



Dinnington First Newsletter

No 4 November 2024-2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, a **huge thank you to Parents and Friends for organising the Christmas Fair. This is a huge undertaking in their own time and for free, which is incredibly kind.** Also, thank you to families for your support too. The children had a fantastic time and have raised a whopping **£1600** for school funds.

It was also lovely to see the Books n Brunch sessions so well attended and the kindness tree display looks fantastic.

Chair of Governors Mr Dan Talbot has replaced Mrs Jill Davison as our new Chair of Governors. I would like to thank Mrs Davison for her years of hard work and support to school and wish Mr Talbot all the best in his new role.

Coming up in the diary we have our Christmas events. We have had lots of requests for **Christmas jumper day** which is the same day as Christmas lunch. We will therefore make this a non-uniform day / Christmas jumper day. See you next week!

Best wishes Mrs Ash and the Team



Upcoming Events

December

- 5th – Christmas Fair Choir Performance (3.15 pm Outdoor Classroom)
 - 5th – Christmas Fair (3.30pm – Enter through main reception)
 - 6th – EYFS Dress rehearsal
 - 9th – KS1 & 2 Dress Rehearsals
 - 10th – EYFS Performance (9.30 am)
 - 10th – KS1 Performance (1.30pm)
 - 10th – KS2 Performance (2.30pm)
 - 11th – EYFS Performance (9.30 am)
 - 11th – KS2 Performance (1.30pm)
 - 11th – KS1 Performance (2.30pm)
 - 12th – Christmas Lunch Day / **Non-uniform**
 - 13th – Year 2 African Drumming Workshop in school
 - 13th – Rocksteady Music Club Performance (2.00pm Main Hall)
 - 16th – EYFS Christmas Party (non uniform)
 - 16th – KS1 Christmas Party (non uniform)
 - 17th – KS2 Christmas Party (non uniform)
 - 18th – KS2 Carols @ St Matthews' Church (2.00pm all welcome)
 - 20th – Last day of term
- ### January
- 6th – Return to school



Nursery

This half term our theme is 'Amazing Me'. We have looked at faces and what happens to them when we have different emotions. We have talked about how certain emotions make us feel and how we can manage those feelings. We have discussed how it is OK to be different and how we are all 'unique'. The Nursery children have learnt about oral health and how to keep their teeth as healthy as possible. We have had two Stay and Play sessions with parents too which was so much fun, the children really enjoyed it. They have also learnt about the festival of Divali and celebrating Bonfire Night.



Reception

Reception have continued to practice their ball skills this half term by learning how to throw, bounce and catch in PE. All of the children are also making excellent progress in phonics; they are starting to blend sounds into words and spell words independently. In forest school, the children enjoyed eating toast and toasted marshmallows by the fire.





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Year 1

Year 1 have been working hard on their Space Race unit in History and their science fiction stories in English. We had a brilliant time designing, building and launching our rockets! We have been focusing on our numbers to 20 and our number facts in Maths. We even took our lessons out onto the yard! It was great to see all of the grown-ups in school for the Books and Brunch, it was a pleasure to see you all!



Year 2

Year 2 have had a lovely time in November. We have been enjoying our outdoor learning looking creating fireworks and learning more about The Great Fire of Gateshead. We also visited the Discovery Museum, where we explored different Victorian items. In Maths, we have been developing our addition and subtraction skills by using base 10.

Year 3

In Year 3, we have been conducting many practical experiments in science. This has encouraged the children to work scientifically and apply an enquiring mind throughout their Science lessons. We have also been enjoying dance during PE, and made rubbings (frottage)



Year 4

In Year 4 this term, we've been busy exploring exciting new skills across different subjects! We had the incredible opportunity to join a virtual live talk with the famous author Jacqueline Wilson, where we learned valuable tips for writing a letter to an author, improving our English writing. In Art, we've been experimenting with watercolours, learning various techniques to create shades and tints, which help make our paintings look more realistic. We've focused on drawing and painting real-life objects, like fruit, and are now preparing for a still life composition painting, where we'll apply everything we've learned to create our own beautiful artwork!

Class 11 also took part in Bikeability sessions, where we developed key cycling skills, including road safety and control, building confidence on two wheels. We're excited to share that Bikeability will continue in the new year with Class 10!





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Road Safety

Please be careful when driving and parking near school. If you can park slightly away from school and walk a short distance this is much safer for the children walking to school.

We also continue to receive complaints from local residents about parking across driveways and being spoken to rudely when they address this. Please park with respect for residents.

We talk to the children regularly about road safety. There have been road accidents involving children locally recently – please ensure your children can be seen when it is dark – bright / reflective clothing is ideal.





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A look ahead...

January 2025

- Monday 6th** - **School starts for Spring Term**
- Thursday 9th** - **Reception Trip to Sunderland Winter Gardens**
- Wednesday 15th** - **Family Club Starts**
- Friday 17th** - **Year 4 Beamish Trip**
- Tuesday 21st** - **Gymnastics Academy**
- Thursday 23rd** - **Gosforth Gets Going - Archery (Selected pupils only)**
- Tuesday 28th** - **Year 3 Woodhorn Trip**

February 2025

- Tuesday 11th** - **Safer Internet Day**
- **Multi-skills workshop in school for KS1**
- **Online Safety Training (all pupils in school)**
- Monday 17th** - **Health Education – ‘PANTS’ in school Y2 workshop**
- Thursday 20th** - **Year 4 Centre 4 Life Trip**
- Friday 21st** - **Training Day (School closed to pupils: Start of Half Term Holiday)**