



Red Hall Primary School

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## Autumn 2 Newsletter

As we dive into the second half of Autumn term, I wanted to take a moment to share some exciting updates from Red Hall Primary School. The wet and dark mornings might be drawing in, but our school spirit continues to shine brightly!

First, I'm thrilled to celebrate some fantastic recent achievements. Our Class Dojo engagement has been absolutely wonderful - thank you to all our families who are staying connected with their child's learning journey. We were also blown away by the incredible turnout at our Parent Consultations and Autumnfest just before half term. It's moments like these that remind me how special our school community truly is.

### Staffing Updates

Miss Waters has left school to start her Maternity Leave and Miss Rafferty leaves on the 28<sup>th</sup> November. We wish them both all the best as they start their new families.

### Christmas

With Christmas fast approaching, I wanted to make sure everyone has our key dates marked in their calendars. We have a wonderful series of festive events planned that I know will bring joy and excitement to our children.

Our little ones in EYFS will kick things off with their Christmas Disco on **Monday, 8th December after school**.

Year 1 – 6 will enjoy a FREE visit to Darlington Hippodrome to watch Goldilocks and the Three Bears on the morning of **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December**.

The whole school will then come together for a magical Christingle service at St Andrews Church on **Thursday, 11th December at 10am** - and we'd love everyone to wear their Christmas jumpers that day! The same day, we'll be enjoying our whole school Christmas Dinner.



The performances are always a highlight of our term.

Our **KS1 children** will take to the stage on **Friday, 12th December at 2pm**, with our **EYFS performance** following on **Monday, 15th December at 10am**.

**KS2** will have their moment in the spotlight on **Tuesday, 16th December at 2pm**. On that same morning, our **Reception and Year 1 children will visit Santa at Hopetown** - I'm sure their excitement will be infectious!

We'll round off our festive celebrations with our **Christmas Fayre on Thursday, 18th December at 2pm**, before breaking up for the holidays on **Friday, 19th December**.

There's so much to look forward to, and I can't wait to see the magic and joy these events will bring to our school community.

### **Pupil Premium**

We need you... help us get extra funding and it won't cost you a penny!

Schools are entitled to extra funding called 'Pupil Premium' which the Government gives to schools to help children that may need extra support.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Once a child qualifies for the funding the school can then claim the funding for 6 years which is a huge help and the extra money can be spent on things like extra staff, learning materials and equipment to help your child.

### **How can you help?**

If your child is eligible for 'Free School Meals' then they will receive Pupil Premium funding also but to do this you must complete the registration form.

So even if you are not sure – please can you all ask for the registration form from the office and return it to us as soon as possible. We will also send a link out to you on Parentmail.

**Finally, don't forget that our breakfast club runs every morning from 8.15am, completely free of charge - what a wonderful way to start each day! We would love to see more children there.**

Julie Davidson  
Executive Head

