

Dear Parents/Carers,

January 2019

Happy New Year and we hope everyone has enjoyed the festivities. We're soon back into the swing of things at school with lots going on in the first week.

Thanks to all who supported the various events at the end of last term. The children performed particularly well at the Carol Service, thoroughly enjoyed their theatre visits and the Christmas Fair was a great success. As ever, it was very well attended, enjoyed by all and raised a massive total of £1290.67 which was made up of £980.99 raised by the school and £309.68 raised by The Friends of Tanfield. Thanks to all for your generous donations. This money is invaluable to us throughout the year, as is the money from the Non-School Uniform Days. They pay for those events when we do not ask for a voluntary contribution from parents. These include the cost of the buses to the CNS Sports Events, to the In it Together Conference, to the theatre and for the theatre company for the Early Years plus many other activities. All children benefit greatly from this – enriching their learning experiences.

There is a lot of other good news to share in this newsletter as well as information for the term and, of course, the vital 'Dates for your Diary'. Please read on for more updates and don't forget, if you lose your newsletter you can always access one on our website.

Kay Hemmings (Head Teacher)



**Pre-School** **Don't forget** – although we are full in Pre-School this academic year we are accepting applications for September 2019. Please request an application form from the office. Thank you.

**TESCO Bags of Help** Our bid for funding from Tesco is now live – please collect the blue tokens and post them in the collection boxes available in the branches in Consett, Blackhill and Annfield Plain. Please encourage your friends and relatives to do the same to see if we can be successful in funding equipment to develop the children's upper body strength and give them pleasure in making music outside. We have until the end of February to collect as many as possible.

**M.U.G.A. (Multi-Use Games Area) Bid** Sadly, we were not successful with our application for a significant amount of money to fund the installation of a M.U.G.A. on our field. It's a great shame as it would have been very well used by both us and the local community. We will continue to look for future opportunities to fund this.



**The Arts at Tanfield Lea** The children enjoyed creating some spectacular pieces of art work last term – their poppy creations were well admired and we also have 3 stunning new mosaics in the Upper School Building. This term the artist Sue Warlock will be painting a mural of our 'Learning Dip' in the Lower School Hall and Graeme Hopper is busy creating a metal sculpture to be displayed on the external wall at the front of school, which is based on designs by the Y4 children, celebrating many of the different experiences children have whilst at our school. We hope that both the children and the local community will enjoy it when it is has been completed.

In addition to this our Y3 children and our school choir are going to have the opportunity to perform on the stage at the Gala Theatre in Durham. **Please keep Wednesday 13th February free** if you have children who will be involved in this as you will be invited to an early evening concert there. The local councillors have kindly funded the buses for the event – both for the children and parents – so that is a **huge** help which I know, will be greatly appreciated and make the concert accessible for everyone. More information later this half term.



Whilst we're on a more international theme I would like to draw your attention to a free event in Durham on Saturday 9th February to welcome the Chinese New Year – 2019 The Year of the Pig. There will be a number of activities taking place from 10:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. including Calligraphy, Chinese language and Storytelling, Chinese Lion Dancing, Craft stalls for children, Music and Dance Performances & a Tea Ceremony. Entrance is free and activities will be taking place at Clayport Library, Durham Town Hall & Millennium Place. For more details go on line at <http://www.durhambid.co.uk/events/chinese-new-year-events-durham-city>

## Recognising Good Attendance

Everyone knows how important good attendance is. We monitor it regularly and offer support where attendance is becoming a concern. On Friday in assembly we celebrated the excellent attendance last term. Miss Ellis' class won the £20 prize for the best attending class in the second half of the autumn term, badges have been awarded to those children who achieved 100% attendance last term and we have also awarded special attendance stickers to all children who had an overall attendance for the term of 98% and above, recognising this achievement. ☺

## Visit to Tübingen, Germany – December 2018

15 of our children benefitted from UK-German Connection Funding and had the amazing opportunity to travel with five Y11 students from Tanfield School to visit a German primary school, work and play with their German peers, visit a German Christmas Market and generally learn more about German culture. They spent half a term learning some basic language and then flew (many for the first time) to Stuttgart in December. They were a real credit to our school – showing great resilience, confidence and self-assurance – experiencing many things for the very first time. They have been working on a PowerPoint presentation of their visit and we would like to invite parents of the children involved to come and see this on Wednesday 13th February at 9 a.m. – we hope you can attend.

**In addition to this we are hoping to take part in a special one-off German Event in Durham on 13th June.** We are still waiting for more information but are hoping that all Y5/6 children who visited Germany **plus all those who applied to go** will be invited to attend an event on this date. The children will go to Durham and join children from other schools for an afternoon workshop with a German musician. Parents will then be invited to Millennium Place @ about 5 p.m. to hear them perform. More information once it has all been confirmed.



