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Headteacher: [Mr Kevin Moloney](#)



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to say again how grateful we are to have received so many harvest donations for the Alnwick Food Bank. The display of these gifts in our school hall demonstrates how much we care for both our local and the wider community. When John arrives to collect the donations, he is always delighted by the quantity. Harvest is very much a time for thinking about how lucky we are but it is also very much about caring for others. The song that was sung by four of our Year 6 pupils in the harvest assemblies had the chorus: 'We must be aware and show that we care, So let's work together in this world we share. Let's learn how to give, to help others live, And reap the harvest of love.'

As a school we are a very caring community and we strive to ensure that we work with all our children and all our families to ensure the best possible environment for our children. Our school vision that ripples through everything we do is:

*The most valuable gift we can give a learner is to enable them to think for themselves, to care for others and thereby acquire a sense of self-worth and confidence which can be used to benefit both society and the individual.*

The word "care" shows itself in many different ways across our school. I have the great privilege of seeing this each and every day and I am delighted that we are now able to open our doors again to our parents and the local community.

Before too long we will have our Christmas Plays and carols and it will be lovely to see you celebrate with us once again.

In the meantime, have a good half term - this is always a busy time in school, so please check the website calendar regularly!

**Kevin Moloney, Headteacher**

## Some Upcoming Events

- ◆ Years 5 and 6 pupils are swimming on Wednesdays
- ◆ Clubs this half term:  
Mondays, Trident Soccer, All Breakfast Club, Tues, Weds, Thurs, All  
Tues/Weds Homework, All Tuesdays, Computer, Ford Weds, Guitar, Years 3-6  
Thursdays, Christmas Crafts, Bamburgh  
Fridays, Lego, All
- ◆ INTO Film Festival, Lesbury Village Hall, KS1  
Friday 11th November
- ◆ Preschool Stay & Play  
Tuesday 15th November
- ◆ INTO Film Festival, Lesbury Village Hall, Y3-6  
Friday 18th November
- ◆ Children in Need  
Friday 18th November - donate via ParentPay
- ◆ Dunstanburgh Beach Day  
Monday 21st November
- ◆ Etal Beach Day  
Friday, 25th November
- ◆ Dukeshouse Wood/London instalments due by  
Wednesday, 30th November
- ◆ Christmas Jumper Day  
Thursday 8th December
- ◆ Christmas Lunch (pupils)  
Thursday 8th December
- ◆ Ford Beach Day  
Friday 9th December
- ◆ Christmas Performances  
Tuesday 13th December,
- ◆ Christmas Performances  
Wednesday 14th December,
- ◆ Alnwick Beach Day  
Friday 16th December
- ◆ Alnwick Playhouse  
Monday 19th December, R-Y6  
12.15-3.30pm
- ◆ Bamburgh Christmas Beach Day  
Tuesday 20th December
- ◆ Carols around the tree  
Friday 23rd December, 2-3pm
- ◆ Break up for Christmas  
Friday 23rd December
- ◆ Teacher Training Day  
Monday 9th January 2023
- ◆ Back to school  
Tuesday 10th January 2023

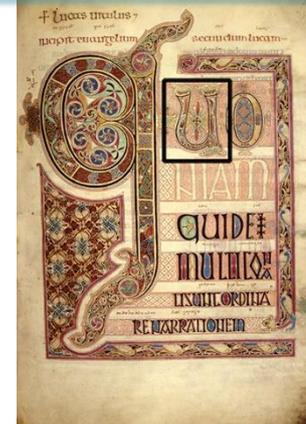
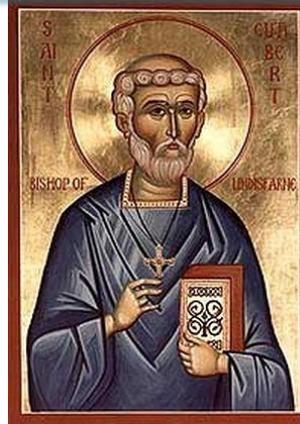
Please keep checking the calendar on the school website for more events

## Gospels come to Hipsburn...

Izzy from Etal Class tells us all about when the Lindisfarne Gospels came to school...



Recently, the passing Lindisfarne Gospels visited the children of Hipsburn Primary, who were thrilled with stories of artefacts claiming thousands of years of history. Said items included: replicas of the Lindisfarne Gospels; the St. John Gospels; and a copy of the coffin that St. Cuthbert's monks carried all the way from Durham to Lindisfarne - a journey that was now taking place again after hundreds of years. The story of St. Cuthbert inspired many teachers and students alike. We would like to thank those making the pilgrimage for the knowledge you shared with us."



## Order, order...



On Friday 14th October, Darlington MP Peter Gibson visited us and recreated the Houses of Parliament in our hall! The MP, who made politics interactive and fun, split the hall of children into two parts (just like a debate in the actual House of Commons) and successfully inspired the children and informed them about what his job included.

Peter answered pupils' questions in the style of a political debate and introduced us to political parties and they are equal in a debate. The children were intrigued and they were all eager to ask about his job.

By Jack, Year 6



Please don't use the staff car park for dropping off and picking up or park in front of the school gates - there is plenty of parking in the football club car park just past the school. Thank you.



