



School Newsletter — January 2010

Happy New Year

Aladdin



Although it already seems a distant memory our annual pantomime at the end of last term was well received by all those who saw it and we have had many nice comments from members of the local community saying how much they enjoyed it.

The positive response from the audiences at all three occasions ensured that the children were rewarded for all their hard work leading up to the performances as they collaborated with staff to do everything involved in putting on a stage show including lighting, refreshments, packaging, props, programmes, sound engineering, makeup and costumes as well as performing either in the choir or band, acting, dancing and singing on stage. There is no doubt that the pantomime is one of those activities that brings the whole school together and allows children to develop new skills or extend those they already have and then use them to achieve a common goal. It is great to see children's confidence grow as well as their appreciation of what others can contribute towards this aspect of school life.

As our main fund raising event of the year, the pantomime was very successful and we say a special "Thank you" to Barclays Bank who matched the money we raised on the raffle, pound for pound, enabling us to raise the magnificent total of £3373.



There is still some money outstanding for the framed photographs of individual children, so if you want to keep the photo and have not sent in your £2.50 please do so as soon as possible. Mr Wilson has produced a DVD of the pantomime which is now on sale for £6. If you would like a copy please fill in the attached slip and return to school by Friday 15th January with your payment.



Congratulations

Well done to;

- ◆ **Cryssie and Robert Thomas** who were selected to represent Northumberland in the North East Boccia championship held in Gateshead at the end of November. The team competed against other teams from the North East and came second overall.
- ◆ **Holly Jackman** who has been selected to represent East Northumberland U13 girls football.
- ◆ **Andrew Davison** who passed grade 1 piano with a distinction.
- ◆ **Abbie Donaldson** who passed grade 3 saxophone.
- ◆ **Laura Leadbitter** who passed grade 4 saxophone.
- ◆ **Jack Leadbitter** who passed grade 1 piano with a merit.

ART SHIRTS

If any of you have any old shirts you are getting rid of please could you donate them to school so that the children can protect their uniforms in art lessons?

Thank you.

Music and ICT Questionnaires

Thanks you to those of you who completed our Music and ICT questionnaire last half term to help us identify how we could involve parents further in these two subject areas for which we have Specialist School status.

Mrs Adamson will contact those of you who expressed an interest in music lessons or playing an instrument in our school band. She is also going to contact our feeder first schools and local churches to see if our band could play at their functions as many of you suggested.

We offered to run workshops in an aspect of ICT and the most popular suggestion was digital photography. As a result Mrs Patterson will run a three week course on Wednesday the 10th, 17th and 24th March from 4 - 5pm for those people who are interested in learning more about digital photography. School will provide all the necessary equipment you don't even need to have your own camera! If you would like to take part in the workshops just complete the slip attached and return it to school by Friday 22nd January.

Some parents also came up with some suggestions of organisations Year 8 could design a website for. Mrs Patterson will contact those of you who made suggestions individually during the next few weeks.

Newsletter format

You will have noticed that we have changed the format of our newsletter this time so we can include colour photographs of things that have been happening in school. If you have any other suggestions for improving our newsletter please let us know.

Drama Club

We are able to offer the children in all year groups an opportunity to take part in an after school drama club on Mondays from 3.45 – 4.45pm. The club is being run through Alnwick Extended Services and costs £10 for the 5 sessions which will run on Monday 1st, 8th & 22nd February & 1st and 8th March. Please sign and return the attached slip with payment if you want your child to take part.

"Water Aid"

For two days year 7 concentrated on the task of raising both money for and awareness of the work of the charity "Water Aid".

They thought about the hundreds of ways we use and take for granted water in our homes and were amazed to find out how precious water is in other countries - how 5,000 children die every day from water related diseases and how women in rural Africa spend 26% of their time fetching water.

7A set about thinking of ways to educate people, making models and games to show how much water we use unnecessarily every day without realising. They encouraged everyone to wear blue for the two days, baked cakes to sell and invited everyone to their exhibition, raising £195.00 to send to Water Aid. This could provide wells built in Malawi, train hand pump mechanics in India and buy many taps for remote villages.

The class were very proud of their work and anything that makes us more aware of our own environment and the plight of others has got to be worthwhile. Thank-you to everyone who supported this venture.



SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS — BEING PREPARED?

Following recent bad weather conditions we are providing you with the Local Authorities most up to date advice which is below;

During periods of severe weather there may be school closures or disruption to your child's Home to School Transport. In these circumstances do you know what to do? Here are some tips;

1. Check the school website www.seahousesmiddleschool.com after 7.30am
2. Listen to the Local Radio Stations — Radio Newcastle 95.4fm
3. Check the website www.BBC.co.uk/Tyne
4. Go to the Northumberland County Council Website—www.northumberland.gov.uk The County Council will continuously update news on the front page
5. Ring the County Council Schools helpline — 0845 600 6400

In extreme cases a school may have to close during the day due to the severe weather and your child will be sent home early. Do you have a procedure in place for the care of your child until you arrive home? You could;-

- Make arrangements with a relative or close friend to care for your child until you are able to get home.
- Inform the school and transport provider of these arrangements as it may be necessary for your child to seek alternative transportation from school.
- Make sure the School and Transport provider have an "In Case of Emergency" contact telephone number.
- Above all, make sure your child is aware of the arrangements.

For more information please call Northumberland County Council Contact Centre on 0845 600 6400

Great North Air Ambulance Appeal

We have rearranged the clothing collection in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance for Tuesday 26th January at 9.30am. If you have items you have cleared out but are short of bags to put them in please let us know as we have plenty in school.

Bags can be dropped off at school anytime before the 26th January or you can ring Jacqui Davison on 01665 589099 to arrange to drop them off at her house.

The Great North Air Ambulance provides an invaluable service in our rural area so please help us to support them.

Extra curricular Activities Autumn Term

	Lunchtime	After school finishes 4.45pm
Monday	Football (yrs 5 & 6) Board Games Band	Drama U13 football
Tuesday	ICT KS3 Choir Netball (yrs 7 & 8) Homework club Benchball (yrs 5, 6 & 7))	
Wednesday	Volleyball (yrs 7 & 8) Craft (yrs 5 & 6)	U11 Football U13 Netball
Thursday	Unihoc ICT KS2 Homework club Singing (yrs 5 & 6)	Archery (yrs 6, 7, & 8)
Friday	Dance (yrs 5, 6 & 7)	

Diary Dates

21st January	Year 8 Indoor Athletics team at County Finals
8th February	KS2 Technology day KS3 Project Challenge U13 football v Glendale — away
9th February	KS2 Technology day KS3 Project Challenge
11th February	U11 football v Glendale — away Disco 6 — 8pm — 17 credits needed
12th February	School closes for half term
22nd February	School reopens

Valentine's Disco

We are having our Valentine's disco on Thursday 11th February from 6.00 – 8.00pm. The cost of entry is £1.50 and your child must have earned 17 credits during the half term.

Digital Photography workshops

I would like to take part in the digital photography workshops on Wednesday 10th, 17th and 24th March from 4 - 5pm.

Name Signed

Aladdin DVD

Name of child Class

I would like copy / copies of the pantomime DVD and enclose £.....

Signed Parent / Guardian

Drama Class

I would like my child Class
to take part in the Drama class on Mondays 3.45 — 4.45pm starting 1st February and enclose £10 for the five sessions on the 1st, 8th, 22nd February and 1st & 8th March.

Signed Parent / Guardian