**Thanks for the donations we received last year of toys/loose parts for OPAL.** The children continue to enjoy high quality play over the lunchtime period. Our recent addition to the environment is a sailing boat, very kindly enhanced and donated by Mr Craig (Rosie's Grandad).



We have the Risk Assessment to carry out with the children before they can start playing in it. We know it's going to be a magnet for play. **Also – if you have an interest in gardening and have a little spare time**

**please let us know.** Mr Henderson has been working hard to clear the pond space to create an 'Edible Growing Area'. It will consist of raised beds and each year group will have the responsibility for a bed and therefore the opportunity to grow their own produce. If you could help on a regular basis – or know anyone else who you think would be interested in this - please let the office know – it would be greatly appreciated.



## Y5 and Y6 Residential Visits for the Academic Year 2019-2020

Letters have gone out to both Y4 and Y5 now regarding the residential for the year groups in the autumn term, 2019. If you've not returned your form yet, Y4 still have a couple of weeks to book a place. If there is anyone in Year 5 who has not applied for Howtown but is now thinking they'd like to, please request a letter from the office. Both visits are great value for money and excellent learning experiences for the children – academically, physically, socially and emotionally. **Miss it, miss out!**

Our current Y6 have been working on the Howtown Slideshow. Once it is finished we'll let you know the date for the showing of this – due to other commitments it will be some time after February half term.

### Dates for your Diary

Friday 25th Jan	Deposit for Grinton (Y5 residential visit) due in by today
Wednesday 6th Feb	<b>Tanfield's Got Talent</b> – 6 p.m.
Friday 8th Feb	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family) Y5/6 to visit Eden Camp – may involve an early departure/late return - All TBC
Tuesday 12th Feb	Y4 Multi Skills Festival @ Tanfield
Wednesday 13th Feb	Gala Theatre booked for combined school evening concert. Y3 to be central to this as well as some of our musicians and choir
Friday 15th Feb	Y5/6 High Five competition, Y3/4 Golf and ABCs @ Brandon
HALF TERM	Monday 18th-Friday 22nd February
Monday 25th Feb	<b>Back to school</b>
Friday 1st March	Non School Uniform Day–please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family)
Monday 4th March	BOOK FAIR this week
Tuesday 5th March	Author Visit - Lou Treleaven – if you get chance, check out her books.
Thursday 7th March	<b>World Book Day</b>
Friday 15th March	Fundraising Event organised by the School Council – Charity to be confirmed once the School Council have met and agreed this.
Monday 25th March	<b>PARENT MEETINGS (Whole School)</b> – 3.15pm until 5.30pm

Tuesday 26th March	<b>PARENT MEETINGS (Whole School) – 3.15pm until 5.30pm</b>
Monday 1st April	All Stars Cricket Roadshow today for Y1, Y2 and Y3 <i>At least half of money for Grinton to be paid by today</i>
Tuesday 2nd April	Y3 Multi Sports Festival @ Brandon
Wednesday 3rd April	Rehearsal for main children involved in Easter service to take place from about 9:30 and then some of the children to go to Stanley Park Care Home to perform too.  <b>KS2 Easter Celebration – through music and poetry in St. Margaret’s Church</b> We hope all parents of children involved will be able to join us for this special service – starting between 1:30 and 1:45. <i>Children will walk to the church after lunch.</i>
Thursday 4th April	<b>Egg Decorating</b> Lower School children to bring decorated egg in to school today for competition. Upper School children to bring boiled egg and decorating resources to school to decorate egg – parents welcome to come and work with the upper school children in class on this morning – from 8:50 a.m. <b>Friends Coffee Afternoon 2 p.m.</b> –School Choir to sing, plus viewing of all decorated eggs
Friday 5th April	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family) Y1/2 Football Competition, KS2 Dodgeball and ABCs @ Brandon
EASTER HOLIDAYS	Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April inclusive
Tuesday 23rd April	<b>Back to School</b> <b>Y5s from 56T to take part in a Robotics Project at Tanfield School</b> (5 Tuesday afternoons starting today)
Friday 3rd May	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family)
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
Tuesday 7th May	<b>KS1 SATs to start this week</b> – it’s really important they are in school for this – please ensure now LOA is requested during May for any children.
Monday 13th May	<b>Y6 SATs WEEK and School Assessment for the rest of the school</b> It is very important that you <b>do not</b> book a holiday for this week or for the weeks leading up to it. <b>Requests will not be authorised and absence will impact on your child’s attainment.</b> Half of Howtown payment to be made by today please.
Friday 17th May	Y3/4 Cricket Competition, Y1/2 Athletics and ABCs @ Brandon Cricket Club (Venue TBC)
Tuesday 21st May	Y1 Multi Skills Festival @ Langley Moor Fundraising for a local charity this time – organised by School Council
Wednesday 22nd May	<b>TEACHER TRAINING DAY – no children in school today</b>
HALF TERM	<b>Wednesday 22nd May to Friday 31st May inclusive</b>
Monday 3rd June	<b>Back to School</b> <b>SPORTS WEEK</b> – various activities encouraging healthy, active living.
Tuesday 4th June	<b>Class 5E to take part in a Robotics Project at Tanfield School</b> (5 Tuesday afternoons starting today) <b>Family Sponsored Bike Ride</b> – 3:15 until 6 p.m. From Tanfield to Leadgate and back.
Wednesday 5th June	<b>Upper School Sports Day</b> – from about 9:15 onwards <b>Pre-School and Reception Sports Day</b> – 1 until about 1:30 <b>KS1 Sports Day</b> – 1:45 onwards (Alternative date in case of bad weather – Thursday 6th June (Please note change))
Thursday 6th June	Alternative date for Sports Day in case of bad weather (changed from Friday)
Friday 7th June	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family)

