



Shanklea Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Helen Brown
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Nairn Road, Parkside Chase, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 1RQ

Friday 4th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers



Weekly Newsletter



It has been another busy week at Shanklea with lots of fantastic learning. It is wonderful to see everyone back in school and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our Year 3 and Year 4 children for staying at home and working so hard. We know isolating is challenging and we're so proud that the Shanklea community thinks of others and does the right thing even when it is difficult. The children have done some wonderful work and created some amazing artwork. The beautifully decorated stone shown here was created by **Neve H.**

Welcome back Years 3 and 4

Mr Rutherford and **Miss Henaghan** wish to share a message of thanks to all of the families, who have had to become teachers overnight once again. You are all doing an outstanding job! Your patience and support during these unpredictable times has been amazing and makes our jobs as teachers that bit easier. We also wanted to extend a huge thank you to our Year 3 children, as they have taken on the challenge of learning at home again and have blown us away with everything they have achieved this week. We are still going through all of the work that you have submitted online (if you have chosen to) and we are so impressed with your resilience and positive '**give it a go**' attitude. You have shown the real spirit of Shanklea! **#GoTeamShanklea.**

Mrs Hagan and **Ms Rigg** wish to thank all of the Year 4 children and their parents for their amazing attitude to home learning. All of the children have worked extremely hard and we have seen some great work in all areas of the curriculum. Mrs Hagan has read some great work linked to the story **Beth and the Nile**. The children have worked on Purple Mash to access their learning and they all seem to have thoroughly enjoyed the work. In Maths the children have been working on reading and interpreting graphs and have also completed some impressive science work on electricity. The children have shown great determination and resilience when work has been marked and they have been asked to edit and improve it; they have all done this well. We have also received some great photographs of work linked to the Egyptian topic and some fantastic art projects have been produced. We really appreciate this and it makes our job so much easier. Thank you.



The Snowman™ and The Snowdog: Kindness Calendar

Shanklea children are being encouraged to learn about and practise kindness this December with The Snowman™ and The Snowdog in a new kindness calendar.





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Times have been challenging this year, and we have all had to cope with a lot of changes to our lives. The British Red Cross is dedicated to helping create resilient communities; and being kind and connected is an important part of resilience.

Their new kindness calendar helps children see the power and strength of kindness and friendship in supporting themselves and others in overcoming challenges and changes. Children aged 5 to 11 are encouraged to complete daily acts of kindness and further explore topics relating to kindness and friendship.



The children will:

- reflect on the meaning and importance of kindness and friendship
- learn that we can celebrate our differences and similarities
- learn ways to show kindness and think about the power of kind words
- think about and understand other people's feelings and explore how change can affect us
- reflect on the past, think about what can be done in the present in addition to the future



Helping Others

We know that there are many families in our community who need some extra support.

As part of our kindness drive, this half term, we would like to donate as many food items to our local Food Bank as possible. We are asking that any families who can or would like to, to give one item from the list shown on the right. These are items that are currently most in need in the lead up to Christmas which will be donated to the food bank.

The Food Bank have also said that it would be great if we could donate items such as: crisps, chocolates, or other Christmas snacks with long dates. They will also accept toiletries as donations too.

If you would like to make a donation, please bring it into school by **Wednesday 9th December** and place it in **Santa's Grotto** in the

Foodbank Collection



Welcome to our reverse advent calendar!
Instead of opening a door every day in the run up to Christmas,

We will be collecting a box full of food to give to our local foodbank based in
Cramlington
which helps local people in crisis.

We need:

Women's deodorants	Soap powder in tablet form
Nappies – age 3 months upwards	Washing up liquid
Instant Mash	Gravy Granules
Stuffing	Christmas Puddings
Mince Pies	Custard or White Sauce Christmas

Gifts for Hampers: adult toiletries, small toys for children of all ages (gifts must be unused & in their original packaging with tag attached).

No fresh or chilled items, please. Small packets and tins are preferred!

Thank you!

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main school yard.

We appreciate that, given the constant challenges throughout this year, some of our families may also need support from the food bank this year too. Food Bank have said that any of our families who would find a one-off Christmas parcel useful can be signed up to the E voucher scheme, which is very easy to process.

Let's Go Find the Festive Fun!

