



## Darrington Church of England Primary School

Denby Crest, Darrington, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF8 3SB

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Headteacher: Mrs L. Ranby, BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH



### Newsletter 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach a very busy time in school, I would like to inform you of events that are planned in school in plenty of time, so that at home, you can plan your diaries!

**Learning Showcase** in classrooms ~ Please note that this will take place on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December**. I apologise for the change of date.

#### **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November ~ 9:00 – 10:30am Christmas Craft Workshop morning and Dress Down Day for tombola**

You or a family member are invited to spend the morning with your child/ren in their classroom making Christmas crafts that will be on sale at our Christmas Fayre. As previously, the children will work in their colour teams. This is a fun-filled morning that will get you into the Christmas spirit. This will also be a Dress Down Day for the Christmas Fayre which takes place the following week. Please send into school a donation of £1.00, chocolate or a bottle e.g. wine, bubble bath, bottle of sauce etc etc! All these items donated will be used as tombola prizes at the fayre. Thank you in advance for your support. As there is no scheduled Proud Assembly this week, can I ask that parents go straight to the hall whilst registration takes place. The children will enter the hall at 9am and then will be sent to work in Colour Teams in classrooms. Cubs and Tigers will stay in their own classroom and older siblings will join them to work with their family.

**Behaviour system** ~ Class Dojo is a digital classroom management tool designed to help teachers improve pupil behaviour. The aim is to create a praise-rich environment that all staff contribute to in a pro-active manner. Each child gets an avatar which acquires points throughout the school day. Children will be awarded positive Dojos for a whole range of behaviours including: links to BLP (Building Learning Power), values and effort. If pupil's behaviour is unacceptable, then a teacher may give the child a negative DoJo. Each child's points can be displayed via a smart board, and teachers can generate reports to send home to parents. There is an option for parents to download an app to message teachers. However, we feel that our current systems of speaking to teachers face-to-face is more suitable and because of this, we will not be sharing the parent login details. This will replace our behaviour kite as we feel it is based around a more positive behaviour system and helps build a strong learning environment based around praise.

**Christian Value** ~ This half term our Christian value is 'Peace' which is one of our school's three core values. We will be unpacking 'Peace' and will be discussing the following as a school during collective worship and in class. Your child will bring home a newsletter with some ideas of things to talk about at home.



- *Peace between each other in school - making and keeping friends, sorting out arguments, making compromises, letting go of hostile feelings, building bridges, learning how to listen to each other*
- *Peace in the community - respecting differences, listening and talking with those who hold opposite views to you, honouring each other, finding common ground*
- *Peace in the world - ending wars, working for peace and peacekeeping*

**Staffing news** ~ I would like to inform you about staffing changes for after Christmas. Letters went out to the parents of Eagles and Dolphins on Friday.

**Mrs Jevens** ~ (Temporary part-time teacher of Eagles) will leave at the end of the term. I would like to thank her for the time that she has given to the school and wish her well in her future. Arrangements for the teaching of Eagles have been confirmed and parents know of these plans.

**Mrs Wilson (Lunchtime Supervisor)** will be leaving at the end of term to begin a new role as a teaching assistant in another school. I would like to thank her for the commitment and time that she has given to the school. She has also offered her time as a volunteer on a regular basis which has been very much appreciated. We wish her well in her new post.

**Mrs Margeson** ~ (Part-Time teacher in Team Dolphins) will be leaving us at the end of term. Mrs Margeson has made the decision to spend more time being a Mummy to her two young children, which I know is the right thing to do for her family. She has been a valued member of the staff team and I have seen her grow and flourish from when she started at the school as a newly qualified teacher. She has had such a positive impact on the pupils that she has taught during the last 6 years and will be missed, but we wish her well and thank her for her commitment and hard work. Arrangements for the teaching of Dolphins have been confirmed and parents know of these plans.

**Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Gregson** ~ I would like to inform you that Mrs Gregson gave birth to a baby boy called Freddie on 10<sup>th</sup> November. He weighed 8 lb 6oz. We look forward to seeing them both soon!

**PTFA Christmas Fayre ~ Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30 to 6pm** Please join us for an evening of fun and festive cheer! Our annual fundraising event is a great family occasion with various stalls, refreshments, tombola, Christmas crafts, hand-made Christmas crafts on sale made by our pupils and lots more!

**Tithe Barn ~ Switch on of lights on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 6pm** ~ This is a very enjoyable community event and a lovely festive start to the Christmas season. Children and families are invited to join in with singing carols and songs at the Tithe Barn, next to the church, followed by refreshments which will be on sale in the school hall. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

**Christmas Nativities & Concerts** ~ Due to the popularity of our nativities and the limited amount of space we have in the hall, tickets will be restricted to a maximum of four per family. This will include both performances for Meerkats and Eagles. 4 tickets will be allocated to families, and for KS2, 2 for the afternoon and 2 for the evening performances. We would like to ask for donations on the evening which will help towards the cost of costumes, props, licences etc. **Please return any unwanted tickets to the school office so that other parents can use them.** Thank you for your support.

We are looking forward to an enjoyable time in the lead up to Christmas and I look forward to welcoming you into school to join in with the festive fun!

Kind regards,



Mrs Lyndsay Ranby  
Headteacher



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## Christmas Events in school ~ reminders of forthcoming dates this half term

Date & Time	Event	Notes
Friday 23rd November 9am	Christmas Craft Morning	All parents/grandparents are invited to work with their own children making crafts
	PTFA Dress Down Day	Please donate £1.00, chocolate or a bottle
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 9am	Collective Worship Led by Team Dolphin	Parents welcome to join us in school
CFIT Drop – In for parents	Family & Child Inclusion Team	There will be a drop-in session for parents in school. Please call in at the school office if you would like to book an appointment to speak to the practitioner in a confidential space.
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 9:30-11:30am	The team offers support for parents on a range of topics eg anxiety, anger management, grieving, difficulty in communicating and concentrating	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 1:00 – 3:30pm		
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 3:30-6pm	PTFA Christmas Fayre	See PTFA correspondence for further information
<b>NEW DATE Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 3-4pm</b>	Learning Showcase – parents can ‘drop in’ and see work in own child’s classroom if they wish	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (matinee performance)	Tigers/Cubs & Meerkats visit to see Cinderella at Wakefield Theatre	Separate letter to be sent home this week
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 6pm	Tithe Barn Lights Switch On	Carols & refreshments on sale in school – all welcome
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 9am	Collective Worship Led by Team Tiger	Parents welcome to join us in school
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 3pm	St Giles Church Christmas Concert Choral Society	Some of our pupils along with other Church Schools will be taking part
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 10.45am	Family Service in Church	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm and 5:30pm	KS2 Nativity ‘Babushka’	Tickets allocated – 2 for the afternoon and 2 tickets for the evening performance
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm	Team Tigers (Reception & Cubs)  ‘I Spy Christmas’	4 tickets will be allocated to all families
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity ‘A Midwife Crisis’	4 tickets will be allocated to all

2:30pm		families
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch in school	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm	Grandparent's Concert	2 Tickets allocated per family
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 9am	Christmas Jumper Day Final Parent Proud Assembly	Please bring £1 to support the work of the Children's Society
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2:30-3:30pm	Parent Workshop – Managing panic attacks	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm	Christingle Service in Church for <b>ALL pupils</b>	All parents welcome to attend
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December pm	Tigers & Dolphins' Christmas Party	Further details will be sent by teachers later
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Meerkats & Eagles' Christmas Party	Further details will be sent by teachers later
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December  School closes at 1:30pm - End of term for pupils	Carols around the tree in the hall for school children and staff  There will be wrap around care available until 3:30pm – please ensure you book at the office if you require a place	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	School closed for pupils  INSET Day – staff maths training	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	School opens for pupils	