	ACTIVE Day – supported by CNS Sports – variety of activities for the children.	
Monday 10th June	<b>Phonics Testing Week</b> – Y1 and those Y2 children who did not reach the required standard last year. Again-important for children to be in school.	
Thursday 13th June	<b>German Event in Durham for all who applied to visit Germany in December.</b> As mentioned in the main body of this newsletter – still to be confirmed.	
	<b>Meeting for new parents</b> (new Reception children) 4 p.m. in Lower School Hall – no children to attend this meeting	
	<b>Sleepover with Brandon for Y6</b> – starting at 7 p.m.	
Friday 14th June	<b>Activity Day</b> at Brandon Primary for Y5 and Y6	
Tuesday 18th June	New Reception children and their parents to visit – 3:30 until 4:30	
Wednesday 19th June	New Reception children visits (children starting in September 2019)	
Wednesday 26th June	New Reception children visits (children starting in September 2019)	
Thursday 27th June	<b>In It Together Conference for Y4 children at Spennymoor Leadership Centre.</b> Joint event with Y4 children from Brandon Primary School	
Monday 1st July	Transition Days for Tanfield School	Children move to new class second lesson today
Tuesday 2nd July		4 p.m. Pre-School Meeting for those children starting in Sept.
Wednesday 3rd July		Transition afternoon for Rec children moving to Y1 and their parents (from 1 p.m.)
	<b>5:15 Meeting for parents and children re Grinton Residential</b>	
Friday 5th July	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund (1 per family) Reports go out to parents today	
Week Beg 8th July	Y6 children and parents asked to complete Exit Questionnaire	
	Full Payment to be made for Grinton Residential by today	
Tuesday 9th July	Y2 Multi Sports Festival @ Langley Moor	
Friday 12th July	Y5/6 Athletics Competition, Y3 Maths Challenge and ABCs @ Brandon – <b>all day</b>	
Monday 15th July	Dress Rehearsal for Y6 Performance this afternoon – approx. 1:30	
	Y6 Leavers' Meal – 4:45 until 5:45 at local venue	
Tuesday 16th July	Y2 Moving on Assembly – parents invited – approx. 9:15 start	
	6 p.m. Evening Performance of Y6 Performance	
Wednesday 17th July	Lower School Fun Day	
Thursday 18th July	Upper School Walk from Craster to Embleton	
Friday 19th July	Y6 Leavers' Celebration Assembly approx. 9 a.m. start – Parents welcome Upper School to go to Oakies Park following Assembly	
Friday 19th July 3:15	Summer Holidays begin	
TBC	New Term starts	

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – Spring 1 (Half Term 3)**

After School Child Care runs every day from the end of the school day until 5:30. Children in Y1 and above can attend the CNS Sports Club as part of this. The CNS Booking Form must be used for this (already sent out)

As well as the CNS daily sports clubs, we do have other clubs on offer. The children will have already received letters for some of the clubs and others will be sent out in the coming weeks once they are ready to begin.

<b>Monday</b>	Choir	Y1 upwards - starting first day back	3.15 - 4.00
	CNS Sports Club - Small Ball Games	Lower School (not Reception)	3.15-4.15
<b>Tuesday</b>	CNS Sports Club - Multi-Sports	Lower School (not Reception)	3.15-4.15
<b>Wednesday</b>	CNS Sports Club - Speed, Agility and Quickness/Team races	Lower School (not Reception)	3.15-4.15
	Lingotots-Learn Spanish	For Y1 to Y6 children	3:15 - 4:15
<b>Thursday</b>	Home Learning Club	By Invitation only - for KS2	3.15-4.00
	CNS Sports Club - Dodgeball	Lower School (not Reception)	3.15-4.15
	Golf Club	KS2-with view to Y3/4 competing at end of this half term	3:15-4:15
<b>Friday</b>	CNS Sports Club - Table Tennis	Lower School (not Reception)	3.15-4.15