



Roseberry
Primary & Nursery School
Newsletter

December 2015



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Once again, our pupils did us proud with two fabulous Christmas productions. Our youngest children delivered three performances of their nativity for their parents and relatives, while Junior pupils entertained us with their version of the famous Christmas Carol story. Everyone agreed our children put on a fantastic show.

Once again, Year 6 pupils entertained the local Friday Club by singing a range of songs and carols at their Christmas lunch. This was much appreciated by local residents.

The pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at the Empire Theatre, Consett was a real treat for the children last week. It was the first time many of our pupils had attended a pantomime at the theatre and the visit was very successful. The tickets were all paid for through Miss Dodds' cake sales last year. I would like to thank her again for all her hard work and buying the ingredients out of her own money. I'm sure you appreciate all her hard work too!

This was the second pantomime as we were also visited by a touring theatre company who put on a production of Dick Whittington here in school.

I would like to thank everyone for the donations received for the Christmas raffle. We managed to raise £630 from the raffle. We would like to thank the Friends of Roseberry for organising the raffle and everyone for their continued support.



Year 6 entertain the Friday Lunch Club at the Newfield Inn, singing a variety of Christmas carols.



Well done to Jack (Year 2) who was a winner in the Christmas art competition. Along with other winners, he had the opportunity to switch the Christmas Tree Lights on in Chester 1e Street. He is pictured here with the characters from 'Frozen'. Well done Jack!

OTHER EVENTS IN SCHOOL THIS TERM



Reception pupils celebrating Halloween with Miss Baird.



Our Harvest Appeal for the Durham Foodbank raised 44.12Kg of food, the equivalent of 50 meals.



Jamie, Jake and Natasha (all members of Mrs Staples' gardening club, attend the In-Bloom award ceremony at County Hall.

We raised £48.15 for St Oswald's Hospice through your kind donations to buy sand critters.

Our Poppy Appeal raised £152.56 and the district raised a fantastic £14,731.40.

ATTENDANCE

Just a reminder that due to new government regulations, any pupil with an attendance rate of below 90%, is considered to be a persistent absentee. Holidays in term time cannot be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances and written evidence needs to be handed into school to even be considered. Next term, we intend to trial a new attendance incentive. Any pupils with a weekly 100% rate will have their names put into a hat for a monthly £5 prize draw. The prizes have been donated by our regular supply agency – Teaching Personnel. Any pupils attending medical appointments for a known condition will not be penalised, as long as we see proof of the appointment.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

The autumn term's parents' evenings were very well attended:

2 year olds	78%
Nursery	97%
Reception	91%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	91%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	85%
Year 5	90%
Year 6	88%

BEHAVIOUR POLICY QUESTIONNAIRES

During the parents' evening, questionnaires were distributed to gather parents' views about the values we wish to instil in our pupils during their primary school years. 10 questionnaires were returned. All were happy with our current rewards and sanctions systems and no further values were identified from those in the questionnaire which were developed with our pupils. We will, therefore, be including the following values in the new positive relationships policy.

ROSEBERRY VALUES

Be kind

Be honest

Tell the truth

Do your best

Try hard

Listen carefully

Show respect

Good manners

Be responsible

RESTORATIVE APPROACHES

An information session for parents will be held in the spring term to let you know how this new approach works and its impact on behaviour in school. Further details will be sent out nearer the time. Please come along and find out how we promote positive behaviour in school and contribute your views on this matter.

FACEBOOK

I wish to make several points about the use of social media and, in particular, Facebook:

- It is illegal to use Facebook under the age of 13. I have been informed by parents that many of our children are on Facebook. Please be aware that the internet is one of the main ways adults groom children. They pretend to be young girls and boys to forge relationships. It is not safe for young children to speak to strangers online. Do you know who your child has befriended or is chatting to online? There is useful information on our website for parents. Visit www.peltonroseberry.durham.sch.uk for our E safety policy and useful guidance.
- Please be aware that some parental comments about pupils attending our school have caused upset and anger. It isn't appropriate to discuss pupils on social media. Most social networking sites have mechanisms for reporting

abuse. Please remember the school should be the first point of contact for any concerns.

- We like to take a common sense approach at Roseberry and therefore, unlike many schools that have banned parents from taking photographs or recording schools events such as nativities or school productions, we allow parents to photograph/record their child as long as it is for their own personal use. These images should not be uploaded on to social media sites such as Facebook. This is in line with current legal guidelines. This has been repeatedly explained to parents at our performances. It has come to my attention that images have been posted online of one of our Christmas performances. However these have now been removed. As a grandma myself, I really appreciate seeing photographs of my own grandchildren participating in school events so I would hate to ban parents from taking photographs of their children. However, if there is a repeat of this in the future, the governors and I would have to consider such a ban. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

DIARY DATES

School closes on Friday 18th December for the Christmas holiday and reopens on Tuesday 5th January 2015. Year 3 pupils will need their swimming things.

INSET DAY Monday 4th January – school closed to pupils.

Your child will be bringing home a gift selection box, very kindly donated by FD Motors.

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES

There are 3 unclaimed raffle prizes,
Yellow 425 Colson (pamper hamper)
Pink 460 Leo Shingleton wine & biscuits
Pink 2 Jones – Dairy Box

The staff and pupils would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