A reminder that we have a small number of pupils in school with severe nut allergies. Exposure to nuts and nut products can cause a rapid and serious reaction for these individuals. We ask for your co-operation in not sending any nut product in to school, either as a snack or in packed lunches

## A bumper harvest...



### Happy Harvest

We have really enjoyed embracing lots of learning about Harvest. We are so fortunate that we could go and harvest apples from our school field and use them for cooking and art. We used the harvest theme to inspire us with the story 'The Little Red Hen' and with lots of practising we performed it for the whole school assembly - great achievement Alnwick Castle Class.



Dear Staff, Parents and Children,

On behalf of all the volunteers at the Food Bank, thank you very much for your amazing Harvest Festival donation. Our volunteer John says his car was absolutely full and I can assure you that your gifts will be given to those in our community who are most in need. We give out staples such as pasta, tuna and baked beans every week but it is also good to be able to give people a treat and the Harvest donations will be very much appreciated by our clients. Thank you to you all and best wishes from the Trustees and Volunteers at the Food Bank.

**Deborah Baker**  
Treasurer  
Alnwick District Food Bank



### Christmas potatoes

One of our parents will be selling their delicious Buston Farm potatoes in the football club car park in the run up to Christmas. They will be there on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd December from 8.30am.

The potatoes (nectar variety) are:

25kg-£8

12.5kg-£5

5kg-£3

No need to pre-order.



If you would like the heritage potatoes they have: Mayan Gold, Red Emmalie, Shetland Black, Pink Fir Apple, Violetta, Red King Edward or a mixed box.

The heritage potatoes need to be pre-ordered by Wednesday 22nd December (text Karen on 07900 167 399). They are £13.25 for 5kg or £26.50 for 10kg.





### Go all spotty for Pudsey...

We are very excited to be supporting Children in Need once again on **Friday 18th November**. This year's theme is 'be spotacular'. As well as doing lots of activities within our classes, we have been loaned 40 mini, individually named teddies and they will be helping the whole school take part in a great Pudsey hunt. Classes will be going on their bear hunt at different times throughout the week and the activity aims to provide lots of fun and adventure right up to the challenge for KS2 of some real orienteering skills.

In addition, if your child wants to dress in spots (think socks, scarf or even a whole spotty outfit) or be as Pudsey as they can be in yellow for the day, that would be great. KS2 please don't forget you have a film festival trip on that day too!

This year, there is a dedicated link on ParentPay for your CiN donations - please click on Pudsey below to make your donation. Thank you!



Hockey Heroes



### Outdoor space...

We have lots of ideas and plans to help improve our outdoor area. We are making a start and would love your help with it - it can range from simply helping to keep it tidy, giving some of the current things a bit of TLC to helping create new areas with new resources. We will keep you posted with our 'handy parents' plan, but if you think you might be able to help, please feel free to have a chat with me.

In the meantime, we are creating an outdoor library with the aspiration of making it a sharing library for you to use and take books home. If you have any books/resources that you would like to donate for this, please let us know and we can sort accordingly. We have started to make some changes and the children have loved them so far - happy reading times!

Many thanks for your support. **Mrs Johnson**

Here are some of our key stage 2 children enjoying some after school hockey skills last half term. There has been lots of fun, through rain and shine!



## Beach days are the best...

What a lovely first beach day of the year as **Alnwick Castle Class**. Everyone did so well and we had a great autumnal adventure.

Our day began with a sunny autumn walk to the beach. We stopped to notice the tide with the River Aln and looked for wildlife and we spotted a White Egret. At the beach we had various autumnal challenges to complete in our groups including creating a team castle followed by a scarecrow.

We then headed to 'Gruffalo Wood' for a pumpkin story, our fruit break and to do a bit of autumnal identification. We used our sticky holding boards to collect different leaves. We looked at art by Andy Goldsworthy and discussed how he made his art using natural resources and that some of his art is abstract. Using him as an inspiration, we made our own collaborative projects - we had some spirals and even dragon eyes!



Inspired by the recent harvest festival idea of farmers harvesting our food - we created our own farm! The team work and collaboration was brilliant and there was some super speaking skills explaining to the class everything that they had created as a little 'show and tell' at the end.

We were so proud of Alnwick Class - great listening, looking after their partner and doing some great learning, we rewarded everyone with a play at the park! A worthy reward for a very deserving class - well done, Alnwick Castle Class, we cannot wait to take you again.

Did you know? The fabulous Burgage Holders of Alnmouth fund our beach school programme? Their generosity means each class gets to enjoy one free beach school every half term. They also help to keep everyone safe by providing hi-vis vests for our little beachcombers. Thank you!



Dunstanburgh Class also had a fantastic time at beach school. We designed our own space crafts and wrote- and performed- some incredible poems about the planets. We created habitats for our extremely hostile aliens to live on and had a wonderful day in the glorious sunshine. Fun was had by all!



## Pottery practice...

Ford class developed their pottery skills this autumn whilst working with local potter Keith Webster. Each child made their own Pandora's box, a three-dimensional Greek character mask and a bowl, decorated in patterns inspired by ancient Greece. The children learnt a variety of new skills from making pinch pots, building with slabs, using scratch and slip to the glazing and kiln process.

The children had previously learnt that ancient Greek pottery was a primary historical source and found out about life in Greece and also about uses and purposes of different pots. The children have their work displayed in the school hall.



## ParentPay

ParentPay is our online payment system. Please activate your account if you have not done so already - remember you need to add each child if you have siblings in school. Payment items, such as lunches, clubs, swimming and lots more will appear in your account.

We appreciate you keeping on top of payments as they become active. Thank you.