

Acomb County First School

Newsletter 2



Friday 27th September 2019

Head Teacher Message

We are well and truly settled in to the new school year and our exciting curriculum opportunities are well underway. Music has certainly started with a bang and children (and teachers) have thoroughly enjoyed our djembe drum lessons that are being funded by our hardworking and generous PTA. Mr Doyle has bravely offered to lead a mini performance at our Harvest festival in October, definitely something to look forward too!

Our PE lessons have also been a huge success so far, children across school are benefitting from 2 sessions a week with Mr Hill and Mr Thompson. Lots of house points have been awarded for excellent skill and teamwork already.

We would like to say a big thank you to Catherine Fergus and the Acomb Women's Institute who gave up an entire afternoon yesterday to run a craft workshop for our children. Our children have been busy designing and making individual pennants to create some celebratory bunting ready for our 150 year celebration in October. More details of this event will be sent out soon.

We currently have a vacancy for Parent Governor, if this is something you are interested in please us know. We will be sending out a ParentMail with more details next week.

We have added to the diary dates this week, various events have been added including our Harvest and Christmas events and PTA disco and cake stalls. More events will be added following our PTA AGM next week.

Please remember, if you are unsure of anything or if you need our help in anyway, don't hesitate to call us, email us or visit the office.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Mrs Clarke



Attendance

The good start to the year has continued, attendance figures are 97.86 % since the beginning of the term. We really appreciate your efforts to arrive at school promptly ready to learn! As we were able to maintain our whole school attendance target of 96% last year our new target is to maintain an attendance figure of 97% and above this year, we can do it!

Welcome meetings

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend our welcome meetings, we had a superb turnout and a really positive response. If you were unable to make the event, the slide shows have been uploaded to school website – please feel free to contact school should you have any questions or queries.

http://www.acomb.northumberland.sch.uk/website/class_information_presentations_201920/424076



Aldi Kit for Schools

Every time you spend over £30 in any Aldi store you'll receive a Team GB sticker. Bring your stickers to school to help us complete our poster. Once we have collected 300 stickers on our poster, we will send the poster back to receive an exclusive sports kit and to be in with a chance to win £20,000 for school!

Lost items

We have a number of lost items including brand new jumpers and cardigans that are named. Please could you check at home for any additional uniform that might have made it way home by accident. Thank you.

Dinner Money and Swimming Money

Can any money including any outstanding payments from last year, be paid as soon as possible. Please send in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with your child's name and details of what the payment is for. Dinners cost £2.20 per day, £11.00 per week or £83.60 for the whole half term. Please do not allow debts to build up.

Parent consultations

Thank you for returning your appointment requests, appointment slips will be returned to you early next week. Mrs Foster will be running a drop-in crèche on both consultation evenings in the school hall for children and their siblings. Please go directly to the school hall to sign in your children before your appointment.

House points

Our new House Points are already having a positive impact in school and children are earning lots of points for their fantastic manners, positive attitudes excellent work. House points can be awarded by any member of staff and can be awarded for any reason.

Totals so far:

| <u>Alnwick</u> | <u>Chillingham</u> | <u>Bamburgh</u> | <u>Warkworth</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 125 | 121 | 117 | 117 |

School Admissions

The online admissions portal opened on the 12th September for applications to Middle School, details of how to apply online have been sent to Year 4 children via Parentmail. Please contact the Admissions team on 01670 624 889 if you have any questions.

The following link will provide further information and guidance:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1.aspx>

Class news

Reception - Miss Dunlavy

In Reception we have had a very busy two weeks. We have been on a very wet autumn walk, planted our own beanstalks and even found a Dragon's egg in our classroom! The children thought carefully about how we could keep the egg safe, choosing to wrap it in a blanket and sing songs as well.

We have also been practicing some careful counting this week, counting the bandages on Dylan the dragon's body. We also had a fantastic discussion on how knights keep safe when they're fighting and designed our own knight's shields.







