

USWORTH COLLIERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue 285 5th November 2021

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@UCPrimary

CHILDREN IN NEED

Children in Need appeal day is Friday 19th November. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS. As part of our efforts to raise money for this worthy cause, we will be having a non-school uniform day and ask that you bring in a donation (suggested donation of £1). There is no theme – just no uniform. We will also be taking part in a quiz and workout made especially by Joe Wicks (look out for us on Twitter!). The annual Children in Need show will be shown on BBC1 and BBC2 on the evening of 19th November. We look forward to having some fun as well as raise money for charity.



ECO WARRIORS

We have appointed new Eco-warriors from across school and they met for the first time this week: Robbie W, Safia R, Anastasia S, Isla W, Gabriel B, Joey D, Jade R, Ruby BP, Amelia G, Jessica M, Matthew T, Livvy W B, Hollie B, Logan H, Alexis L and Jenae K.

They will be completing an environmental review of our school to see what needs to be improved and creating an action plan of environmental projects that they believe are important for us to complete through the year.

There is an environmental competition that we would like as many children to enter as possible



We're calling on children aged 5 to 11 in England and Northern Ireland to take protecting the environment into their own hands!

Enter the Action Pack Recycling Challenge by **creating a poster or film** to teach grown-ups about recycling and **win an eco school trip** for your class. Use our [curriculum-linked resources](#) to support your competition entry by learning all about being an active citizen and recycling.

First prize is £500 for the winner's school for a sustainability themed trip, experience or resources, with second prize receiving £250. Ten runners up win a pack of eco goodies, including five eco-themed books for the school library and two seed bombs. Winners will appear on the Action Pack website and help inspire others. See the website for full details, resources and ideas:

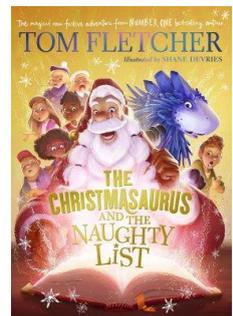
<https://schools.recyclenow.com/> Return your poster entries to Mrs Justice by Friday 19th November. Any videos should be sent to the school email address: info@usworthcolliery.co.uk with Recycling Competition as the subject.

RECOMMENDED READING – NEW RELEASES

THE CHRISTMASAURUS AND THE NAUGHTY LIST BY TOM FLETCHER

The Christmasaurus is back! Get ready for the magical NEW festive adventure from bestselling author, Tom Fletcher! You know about the Naughty and Nice List, right? Santa's top-secret tracker that he ALWAYS checks twice? Well, this year, the Christmasaurus is on a mission to track down children who have found themselves on the Naughty List to help them put wrongs to rights, naughty to nice!

This is a story about mischievous kids learning the error of their ways, but it's also about sharing the true spirit of Christmas and realising that sometimes things aren't quite as they first appear...



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Clubs and catch-up sessions will run all term EXCEPT the last week (week beginning 13th December)

Day	Club name	Club Leader	Year Groups	Location
Monday	Construction Club	Mrs Jones	All	The Base
Monday	Crazy crafts	Mrs Kaur	3-6	Art room
Monday	Little Kickers	Mr Mcvittie-Mathews	1-2	Outdoors
Tuesday	Film Club	Mrs Steel/ Mrs Prosser	3-6	The Base
Tuesday	The Movie Review Crew	Mrs Wall/ Mrs Bloomer	1-2	Small Hall
Tuesday	Running Club	Mr Wright	3-6	Outdoors
Wednesday	Dodgeball	Mr Dickinson	4-6	Main Hall
Thursday	Board games	Mrs Dixon/Mrs Hilton	2-4	3 RD
Thursday	KS2 Football Club	Mr Mcvittie-Mathews	3-6	Yard/ Field

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Whilst we are so pleased that things in school are relatively normal after so much disruption, we need to follow advice from Public Health. It is recommended that we do not have large gatherings indoors at the minute and we are unsure as to when this will change. Therefore, we have made the decision to complete the majority of your Christmas events either outside or via video.

Any money raised from the Christmas events will be used for extra playground equipment for the children to use at playtime and lunchtimes.



The annual **STAFF PANTOMIME** will once again be recorded and shared via a link. As staff do not need to socially distance in school at the moment, then we will record scenes together and where possible on location. This we are presenting '**Beauty and the Beast – the pantomime**' which will feature all your favourite pantomime characters (played by the same people as usual!) The recording will be made available via a link to Vimeo as we did with the whole school assemblies during lockdown. Although we are not charging for the link, there will be information about a Just Giving page where you can make a donation towards school fund. The link for the pantomime will be sent to you via email **on Friday 10th December** and you will be able to access it until the end of December. This means that you can watch it as many times as you like! Oh, yes you can!

Reception children will be recording their first performance at Usworth Colliery of 'A Little Bird Told Us'. They have already started working on this and all parent/carers will be receiving a link to the video on Vimeo.

We will be holding our very first **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE** with Years 1 to 6. This will take place outside on the front yard at 9.30am and 2.15pm on **Wednesday 8th December**. Parents and carers will be invited to attend. Each year group will be singing their own carol linked to the Christmas story and there will be some that we all sing. Some children will be narrating and Year 1 children will be acting the nativity alongside the reading and carols. We have added an alternative date of Monday 13th December should the weather does not allow us to perform on our original date. Refreshments will be available for parents before and after the carol service.



We are looking to create our own **WINTER WONDERLAND** experience in the wildlife area on **Wednesday 15th December** in the afternoon. Families will be able to walk through the path in the forest area and view some special Christmas displays (our version of Fenwick window) and complete some Christmas activities, as well as meet a special visitor with a white beard to receive a gift at the end of the trail. There will be a charge for this event.

ALL DATES FOR THESE EVENTS HAVE BEEN ADDED BELOW. MORE SPECIFIC DETAILS WILL BE SHARED IN NEWSLETTERS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

TWITTER STARS

Remember to check out this week's Twitter Stars! These are tweeted on: @TStarKS1_UCPS or @TStarKS2_UCPS. They also appear on @UCPrimary and on our website Twitter feed

POPPIES

Poppies are on sale at the School Office. There is a donation tin and the poppies are self-adhesive, therefore no need for pins. Thank you.

AUTUMN TERM DATES 2021

Thursday 11 th November	6JM trip to Lindisfarne
Week beginning 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 19 th November	Children in Need Day
Thursday 25 th November	6VM trip to Lindisfarne
Wednesday 8 th December	Christmas Carol Service (outdoors) 9.30am and 2.15pm (first choice date weather permitting)
Wednesday 8th December	Video link sent to parents for reception performance 'A Little Bird Told Us'.
Thursday 9 th December	Reception to Millennium Centre Soft Play am
Thursday 9 th December	Rocksteady concert for parents 2pm
Friday 10 th December.	Reception to watch Hansel & Gretel at Washington Arts Centre 1.30pm
Friday 10 th December	Autumn reports (sent out to parents).
Friday 10 th December	Video link sent to parents for staff pantomime – Beauty and the Beast
Monday 13 th December	RESERVE DATE for Christmas Carol Service.
Wednesday 15 th December	Winter Wonderland event in Wildlife Garden
Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January - CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
Tuesday 4 th January	TEACHER TRAINING DAY
Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Children back in school

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Whole school attendance – 94%

These classes have the highest attendance this week.
EYFS/KS1 – 1ES with 98.7% KS2 – 4RB with 98.8%

Mr Gary Wright

Headteacher