



Newsletter—November 2018



From Remembrance...

November has been a special month in school and in our wider community as we paused to give thanks for those who gave their lives in conflict. Our Y3 and Y4 children had the opportunity to work with 'More than Dance' and presented a beautiful reflection, through dance, prayer and music, to our school community which helped us to look forward to the joyful hope of a more peaceful world and how peace begins with each one of us.



To Advent...

Over the coming weeks we will journey through Advent towards the joyful celebration of Christmas. Our children will have an opportunity—through their RE lessons, collective worship, the carols they will sing and the readings they will hear—to develop awareness of the importance of Advent as a time of preparation to welcome Jesus and celebrate the gift of his love brought into the world on the first Christmas day. Please do share the Wednesday Word at home to support your family's journey of faith during Advent. Each child in our school will be bringing home an advent activity over the coming 3 weeks – further details from your child's teacher.

We wish you a happy and a holy advent season.

Mrs S Sinclair

Headteacher



SCHOOL NEWS

You will no doubt be aware of our new routine on a morning where children are now coming straight in to school rather than lining up in the playground. Although this was initially due to the colder mornings, we also hoped that it might make the transition into school a little smoother. This has certainly been the case; children now filter into their classes from 8.40am onwards. They have time to organise their belongings and go into the classroom in a less congested way. This means they are ready to begin learning at 8.50am. If your child is arriving at school after 8.50am then they need to use the main entrance. Many thanks for your co-operation. A polite request that you do not park in the lane or at Northfield School if travelling by car.

PACKED LUNCHES

Please remember that if your child brings a packed lunch they also need a drink to have with their lunch. This should be in a different container to their classroom water bottle. We are looking forward to many of our children who have packed lunches being able to join us for our school Christmas Dinner Day on Thursday 20th December. Please let the school office know if your child would like a lunch by Thursday 29th November.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for November is **94.5%** which is below our school target of 96%. We know at this time of year there are lots of coughs and colds about but please make sure your child attends school each day if they are well enough to do so. There is some useful advice on our school website on the home page about infection control. Please note: In accordance with Attendance Penalty Notice Procedure, we will be implementing the procedures if pupils' attendance indicates a minimum absence of **10 sessions** (5 school days) which are classed as unauthorised during a 6 week period. Holidays are unauthorised absence unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Class Attendance for November:

Reception : 91%

Year 1: 96.%

Year 2: 94%

Year 3: 96%

Year 4: 96%

Year 5: 97%

Year 6: 90.5%



Well done Year 5!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!



We look forward to seeing our families at the forthcoming Nativity Plays. We request that no photos or recordings are taken during the performances as some of our children do not have permission for photos to be taken. At the end of each performance there will be an opportunity for you to take a photo of your own child if you wish. We will take some school photos during rehearsals and will update our website.

We have our Christmas craft fayre on Thursday 6th December in the school hall. Details have been circulated. We look forward to seeing you!

We all know that Christmas is a very expensive time of year and we know our families are always very generous in many different ways. We want you to know that we don't expect gifts and presents. Donations to the foodbank or a small contribution to our Cafod collection that would enable us to buy a "World Gift" to make a difference to a family in a developing country, would be a welcome gesture.

Christmas Parties are on the following dates. On party day children may wear their party clothes all day. Teachers will request a contribution to a shared table of party food nearer the time. Any child with a food allergy will need to bring their own food—again teachers will talk to parents where necessary.

Year 3 and 4 party: Friday 14th December

Year 1 and 2 party: Tuesday 18th December

Year 5 and 6 party : Wednesday 19th December

Early Years Party: Monday 17th December

(No morning nursery on this date—all

Nursery children to arrive at 12.30pm)

Our Year 4, 5 and 6 children will lead our Carol Service at Holy Rosary Church on Tuesday 18th December at 6pm. You are all welcome to join us for this special event. No tickets are needed. It is always a wonderful occasion and helps us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

