



# Coxhoe Communicator



Hi Everyone,

Well what an end of November – snow blizzards and road congestion! How on earth do Scandinavian countries cope? Then by mid-morning of the first day of December all we had left was very wet slush and ice. Unfortunately this meant we were unable to take pupils onto the yard or field – but maybe when the next fall of snow arrives it will be larger and last longer.

Just a reminder that if snow is forecast and then falls we would inform parents/carers via the school APP and website of any changes to the school day.

Could we ask that if we do have snow, pupils bring a spare pair of shoes, boots or wellies to wear so we can all go outside and enjoy the snow.

December always means a busy time in school with end of term assessments, Nativity plays, Carol concerts and parties. Please note carefully the day of your child's events (they are all listed over-leaf).

Finally, on behalf of Governors, Staff and myself we would like to wish you a very happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

## School Attendance

Our school attendance for November is as follows:

Class 1: 93.31%

Class 2: 97.16%

Class 3: 95.97%

Class 4: 97.58%

Class 5: 98.41%

Class 6: 97.65%

Class 7: 97.98%

Class 8: 97.73%

Class 9: 98.71%

Class 10: 96.38%

Class 11: 98.60%

Well done to Class 9 for their excellent attendance.

Thank you for supporting our pupils in developing excellent attendance and recognizing that – 'every day is a learning day.'

## Enthusiastic E-Cadets

Our newly appointed team of E-cadets are enthusiastic and raring to go. In our first meetings, the children shared a wide range of ideas for ways in which they can help to promote e-safety for all of our children in school. We are very impressed with their mature approach and their creativity. Together – we have now compiled an action plan based upon their ideas and we will meet fortnightly to prepare and plan the activities/events. Events and support ahead include assemblies, surveys & research, drop-in sessions, promotional posters and a confidential post box for worries or questions.

## The Busy Schedule of our Mini Police

The Mini Police have been extremely busy this term. They have supported a wide range of events across Durham and have been a credit to both Coxhoe Primary School and Durham Police at each and every one.

You may have spotted them working hard in Durham welcoming the new University students during Freshers' week, selling Poppies in Coxhoe, at the Lumiere and at the Lantern Parade at Durham Cathedral. They have also supported at events in school such as the Christmas Shopping evening. In addition to supporting at events, they are working hard to educate our children on key issues such as Firework Safety, Road Safety and British Values. They have also prepared and delivered several assemblies to the whole school, another great achievement and we are delighted with the work that they do.

\*\*\*\*Keep Collecting Wish Tokens \*\*\*\*

We have been accepted to share a prize of £25,000 as part of the Gazette Wish. This money would go towards our revamp of the Early Years playground.

All we need to do is collect 'Wish' tokens from The Chronicle Newspaper – the more tokens we collect then the larger share we can be offered. Tokens should be brought to school and every class will have a chart to keep a total. Ask friends and family to help and 'Get Collecting Wishes'.

Class 4 are winners of the School Gymnastics competition!

Well done to Miss Haddick and the pupils in class 4 – worthy winners of this years in school Gymnastics competition. Their routine was tremendous and full of excitement.

They will go on to represent the school at the area Festival.

2017 Restaurant Project

In November our Year 6 pupils once again created a fantastic 'Restaurant Experience' for their parents and families in our school hall. They had worked hard over several weeks linking their Geography topic about 'North America' by researching the types of food, methods of food preparation, pricing and sourcing ingredients. Every small detail was covered for the 'Thanksgiving Day' meal, including Bespoke menu cards for their guests, dressing in check shirts and cowboy/girl hats, as well as great serving techniques.

The North American Broth, 'Coxhoe' Fried chicken and treacle tart, with custard, was thoroughly enjoyed by over 60 guests. At the end of the evening Mr Jones announced the cost of preparing the meal and asked the guests to pay what they thought the meal was worth, with any profit going to the Year 6 end of year Enterprise project. The evening resulted in over £100 towards their Enterprise project and has given a great start to this scheme, which they traditionally donate to the school at the end of Year 6.

Coxhoe Primary joins the 300+ group of schools!

As everyone will be aware, our community is getting larger! In November the result of this growth was noted as our school roll exceeded 300 pupils. We are enjoying the recent extension of the school which enables us to accommodate the growing number of pupils in our local area.

The new school capacity, follow the recent extension, is 355 pupils and we estimate that this total could be reached in the next 2 years. We would recommend that any parents with children due to start their Primary education in September 2018 ensure they have applied for their child's place by the LEA deadline of January 15<sup>th</sup> 2018. Applications are made online at: <https://education.durham.gov.uk/parentportal/>

Durham Cathedral Science and Art project

We are very excited that Classes 4 and 5 have begun to work on this project with staff from Durham Cathedral Education Outreach team. It will involve surveying the wildlife in our school grounds and then creating art work inspired by what we find.

This art work will then be displayed in a special exhibition at the Cathedral next year. Pupils will not only get to visit the gallery but also spend time in the Cathedral finding out about its history and use today.

Watch out for more news and the exhibition date in the new year.

### **Coming Events:**

Christingle at St Marys Church C6 & C7	- 10 <sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm
Reception Nativity	- 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm
Y1 and Y2 Christmas Musical	-14 <sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm & 5.30pm
Christmas Jumper Day	-15 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Lunch	-15 <sup>th</sup> December
Village Hall Carol Service KS2	-18 <sup>th</sup> December 2pm

### **Christmas parties:**

Reception	-18 <sup>th</sup> December pm
Year 1 & Year 2	-19 <sup>th</sup> December pm
Year 3 & Year 4	-20 <sup>th</sup> December pm
Year 5 & Year 6	-21 <sup>st</sup> December pm

Carols around the tree for pupils on last day of term - 22<sup>nd</sup> December

### **Interested in becoming a teacher?**

Teaching is one of the most rewarding careers and always scores highly as a choice for both recent graduates and older graduates seeking a change of career.

As you are aware we are a Lead school for the Schools Direct route for attaining a PGCE with Sunderland University as our accredited provider.

We will shortly be offering places through UCAS for places in 2018-19, as Durham Schools Together. Currently, we have 3 students in training within our cluster of 5 schools, but we have an opportunity to offer 8 places in 2018-19!

If you are a recent graduate or a graduate contemplating a career change then pop into school for a chat, search for information about Durham Schools Together within UCAS, or check for further information about what we offer on our website. Further information about teaching can also be found on the 'Get into Teaching' DfE website at: <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk>

or you can also find information about routes into teaching on the Teaching Training UCAS website.

**Please note: We return to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018, after the Christmas break**