Class 1 - Mrs Barber

Class One have had a very busy week! We have had so many letters and emails from Jack and George the Giant asking for our help. We've been designing and making our own magic beans and beanstalks to help Jack to make George the Giant a new house.

We have been learning all about the weather in different seasons, we tried to go on an autumn walk and got caught out in the rain! We still loved it and we saw a frog too!

Mrs Gray has been challenging us in our active maths lessons and we have been showing her our super mathematical skills. We met Mr. Doyle on Wednesday and learnt to play the djembe drums. He was so impressed with our listening skills and we loved learning all about the history of the drums, Mrs Barber joined in too!



Class 2 – Miss Strachan

Music

Class 2 had their first music lesson with Mr Doyle. They learned different ways you can make sounds with the drum, began to learn different songs and learnt all about drum safety! The children and teachers cannot wait to learn more!

History

In History we have been looking at Motte and Bailey castles, labelling the parts and understanding why they were built like that.

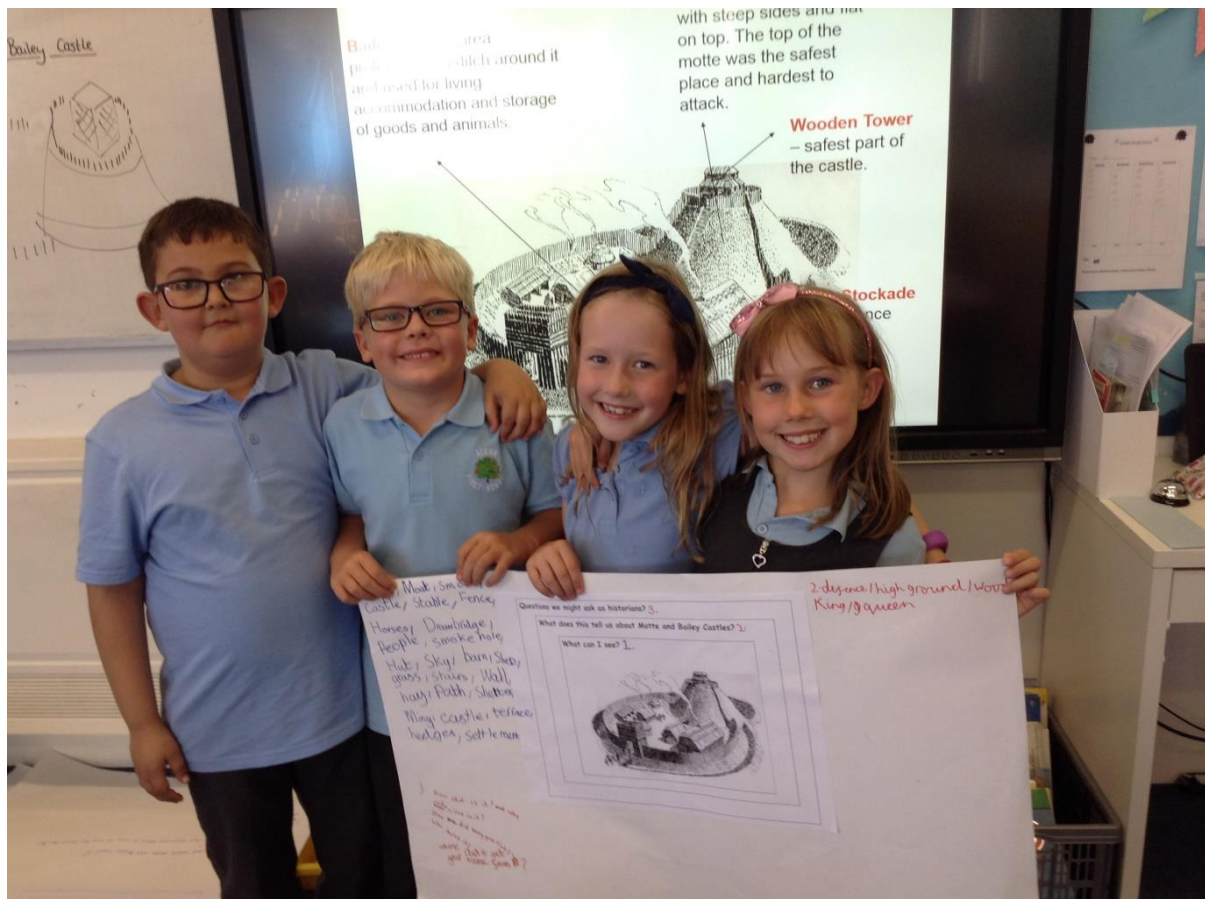
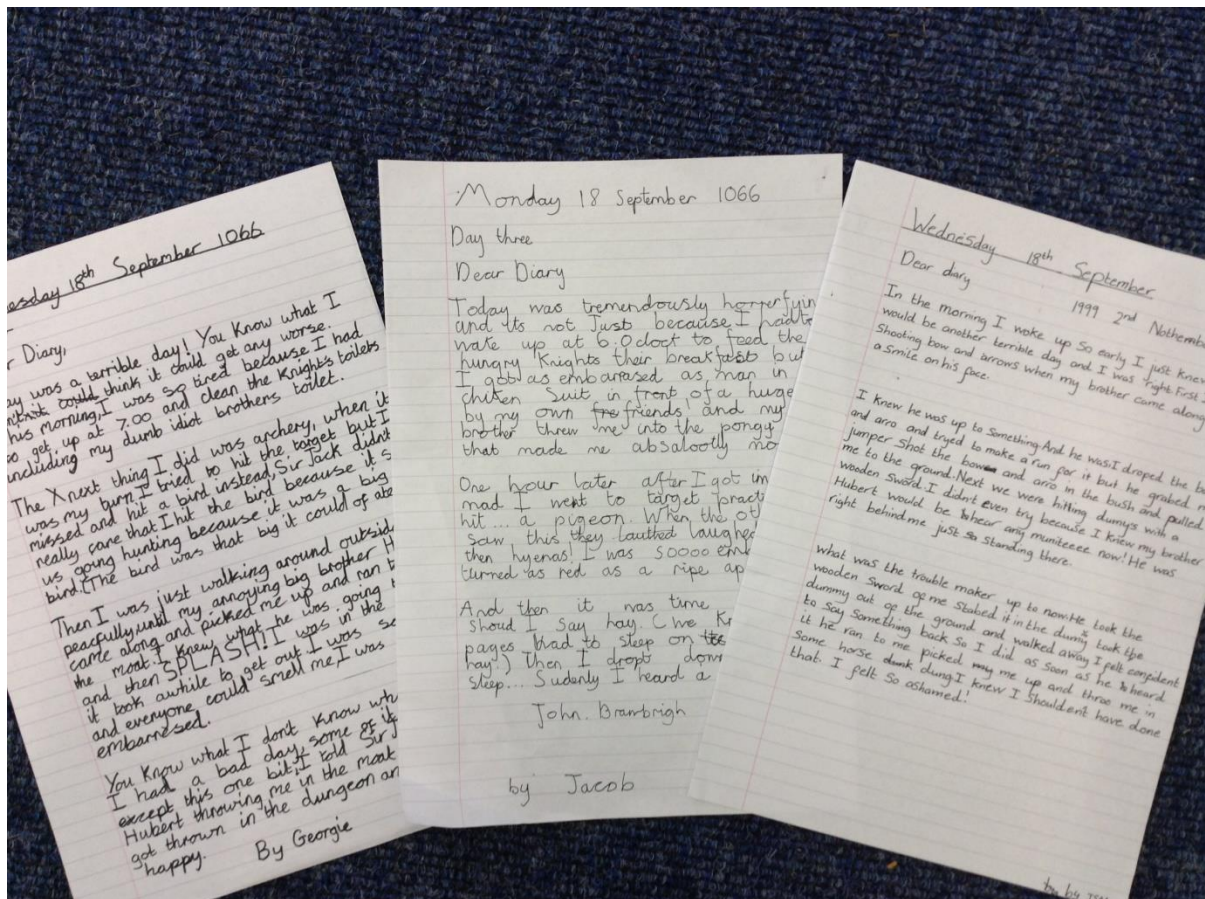
Homework Project

