



Red Hall Primary School
Headingley Crescent
Darlington
DL1 2ST

admin@redhall.darlington.sch.uk
01325 254770

20.10.22

To our Red Hall family,

Our first half term done! This one is certainly the hardest, after 6 weeks off and getting used to new classes, new ways of working and in some cases, new pupils! Children and staff have been amazing, as always! And, we thank parents for how supportive you have been too!

This newsletter will inform you of any key information from this half term and key dates / news for next half term.

(Just a reminder, EYFS stands for Early Years Foundation Stage and this includes 2Year Olds, Nursery and Reception, KS1 – Key Stage 1 and includes Year 1 and Year 2, KS2 – Key Stage 2 – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.)

Online safety

Before the summer holidays, we had a number of online safety incidents. We are pleased to say these have reduced and there have been only a handful online safety concerns, since September. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support with this.

Staffing

- Mrs Bashford made the decision just before the Summer Holidays to leave being a teacher altogether. We are very sad to see her go and we wish her lots of luck for the future, with whatever she decides to do. Her last working day with us, will be Friday 11th November.
- We have employed a teacher to take on the Year 1 class, called Miss Rafferty. The children in Year 1 were part of the interview process, so they have met her before. She will begin on Monday 7th November, and work with Mrs Bashford and the Year 1 class throughout that week, before taking on the class fully, the week after.
- Miss Evans in EYFS left us last week, as she completed her apprenticeship with us. We thank her for all she did for the children in our EYFS provision.
- Mrs Morfoot had her baby!! On Friday 23rd September, as we were all getting ready for school, Mrs Morfoot gave birth to her healthy baby boy Theo. Both mum and baby are doing great.
- Miss Ward has joined us as a TA apprentice in Early Years.

You may have realised that Red Hall staffing has hit a bit of a baby boom! With Miss Johnston having her baby girl (Edie) in May, Mrs Morfoot giving birth to Theo in September... Then... Miss Snowdon is due to leave on maternity leave from the middle of November, ANDDDD Miss Egglestone is leaving us at Christmas to have her baby. Miss Johnston is due back in January, so she will take on our Reception class, this will be a huge change for her, but we know she will do an amazing job!

Due to our Head of School (Miss Snowdon) and Assistant Headteacher (Miss Egglestone) both being on maternity leave at the same time, Miss Henry has been asked to be "Acting Head of School" until Miss Snowdon's return in May time.

Attendance

- Attendance continues to be a focus for our school this year, as with many other schools in the country. Results are showcased on our Facebook page for parents to see and classes are rewarded with ice lollies, hot chocolates and other treats, if they win class attendance.
- We understand completely this term and next half term are always tricky with attendance, as the children are back in school after a long Summer off, and then as the weather gets colder, children (and staff!!) pick up bugs, coughs, colds etc. If you know your child is NOT well and they have something contagious, then please do keep them off. If you believe they can come to school, then please send them in. We promise to send them home to you, should they be struggling in school.
- Holidays – we have had a number of families who have taken children on holiday during this half term – whilst we completely understand the HUGE difference in cost from term time to school holidays, we do still need to follow Darlington Local Authority procedures with fines etc, as we are a Local Authority school. We hope you understand this.

External support

- If you have concerns about a child or family who attend our school, we ask that you phone your concerns through to the Children's Initial Advice Team – 01325 406222 (option 2). We have had some concerns passed to us, by parents this half term, which is brilliant that these are being shared; it would be even better if you could phone these through and log these directly with this team. You can do this anonymously.
- If you feel you need support for you (as parenting can be EXCEPTIONALLY hard!!), then please do not hesitate to get in touch with school. Our team have many different services we can put you in touch with, which offer help and support.

Achievements

- Our parent / carer session for KS1 parents was a huge success (despite the fire alarm going off during the event!) thank you to all who attended.
- Autumn Fest planned and organised by the EYFS team was fantastic – this raised £87 in total, which will go towards more resources for our children! Thank you so much to all who attended!
- Parent / Carer Consultation Evening – thank you to all parents and carers who could make this last night. It was so lovely seeing the children so proud of their work and sharing this with you! We look forward to welcoming more of you after half term for our second night of consultations.

Dates

- Key dates for next half term (that we know about so far!!) are listed below. We are trying to give parents as much notice as possible, especially if arrangements need to be made for working parents.

