

NORTHBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

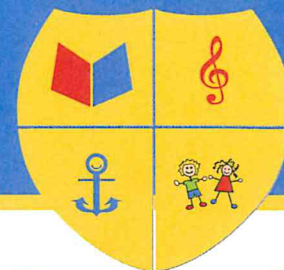
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Headteacher: Mrs Clare Scott



NORTHBURN
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents

I would like to thank you for your gifts, cards, good wishes and thanks, to us all. I am touched by your generosity and very grateful for the support you give to us and your children, in their schooling.



I would also like to thank the staff, as they have worked incredibly hard this term. They have often gone over and above to improve and develop our curriculum and provide exciting opportunities for learning. We all thoroughly enjoyed our extended day. The children loved singing Christmas songs around our fire-pit and roasting marshmallows. The snow provided added magic!

Thank you to the P.T.A for their dedication in supporting the school. The Christmas fair was a huge success and raised an incredible, £1,323.63. Thank you also, for providing refreshments at the church, our assemblies, Nativity and parties and for providing Christmas activities for the children. The money raised also paid for the pantomime performance, Cinderella, on the last day of term.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

It was lovely to see our school community come together for a carol service. The children read and sang beautifully. Mike and Tish would love to see you at St Peters Carol service in the school hall at 4.30pm on Christmas Eve.



Well done to all our Steel Pan players who performed exceptionally well at their music event.

A highlight each year is the Reception Nativity and the Nursery carols. I am always amazed at how confident they are and the number of lines and song lyrics they can remember. They were simply fantastic. I am looking forward to a KS1 performance assembly, next term. The Lion King rehearsals have been going well and there is huge excitement for the performances in February 2018.



We have enjoyed many successes this term. A group of Year 5 children entered the Green Car Challenge. This is a national competition where children are invited to send in a car design for consideration by a team of scientists. Northburn was one of only eight schools nationally, to win. They particularly liked our children's ideas around the use of magnetic propulsion. After Christmas, we expect delivery of electrical components which the children will be tasked with putting together to construct a car to race against the other winning schools. The car will be big enough for a child to sit in and drive!



Again, we have achieved great sporting success winning the Cramlington and Seaton Valley Award for Excellence in Competition.

Northumberland
County Council



The use of the school grounds to enrich the curriculum is gaining momentum and the children tell me they are really enjoying the changes that we have made. Key Stage 1 has been producing some excellent work on 'Thumbs up Thursdays'. I'm aware that it's not so enjoyable if you are the one having to wash muddy uniform! Please be reassured, we do try to take a measured approach and do not allow access to all areas when it is muddy.

We have nearly cleared the pond area so that it can be utilised and the outdoor area for Nursery and classes 2 and 3 is developing well. All children now have been given a Northburn School Award card (in planners for years 5 & 6). If you recall, I sent out some information about the introduction of the award in an earlier newsletter. Due to some printing difficulties, it has taken a little longer to get off the ground than I wished. However, all children are now able to choose from a range of enrichment activities to complement our core curriculum. They are also setting themselves a personal challenge. At the end of each phase they will be awarded a school badge. Exceptional effort will be rewarded with a special gold award badge. The award scheme means we can recognise the many wonderful things children do to contribute to their education, outside school. It also recognises the importance of developing a broad set of skills and learning how to be a good learner. Your child will only need to complete a minimum of a couple of challenges from each section, and provision has been made for these to be completed in school. Please do not feel you have to complete any challenges at home with your child, but if you would like to, and have the time, that would be great.

Our curriculum is available to view on our website:

www.northburn.northumberland.sch.uk.

You will be able to view the progress your child has made so far on FROG by following the reports page of the website (Curriculum> Reports).

Children in KS2 are participating in the national 'Walk to School Challenge'.

Please remember, you can park at the sports centre and walk down the cycle path.

Thank you to everyone who parks responsibly. I am hoping that the recently installed traffic calming initiatives will further protect our children as cars slow down, especially when they approach the Pelican Crossing.

Stage one of the kitchen renovation work is complete. There is more work left to do but I am hoping it will cause minimal disruption. I am very grateful to Beacon Hill Primary school for allowing us to share their kitchen. Christmas dinner was lovely. Quite an achievement, as the kitchen staff had only just moved back in.

You can also receive news updates by following us on Twitter [@NorthburnSchool](https://twitter.com/NorthburnSchool) if you wish to follow us, please email your twitter name so that we are able to recognise you and accept you. Email: admin@northburn.northumberland.sch.uk

I hope that you all have a very happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday the 9th of January 2018.

Thank you



Clare Scott
Headteacher