Class 2 have been working hard on their homework projects at home, we have started to see some in school. From word searches to acrostic poems to presentations! Keep up the fantastic work Class 2!

Fabulous Diaries

The children have been learning to write diaries over the last week and have been writing imaginative pieces of writing using time adverbials and expanded noun phrases! The children have also been working on handwriting and presentation; we are all hoping to achieve our pen licences. Amazing writing class 2!





Local events and notices

Harvest Day - Saturday 5th October 2019 10am - 5pm

Join us to find out what happens behind the scenes at Wheelbirks at harvest time. There will be loads for our visitors to enjoy...


Tractor & trailer rides!
Walking farm tours!!
Sit in our combine harvester!
See our cows being milked!
Sample our delicious unpasteurised milk!
Produce themed menu on sale all day!
Home grown apples on sale!




Hexham Farmers' Market

+++
next market
Saturday 28th
September
9am - 1.30pm
+++

First 6 week programme: £32
Includes: personalised t-shirt,
2 x hockey sticks, ball and stickers.
Different equipment packages are available
for those repeating the programme.
See website for details.





**Design your own superhero
training kit:**




What will be your hockey superpower?

FIND OUT MORE: hockeyheroes.co.uk


Signing up is easy and the programme provides a great value,
low commitment opportunity to try a new team sport.



**A FUN WELCOMING
INTRODUCTION TO HOCKEY
FOR ALL 5 - 8 YEAR OLDS**



**A 6 week programme for children to
try hockey and develop their physical
and character superpowers**



Eat well and move more with Change4Life

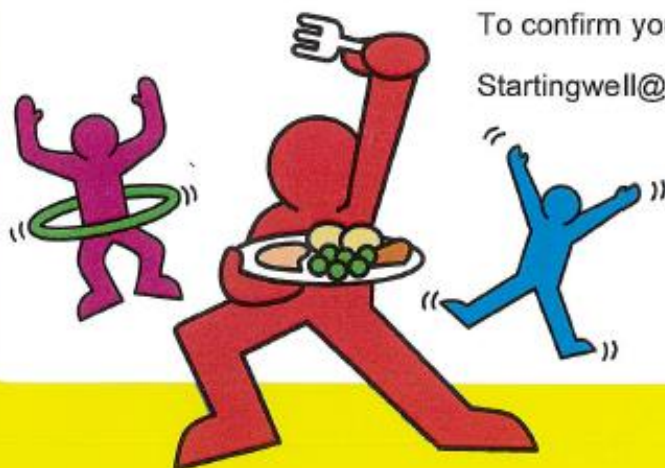
Northumberland Health Trainer Service

Change 4 life parent workshop, Reception and Yr 6

Monday 4th November 09.15-10am Wentworth Leisure Centre, Hexham

Tuesday 5th November 09.30-10.30am The Spetchells Centre, Prudhoe

We look forward to working and supporting parents, to making healthier family food choices, understand portion sizes, and explore healthy packlunches, in a fun and interactive way.



