



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Newsletter 4: 21st October 2016



Thank you - As we approach the end of a busy half-term I would like to say thank you for joining us in school for the Autumn Assemblies and Harvest. The children performed a range of songs and poems and enjoyed sharing them with you. Your very generous donations of tinned goods etc. were gratefully received by the Whitley Bay Foodbank - we filled the van with 73 items!



Year 4 - have embraced their **Egyptian** topic this term. Today Patrick Holland and Ross Wilkinson, Historians from the Museum's Department of Durham University came and delivered a range of activities as part of our Egyptian Day bringing the topic to life in the classroom. They were very impressed with our children, who certainly looked the part in costume.



Friends of Southridge



'THANK YOU' to our PTA and parent helpers for an enjoyable disco last night for Key Stage 1 and 2.

Christmas cards have been sent out in school bags and have been a fantastic fundraiser with approximately £850 profit.

Bags 2 School - will take place on 15th November. Please bring bags on the day and leave them outside the front of the school office by 9am.

All your fundraising efforts have enabled us to begin replacing the interactive whiteboards with touch screen boards. During half-term 3 classrooms will be upgraded.

Congratulations - to our Rugby team. 10 Year 4 pupils (6 boys and 4 girls) represented our school in the Whitley Bay Schools Tournament. Our team were impressive, winning the tournament and being awarded a fabulous trophy as overall winners. Mr Merryweather and Mrs Young were delighted with the result but were also impressed by the children's positive attitude and sportsmanship.

Core Values Awards - Every week each teacher nominates a child for a Headteacher Award. Every half-term we also present certificates to children who consistently display our core values of friendship, kindness, honesty, respect and responsibility.

Handwriting Awards - we have also been concentrating hard on improving our handwriting and in recognition of this 3 children per class were nominated for handwriting awards this week.

Reading Meeting for Reception parents - thank you to those parents who attended this event led by Mrs Mason and Miss Parker. If you were unable to attend the power point slides will be posted on our school website on the Reception page.

School Development Plan Priorities 2016-17 - School self-evaluation is a continuous process in our school. We collect information and evidence about the standards in our school in a number of different ways. These are then analysed, collated and the findings are used to appraise achievements and identify priorities to be pursued to improve the quality of teaching and learning. Southridge First School involves all stakeholders in the school self-evaluation process.

Priorities for improvement

All the evidence show that Southridge is an excellent school. The school used evidence from its self-evaluation to identify six key steps that will enable the school to maintain our high standards. These are as follows:

1. Foster our very strong core values that shapes the ethos of the school while ensuring consistently high outcomes for all pupils.
2. Implement and embed effective systems that will ensure all pupils make good or better progress and are well prepared for the next stage of their education.
3. Fully establish the already developed work with parents to ensure effective engagement and involvement of parents in their children's learning and education.
4. Provide high quality CPD for individuals and groups that are linked to subject improvement plans and improvement priorities.
5. Embed the systems developed so that governors continue to effectively hold the school to account in a systematic manner.

A synopsis of the School Development Plan which details our key actions for 2016 -17 is on the parents page of our school website at www.southridgefirst.org.uk

Governors – Our governing body comprises of:

Mrs S. Hall	Headteacher	
Mr C. Milnes	Chair	Co-opted
Mrs A. Greenway	Vice-Chair	Co-opted
Mr I. Selkirk		Co-opted
Miss L. Heads		Co-opted
Mr R. Prince		Parent
Mrs R. Tindle		Parent
Mrs C. Nichols		Parent
Mrs Lennox		Local Authority
Mr P. Scope		Co-opted

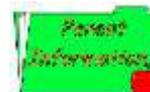
Governors are involved in the leadership and management of our school. This term they have undertaken visits to review our school performance data, safeguarding, special educational needs and disabilities, our pupil premium strategy and the subject areas of writing and humanities

Reminders:

Parents Evening - Pupil Progress Updates - Letters have been sent out to enable you to book an appointment with class teachers. If you have not already done so please complete and return your appointment request slips. Confirmation of appointment times are being sent out so please check school bags.

Finally, I hope that you have an enjoyable half-term break. The children have certainly worked hard in their new classes for the last eight weeks and are ready for a break. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 31st October when we return to school. After - School Clubs start immediately (week beginning 31st October) and run for a 5 week block.

Diary Dates - Autumn Term 2016



NOVEMBER	
31 st October	Return to School Clubs start this week for 5 weeks
31 st October	Year 1 Pirate and Princess Day - to launch new topic. Children may dress up.
7 th and 8 th	Parent's Evening - Pupil Progress Updates - Reception to Year 4 - 3.45pm - 5.45pm Nursery - 9.00am - 10.00am OR 1.00pm - 2.00pm and 3.45pm to 5.45pm
14 - 18 th	Anti-Bullying Week begins
14 th	High Borrans Residential - meeting for Year 4 parents - 5.30pm in school hall
18 th	Children in Need
24 th	Year 1, 2 & 3 - Flu Vaccination Programme.

DECEMBER	
1st	Year 4 Christmas Performance 2pm
2 nd	Christmas Fayre
6 th	Year 3 Performance 2pm
7 th	Year 2 Performance 2pm
9 th	Early Years Performance - Reception and morning Nursery - 9.30am Reception and afternoon Nursery - 2pm
13 th	Christmas Lunch
13th	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Disco 5 - 6pm Year 3 & 4 6.15 -7.15pm
14 th	Year 1 Performance 2pm
15 th	Party Day
16th	BREAK UP

January 3rd 2017- Staff return to School - Teacher Training Day

January 4th 2017 - Pupils return to school