



# Ebchester Church of England Primary School Newsletter

[www.ebchester.durham.sch.uk](http://www.ebchester.durham.sch.uk)

17th September 2018

Dear Parent,

It's hard to believe that we are already two weeks into our first half term. All of our new starters, whether in Reception or Year 5, have settled into school perfectly and it's great to see so many happy faces on a morning.

### Sponsored Walk

As last year was such a success, we are holding our sponsored walk at Chopwell Woods again this year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Parents and grandparents are welcome to join us – we will meet in the main car park at Chopwell Woods at around 9.30am.

### Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor on our governing body. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the school office by the 21<sup>st</sup> September. If we have more than one person interested, a ballot will be organised.

### Attendance

We print attendance levels for each class in our newsletters – the class with the highest attendance will have an extra-long playtime! Well done to Class Four for winning (again) last week.

<u>Class One</u>	<u>Class Two</u>	<u>Class Three</u>	<u>Class Four</u>
98%	96.2%	99.4%	99.5%

### Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be held at St. Ebba's on the 25<sup>th</sup> September at 11am. Everyone is welcome. The school council have decided where our Harvest gifts will be sent to this year and further details about food donations will be sent out closer to the date.

### Parking

I do understand that parking spaces are limited around school but may I politely remind you that no cars should be parked or stop to set down or pick up pupils on the zig zag lines at the bottom of the school drive. This is essential to keep our pupils safe when crossing the road. I have contacted PCSO Julie Brown and

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Durham County Civil Enforcement Officers for support in dealing with this issue. Many thanks for your cooperation with this matter.

### Mrs Sandhu

Unfortunately, Mrs Sandhu will not be returning to her post at Ebchester School. Although we are disappointed and saddened that she is unable to return, we wish her all the best with her next adventure. I am pleased to announce, though, that Miss Stephanie Rogers will remain with us for the academic year working with the pupils in Class Two; we are pleased to welcome her into the Ebchester team!

### ParentPay

As you will know, ParentPay account activation details were sent home on Friday. I hope you found the instructions easy to follow – if anyone would like support in setting up their account, Mrs Phillips and I are available every Wednesday morning to help. We hope that becoming a cash-free school will make paying for school lunches, trips and after school club easier for everyone.

### Forest School



It was fantastic to see our Forest School sessions up and running again. All classes enjoyed exploring the woodland and took part in a range of activities. They created pictures, made leaf kebabs and completed treasure hunts! Unfortunately, the company who had agreed to install our outdoor classroom has informed us that they are now unable to begin until the 1<sup>st</sup> October.

### School Council

Each of the classes have selected their representatives for our school council. We held our first meeting today and the pupils decided that they would like to send our harvest gifts to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle and Consett foodbank. Their next task is to think of ways to spend sponsor money from our sponsored walk.



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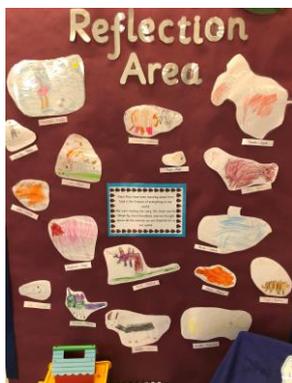
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## St Ebba's Harvest Festival

St. Ebba's will be holding their Harvest Festival in the church on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10.30am – everyone is welcome. Any food donations received will be sent to Consett foodbank and the service will be followed by soup, hot dogs, a Beetle drive and apple ducking at the Community Centre.

### Class Information



#### Class Four

This week Class Four have been reading *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson alongside our Wonderful World topic. We have used the story to write about and talk about all of our favourite animals on our planet. As part of our RE lesson, all the children in Class Four drew a picture of their favourite animal and thanked God for His wonderful creation. We used these pictures to make a display in our Reflection Area. **Mr Carr**

#### Class Three

Class 3 have started their 'Wonderful World' topic by focusing on South America. We have begun to read 'The Great Kapok Tree', a story about the Amazon rainforest, and write setting descriptions based on the pictures. In PSHE, we have thought about healthy and unhealthy foods and tried lots of different fruit to decide what we like and don't like. Most of the children were not avocado fans! **Miss Edmunds**

#### Class Two

In Class Two this week we have been working hard learning about the Anglo-Saxons, who they were and where they came from. We enjoyed investigating what and who was buried at Sutton Hoo and what the objects told us about the corpse which was found. We then used our knowledge of the 'Beowulf' characters to write our own character descriptions as this also links to our topic. We have also thoroughly enjoyed learning about healthy lifestyles in PSHE and used the 'Eatwell plate' to design our own healthy menu for a balanced diet. Some of the concoctions were great! **Miss Rogers**

#### Class One

Class One have had a great start to the year – everybody has settled in well and are already being a positive role model to all of the other children. We have started our topic about the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings, children have been extremely enthusiastic about this and we are looking forward to learning more about them. We have also begun our Science topic on forces, children have been learning about gravity and have researched the scientists Galileo Galilei and Sir Isaac Newton to develop their knowledge about gravity. Swimming has been another hit so far, children are enjoying their lessons each week. **Mrs Askell**

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### Dates for your Diary

25<sup>th</sup> September – School Harvest Festival at St. Ebba’s at 11am

26<sup>th</sup> September – Y6 Transition to Consett Academy

28<sup>th</sup> September – School photographs

2<sup>nd</sup> October – Sponsored Walk

16<sup>th</sup> October - Parent E-Safety presentation

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Clasper

Headteacher

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