The countdown to Christmas can officially begin! There's plenty to do on the lead up to Christmas.

With so much excitement building, the possibilities for family festive fun across the school are endless. Our little elves have been hard at work to bring you inspirational ideas that are bound to spark up long-lasting memories in the run-up to Christmas. We've also thrown in some spectacular offers and competitions well worth noting. The raffles and Secret Elves Club competitions will be run electronically to maintain Covid safety. Children are also challenged to decorate a window at home in the Best Decorated Window competition. Please send in photos of the windows to your child's teacher via email. All competitions should be paid for on the School Gateway. Good luck everyone.



Christmas Dinner



This year we will be serving Christmas dinner on **Wednesday 9th December**. If you would like your child to have a special Christmas dinner at school please pre-order on the School Grid by 3pm on Monday 7th December.

Even if your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals, or always has school meals, you must pre-order as our Catering Team needs the exact numbers to ensure no-one is disappointed.

Please note, children may only choose Christmas dinner or vegetarian Christmas dinner as there will be no alternative meals on the day. It is always a lovely event and not one to miss.





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If you have queries, please don't hesitate to contact the Office Team.

Christmas Jumpers

Wednesday 9th December will also be supporting **Christmas Jumper Day**, and enjoying a special virtual pantomime so the atmosphere should be extremely festive.



Christmas Pantomime

The pantomime is based on the classic tale of "Sleeping Beauty" and the children will be able to watch, take part in special workshops and maybe even meet some of the cast on Zoom. You're certainly going to hear lots about it.

Flu Immunization

The Flu Immunization Team will return to Shanklea on **Monday 14th December** to immunize the children in Reception to Year 6 who were absent or for whom consent forms were not available on their last visit. Year 3 and 4 children who were isolating when the Immunization Team were last at school will be included, provided their parents/carers have returned their consent forms.

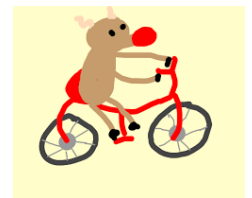
If you have not yet completed a consent form for your child you can collect one from the office so your child can still be immunized at school. If you have previously provided consent and your child is due to have the vaccine on this visit but has been immunized at another venue (not Shanklea) it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you let school or the NHS team know.

SumDog Competition

A national SumDog competition starts this week. We have entered our classes and will learn more during our maths lessons next week. There will be a prize for the highest scoring pupil in Shanklea and an extra playtime for the highest scoring class. We have had fantastic successes in these competitions and the children really enjoy taking part.

Operation Red Nose

We are receiving a lot of regular complaints about teenage cyclists flouting the law by riding on pavements or too speedily on the cycle path close to school. These express fear that pedestrian and young children could face serious injury if the problem persists. Two incidents have been recently reported regarding a pushchair and another involving a dog. We are doing what we can to communicate this message to the cyclists and to agencies who may be able to help with safety measures. In the meantime, families are urged to be vigilant for cyclists and to stay on the footpath rather than the cycle path wherever possible.





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Codenamed Operation Rednose, Shanklea pupils have launched a crackdown on the problem. The Shanklea Mini-Police have beefed up their patrols, to watch out for cyclists riding anti-socially on footpaths, pavements and those failing to use lamps, as required by law, during the hours of darkness.

Reception New Starters September 2021

Parents of children due to start in Reception in September 2021 will need to apply online on the Northumberland County Council (NCC) website applications portal at :

https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnUrl=%2FCitizenPortal_LIVE%2FAdmissions%2FHome

The portal can also be found by going to the NCC site then searching for Admissions and/or Reception Entry applications. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2021 and you need to apply even if your child already attends a Nursery setting attached to the school of your choice. It is important not to miss the deadline to maximise your child's chances of being admitted to your chosen school.



Please note that the portal will be down for essential maintenance on 4th December between 6pm and 9pm. Parents will be informed of the results of their application on 16th April 2021.



Congratulations to the **Shanklea Stars** of last week:

Jack H

Finley B

Alfie H

Abbie O

Starla W

Anna S

Harry M

Cameron C

Alfie H

You are all amazing – Well done



Thank you all for your continued support. Take care and stay safe!

Mrs H Brown
Head Teacher