Finally...

Have a wonderful half term. Be careful, be safe, make memories.

Thank you for your continued support,
Your Red Hall Team xx

Date / time / event	Details	Year group	Cost	Parents invited
31.10.22 – 3.15pm – 4.30pm Film night	KS2 will have a Halloween film night.	All	£3 per child	No.
1.11.22 Spooky disco 3 – 4pm	EYFS and KS1 will have a spooky disco evening at school, All children will be given a hot dog, drink and sweets.	2YO, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	£3 per child	No.
3.11.22 Parent Consultations	If you have not already booked in to see your child's class teacher, this is another opportunity for you to do this.	All	--	Yes.
8.11.22 Pantomime 12.30 – 3.15pm	Children have the opportunity to go to the Pantomime to see Tales from Acorn Wood	2YO, Nursery and Reception	£2 per child towards the cost of transport.	No.
10.11.22 Cinema 9.30-12noon	Cinema trip to watch "Bad Guys" – a U rated film.	Years 1, 2 and 3	£2 per child towards the cost of transport.	No.
17.11.22 Cinema Trip 9.30-11.30am	Cinema trip to watch the Railway Children.	Year 4, 5 and 6	£2 per child towards the cost of the transport.	No.
18.11.22 PD day for all staff	School closed due to staff training.	All	--	--
21.11.22 Year 4 Sportshall Athletics Festival 9.30 – 12	Children in Year 4 have the opportunity to attend a festival and represent Red Hall. Children will be confirmed closer to the time.	Year 4	--	No.
1.12.22 Year 2 Christmas Journey 9 – 11am	Year 2 children will attend this event at St Andrew's church.	Year 2	--	No.
8.12.22 Christmas Jumper Day Christingle	All children are invited to come into school wearing their Christmas jumpers, this will also be the	All	£2.20 cost of dinner if not on school dinners already	No.

	Christingle day at St Andrew's Church, and Christmas Dinner Day!			
12.12.22 Late night at school	Children have the opportunity to stay back late tonight, to allow parents to complete any last minute Christmas 'bits' they may need to do! All children will be given a hot meal and watch a Christmas film	**More information to be confirmed closer to the time about this event!!		
14.12.22 Pantomime 2 – 5pm	Children will attend the pantomime – Peter Pan. They will be back at school at 5pm, pick up will be from the main reception, as always.	Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	FREE!! (cost to the school of £2410!)	No. (As always, please be kind and be patient when waiting for the children to be handed over to you).
15.12.22 EYFS Christmas production	Children will showcase their annual Christmas production AM performance – 10am PM performance – 2pm	EYFS	£1 per ticket	Yes.
16.12.22 KS1 and KS2 Christmas productions	KS1 – 2pm (All children) KS2 – 4pm (children who wanted to be involved and who have attended the afterschool club)	Year 1 and 2 Year 3,4,5 and 6	£1 per ticket £1 per ticket	Yes.
19.12.22 100% attendance reward event	More information released closer to the time.	All children with 100% attendance.	Free!	No.
19.12.22 Christmas Carols 2 – 3pm Christmas Fayre 3pm – 4.30pm	Carols will begin at 2pm, this will open the Christmas Fayre.	All children will sing the same carols together, out on the yard.	PLEASE bring some change, to donate to school funds, as collection buckets will be around.	Yes – wear warm clothes and coats!
20.12.22 LAST DAY Christmas Party Day	Children will need party clothes to change into, if	All	FREE	No.

	needed. They will be given a party bag with food, which they will eat that day.			
--	---	--	--	--

Now to be very open and honest with you all...

- As you can see from the events above, we are striving (as always) to give the children as many experiences as possible. The expected spends for the events JUST for this half term, are £6750 - this includes tickets to events, transport costs, food costs etc.
- The fundraising events mentioned, are hoped to bring in £1000 (hopefully a lot more!), please PLEASE support us in as many of these events as possible, as this will mean we can do more for the rest of the academic year.
- You will have seen on the news and you will be seeing yourselves the rise in energy costs and cost of living costs. Our school finance manager is predicting that we will have to find **£50,000 MORE** from next year, just to pay for energy costs / cost of living increases. – with NO MORE money from the Government to support this.
- Our school cannot sustain doing as much as we do, if we cannot raise funds to support these events.