To confirm your attendance please email

Startingwell@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk

For healthy recipes and fun activities search **Change4Life**

change
4 life

| Date | Event | Time | Notes |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| September | | | |
| Monday 30 th September | Hockey Heroes Workshop | 1 -3 pm | Free workshop for all children |
| October | | | |
| Wednesday 2 nd October | Reception photograph - Hexham Courant | 9:15 am | |
| Thursday 3 rd October | Open the Book Assembly | 2.45 pm | Children and staff |
| Thursday 3 rd October | PTA AGM – new and existing PTA members welcome! | 3:15 pm | School hall |
| Tuesday 8 th October | Class 2 cake stall | 3:15 pm | School yard |
| Tuesday 8 th October | Parent Consultations - Free crèche available in the school hall. | 3-6 pm | Appointment times to go home w/b 30.9.19 |
| Thursday 10 th October | Operation Encompass – The Next Steps KS 1 and 2 PSHE Workshop 2 – Emotions and Anger. Sarah Donnison - School Safeguarding Liaison Officer | 1 - 3.15 pm | After school drop in for parents/carers to chat Sarah from 3.15 pm |
| Thursday 10 th October | Parent Consultations - Free crèche available in the school hall. | 3 - 6 pm | Appointment times to go home w/b 30.9.19 |
| Monday 14 th October | Flood Safety Week | All week | Lots of exciting activities planned |
| Thursday 17 th October | Nasal flu vaccinations | 11 am | Permission slips collected |
| Wednesday 23 rd October | Harvest Festival – Acomb Methodist Church Donations for West Northumberland Foodbank | 1.45 pm | More information to follow |
| Thursday 24 th October | 150 years Celebration | 2 – 4 pm | More information to follow |
| Friday 25 th October | Teacher Training Day | All day | School closed to pupils |
| Monday 28 th October | Half term holiday | | |
| November | | | |
| Monday 4 th November | School reopens to pupils | 8:55 am | |
| Tuesday 5 th November | Whole School Visit - Newcastle Castle | All day | More information to follow |
| Thursday 7 th November | PTA Disco- Bring party clothes to school in a named bag. | 3:15 – 5 pm | More information to follow |
| Friday 15 th November | Children in Need | All day | More information to follow |
| Tuesday 19 th November | Class 1 cake stall | 3:15 pm | School yard |
| December | | | |
| Thursday 5 th December | Open the Book Assembly | 2.45 pm | Children and staff |
| Wednesday 11 th December | School Christmas lunch | | More information to follow |
| Thursday 12 th December | Christmas Jumper Day | All day | Please note change of date |
| Monday 16 th December | Dress rehearsal Christmas performance Village Hall | am | More information to follow |
| Tuesday 17 th December | Christmas performance Village Hall | 2 pm | More information to follow |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|-----------------------------------|
| | | 6 pm | |
| Wednesday 18 th December | Queens Hall Performance 'A Viking Christmas' and Viking Workshop | All day | More information to follow |
| Friday 20 th December | Last day of Autumn term | | School closed for Christmas break |
| January 2020 | | | |
| Monday 6 th January 2020 | Teacher Training Day | All day | School closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 7 th January | School reopens to pupils for Spring term | | |
| February | | | |
| Tuesday 4 th February | Safer Internet Day 2019 | All day | More information to follow |
| Friday 14 th February | Teacher Training Day | All day | School closed to pupils |
| Monday 17 th February | Spring half term holiday | | |
| Monday 24 th February | School reopens to pupils | | |
| March | | | |
| Thursday 5 th March | World Book Day | All day | More information to follow |
| April | | | |
| Friday 3 rd April | Last day of Spring term | | School closed for Easter break |
| Monday 20 th April | School reopens to pupils | | |
| May | | | |
| Friday 8 th May | Bank holiday | All day | Please note the change of date |
| Wednesday 20 th – Friday 22 nd May | Year 4 Residential - Calvert Trust Kielder | | More information to follow |
| Monday 25 th May | Summer half term holiday | All week | |
| June | | | |
| Monday 1 st June | School reopens to pupils | | |
| July | | | |
| Friday 17 th July | Last day of term | | |

We have uploaded all of the current diary dates to the calendar and will continue to update the class pages with information regularly. Please note: It is occasionally necessary to change dates and times of events. Where a date or time changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.

