who have supported our local schools through the Christmas Present Appeal again this year. Local families have been touched by the generosity of the appeal. They have also benefited throughout the pandemic with support re food and toiletries. Eric and Carole have gone above and beyond with their continued support.

We wish them a very happy and blessed Christmas.

We will be very sorry to see them leave the area later in 2022 as Eric retires and wish them all the best for the future.





Emergency contacts

Get help in an emergency or advice about your home, health and personal safety.

Police, fire or ambulance

Dial 999 if it's an emergency.

Council services

During normal office hours, contact us on 03000 260 000.

The following services provide out of hours support:

- Call 03000 267 979 for emergency social care and child welfare concerns, including foster carer support.
- Call 03000 262 195 for Care Connect (community alarm service).
- Call 01388 722 538 if you are homeless or facing homelessness.
- Call 03000 266 000 for our births, deaths and marriages service. · Building control service (to report a dangerous structure). · Report emergency council housing repairs to Durham City Homes or your housing provider.

Local police 101

Durham Constabulary - report anti-social behaviour, or other incidents not classed as an emergency, and get advice about crime prevention and household security by calling 101.

Fire and Rescue

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service - get advice about household fire safety, including the installation of smoke alarms, by calling 0845 305 8383.

NHS 111 - Telephone 111 when you need health advice fast, but it's not a 999 emergency.

Household emergencies

- Electricity - If your power supply is interrupted call 0800 668 877.
- Gas - if you smell gas contact the National Grid on 0800 111 999.
- Water - Call 0800 393 084 for burst water mains or 0800 328 7648 for sewer issues.

You can find Durham County Council – Christmas and New Year Closures at durham.gov.uk