

USWORTH COLLIERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue 286 12th November 2021

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ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

MONDAY 15TH NOVEMBER IS ODD SOCKS DAY! WHAT IS ODD SOCKS DAY? Odd Socks Day is part of Anti-Bullying Week! To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that children wear odd socks to school on Monday 15th November. Last year over 13,000 schools took part in Odd Socks Day. Andy Day (Cbeebies/cbbc) and his band Andy and the Odd Socks are supporting the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help bring Odd Socks Day to life again this year. Have a listen to the brilliant song they have recorded especially for Anti-Bullying Week, One Kind Word.

WHY IS ODD SOCKS DAY IMPORTANT?

The day sends an important message to pupils that they should be allowed to be themselves free from bullying and helps us celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.

All of our school's anti-bullying information can be found on the website:

<https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/ucps-anti-bullying-information>



YEAR 6 TRIP TO LINDISFARNE

On Thursday, 6JM commandeered the minibuses and set off for the distant land of Holy Island. Once safely over the causeway, the children were able to put their route planning to the test, following the route around the island, which they had planned with Miss O'Shea. Luckily, the weather was incredibly kind to us and we were able to enjoy the beautiful scenery to its fullest. On the route we stopped to admire the ruins of the priory, the majesty of the castle and frolicking sheep - guess which one



caused the most excitement! On finally reaching Emmanuel Point on the far side of the island, we put ourselves into the shoes of Brother Higbald back in 793AD watching with horror as the Viking invaders crashed onto the beach ready for murder and pillage. After a quick lunch on the beach, with a small amount of sand sculpting, we hurried off back to the buses to make sure we got off the island before the tide covered the causeway. Having said that, a good number of the children, and myself, would have been quite happy to get cut off from the mainland and spend more time exploring the island. As I knew they would, the children behaved brilliantly, showing consideration for other visitors and really getting into the spirit of things despite their tired, aching limbs. 6VM will be doing this trip on Thursday 25th November. Mr Millett

REMINDER: CHILDREN IN NEED

Children in Need appeal day is Friday 19th November. 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.



YEAR 1 & 2 TO THE CINEMA

As part of the IntoFilm Education project, Year 1 and Year 2 went to Boldon Cineworld to watch some films this week. They had a great time and were excellent ambassadors for our school.

CAROL SERVICE

As we explained in last week's newsletter, we are going to hold a carol service for Years 1 to 6 outdoors. This will be on the KS2 yard on Wednesday 8th December at 9.30am and 2.15pm (weather permitting). Each year group will have a song to sing and they will be singing three songs altogether. Although we are outdoors we will still have to limit the number of tickets available. We are allowing two adults per child. You are welcome to bring pre-school children but please be mindful that they do not distract from the carol service. There is an online form to complete to reserve your places. [Click here.](#)

WINTER WONDERLAND BOOKING & DONATIONS

As discussed last week in the newsletter, we are planning a **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 of £3 per child. **Any money raised from the Christmas events will be used for extra playground equipment for the children to use at playtime and lunchtimes.**

Slots will be allocated between 1pm to 4pm. Parent/Carers can collect their children 10 minutes prior to their slot from the school office. Booking is essential and through the same system that we use for parent/carer meetings. This goes live at 4pm today and a link will be sent to you via email.

We are busy collecting Christmas decorations to use in the display. If you have any old indoor or outdoor decorations that are in good condition, then we would be very grateful for donations. Please spread the work and collect from family and friends as we would like to make the event as special as possible. We are taking donations via the school office from Monday.



RECEPTION CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

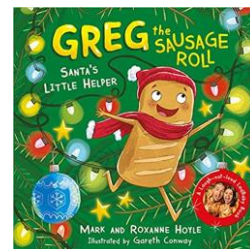
As mentioned that week, reception children will be recording their first performance at Usworth Colliery of 'A Little Bird Told Us'. I know that some parents have expressed disappointment that they can't see it in person but we logistically can't make it work with our risk assessments. We couldn't do this outside and we can't have large gatherings indoors. Our trips with reception in the next few months are risk assessed to ensure that there are no other groups present to avoid unnecessary contact. Hopefully by the end of the year we will be able to welcome parents back for events. Thanks

RECOMMENDED READING – NEW RELEASES

GREG THE SAUSAGE ROLL BY MARK & ROXANNE HOYLE

The tinsel is up in the bakery, the lights are twinkling and the mince pies are sold out. It's Christmas Eve! Greg the Sausage Roll is so excited he could burst. And when he's scooped up as a last-minute treat for Santa, he's catapulted into a magical festive caper beyond his wildest dreams. Hold on tight for a spectacular sausage roll-ercoaster of an adventure!

Developed and written by the social media phenomenon that is LadBaby - the king and queen of Christmas and of sausage rolls - this is set to be a truly unmissable picture book release.



AUTUMN TERM DATES 2021

Week beginning 15th November
 Friday 19th November
 Thursday 25th November
 Wednesday 8th December
Wednesday 8th December
 Thursday 9th December
 Thursday 9th December
 Friday 10th December.
 Friday 10th December
 Friday 10th December
 Monday 13th December
 Wednesday 15th December
Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January - CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
 Tuesday 4th January
 Wednesday 5th January 2022

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

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

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

DOJO POINTS

Check out our dojo/house point counter at <https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/house-point-counter>. Children are awarded points throughout the week for following the Colliery Code. This week's classes with the most house points are:

1st – 4RB 2nd – 4EP 3rd – 2CB

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Whole school attendance – %

These classes have the highest attendance this week.

EYFS/KS1 – RJD with 94.1% & the Base with 94.4 KS2 – 6VM with 96.8%

Mr Gary Wright

Headteacher