



Rich fields of learning



## Newsletter 5 - 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Dates for Your Diary

Here are some dates for your diary: -

**5.12.23** Reception multi skills festival – Staindrop

**06.12.23** Christmas play at Village Hall, 6-7pm

**12.12.23** SEND review meetings

**14.12.23** Pantomime at Richmond Theatre

**19.12.23** Christingle in school followed by carols

**19.12.23** End of term

Back to school Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024



### Congratulations to our Times Table Rockstars this week:



These Children have beaten the time of 21 mins per week and were the highest in their year group.

### Children in Need



The children enjoyed a fun filled playtime when they took part Bearpies and enjoyed yummy cakes all in aid of Children in need. We raised an incredible £70.00!

### Play and Stay

Play and stay will be on the following Friday's before Christmas:

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2-3pm

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2-3pm

### Odd Socks Day!

Thank you to everyone who took part in odd socks day!



Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November was the start of **Anti-Bullying Week**. Odd Socks Day is a national event all about celebrating what makes someone unique. It's organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance which is a group of organisations, charities and

individuals who work together to try and stop bullying.

### Remembrance Day 2023

The whole school gathered at the war memorial in the village to remember those who have lost their lives while fighting for our country. The children recited a



poem – 'In Flanders Fields'. Thank you to all the parents and community who joined us. Also, a special mention to Lynn who played The Last Post.





## Learning Around School

### Blackbirds

Blackbirds have been looking at different festivals and traditions that happen at this time of year. We discussed Bonfire Night, Armistice Day and this week have been thinking about the Hindu festival of Diwali - The Festival of Light. The children enjoyed listening to the story of how the Mr Men and Little Misses celebrated the festival. They also made a colour catcher to let the light shine through the windows. We are very much looking forward to the festivals that are coming up - Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year.



### Owls

Owls have enjoyed learning about 2D and 3D shapes and have been making repeated patterns.



This

week we have also used iPad to create pictures based on the artist Mondrian using a paint programme. The children continued learning about maps in geography and used a map to find their way around the school grounds.

### Robins

Robins have started their new Geography unit this week. The children have been looking at fantastic places around the world. We discussed whether the places had physical or human features. The children were skilled at using atlases to work out if they were in the Northern or Southern hemisphere.



### Friends of the school Christmas raffle

It is coming to that time of year again when we are thinking about the annual Christmas raffle. This year we are putting together a 'Christmas' themed hamper and are asking for donations e.g. Tinned goods, chocolates etc. Please send any donations to school. Your support is greatly appreciated. Monies raised by Friends of the school go towards providing transport, refreshments at the pantomime and other fun events.

### After School Clubs

***Please give 24hrs notice of bookings or cancellations***

Monday – Computers

Tuesday – Outdoor Games

Wednesday – Homework (R to Y6 only).

Thursday – Messy Club, Playdough etc.

Friday – Lego

Please send an email to [butterknowle@durhamlearning.net](mailto:butterknowle@durhamlearning.net) to book your child into after school club or breakfast club





## Application for a School Place – September 2024



If your child is due to transfer to secondary school in September next year you will have received a letter about how to apply. The application process will be open on 5 September 2023

Guidance on how to apply is available on the following website:

[www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

## School Admissions – 2024/2025 Academic Year



**Starting School**  
Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025?

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2024.

Visit [www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces](http://www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces) where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. The easiest way to apply is online, if you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to apply for a place in Year 3 in a junior school for an older child.

**Applications open 5 September 2023 and close midnight 15 January 2024.**

For more information please contact  
School Places and Admissions Team  
[www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)  
03000 268996

**SANTA'S GROTTTO**  
AT BUTTERKNOWLE VILLAGE HALL  
CHRISTMAS FAYRE  
SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 4-7PM  
(GROTTO 4-6PM)  
LIMITED SPACES TO VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTTO  
THESE ARE PRE BOOKABLE ONLY  
**TICKETS ARE £6 PER CHILD**  
EACH CHILD GETS A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH SANTA AND A GIFT  
CONTACT CAROLYN MATTHEWS TO BOOK



## BUTTERKNOWLE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**BUTTERKNOWLE VILLAGE HALL  
SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER  
4-7PM**

Around 20 local stalls, including: Sofia Blooms Floristry, KD Cakes & Bakes, Toddy's Handmade Soaps, Connellys Toy Shop, BM Equestrian, Usborne Books, Friends of the School Tombola, Charity Raffle, local crafters and lots lots more!!

**Refreshments available and PRE BOOKABLE Santas Grotto**

**St John's Lynesack and St Mary's Woodland  
Invite you to their:**

## CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023  
At Butterknowle Village Hall 2-4pm**

Pamper yourself with a delicious traditional homemade afternoon tea.....only £8.00pp

A selection of savouries, cream scones, sweet treats and unlimited tea/coffee await you, together with a complimentary glass of fizz!