

January 2018

CLASS 1 CHRONICLE

Reception and Year 1

Issue 2

Happy New Year to all of our children and their families. We would like to say a huge thank you for all the very generous gifts we received, they are much appreciated. We hope you all had a restful holiday. The Christmas Stay and Play was very successful. Lots of families came and the children really enjoyed spending time in school with them. We raised £36 for our class fund which will go towards lots of exciting activities for the children. We are planning to do another Stay and Play at Easter and hope to see as many parents as we did for the Christmas event.



Over the first half term, as well as following the interest of the children, we will be learning about winter. We are going to read winter themed stories and continue with our topic of animals, exploring how they survive in winter and how we can help e.g. feeding the birds. We will be having a bird watching week where we will be looking at birds that visit our school garden. The children could explore this further at home by looking at and feeding the birds in their own gardens or nearby open spaces. We will be taking part in the RSPB big garden bird watch. This can also be done at home the weekend of the 27th and 28th of January by registering with the RSPB online www.rspb.org.uk.



Year 1s will also be focusing on the topic of 'Around the World' where we will explore the UK countries and their capital cities then look further at the continents of the world and the seas that surround them. We will link this to art and create artwork of different landscapes from around the world. As scientists we will be exploring different types of materials and investigating the suitability of materials for specific purposes.

In the second half of the term we will look at the change in weather and focus our learning around spring and new life. We will learn about having a healthy lifestyle and which food and drinks are good for our bodies and which are not. We are hoping to borrow some equipment to help us to make our own healthy pasta dish.

We are in the process of arranging a trip to the Great North Museum in Newcastle. We will let you know the details as soon as possible.

Weekend Homework Books

- All of the children in Class will be getting a weekend Homework Book which is sent home on Friday afternoons. Some weeks we will stick a sheet in the books for the children to complete but most weeks we would like the children to tell us what they have been doing, in words and pictures, during the weekend. They could include photographs, flyers or tickets of places they have visited. These books will be collected in on a Wednesday morning. We would appreciate it if parents could support their child when recording in this book in the following ways:
- Letter formation
- Sounding out words
- Giving ideas about what could be drawn
- Finger spaces (if sentences are being written)
- Capital letters (for names and at the beginning of sentences/captions)
- Writing on the lines
- Making letters a consistent size

Year One children should be working towards writing at least one sentence as part of their homework with a capital letter at the beginning, a full stop at the end and finger spaces between their words.

We DO NOT expect the children in reception to be able to write captions/sentences at this stage. Some children may be able to write short captions with support but a picture and key word would be great. If you feel like your child is capable of writing a short sentence, please support them where necessary and give plenty of praise and encouragement.

Thank you.

PTO for important dates

Important Dates

Class 1 assembly on Chinese New Year- Parents invited



Thursday 8th February 2.30pm

Sponsored Pancake Flip Friday 9th February 2018

Half Term: Week beginning 12th February 2018- return to school on Monday 19th February 2018

World Book Day: Thursday 1st March 2018

Easter Stay and Play: Wednesday 21st March 2018

Class 1 and 2 Palm Sunday Liturgy - Parents invited

Monday 26th March 2:30pm

Parents Evening Tuesday 27th March 2018

Days and times to remember.....

PE	Tuesday Mornings Thursday Afternoons
Drop in sessions	Monday Mornings 8.45 - 9.05 am

PE kits

A number of PE kits have yet to be returned to school after the holidays. Please can you send them in with your child as soon as possible.
Thanks

Milk

Just a reminder when your child turns 5 they no longer receive free milk. If you would like them to continue to have milk at snack time with their friends you will need to contact Cool Milk to pay for it.

www.coolmilk.com

Contact us...

St. Godric's RCVA Primary, Thornley,
Thornley Road,
Wheatley Hill,
Durham.

Tel: 01429 820333
Fax: 01429 820333

Website: www.st-godrics.durham.sch.uk
Email: thornleystgodric@durhamlearning.net

Warm Clothes

The weather is beginning to get very cold so please could you make sure that your child comes to school wrapped up. We tend to spend quite a bit of time outside so hats and gloves are really important so that the children can enjoy learning outdoors. Wellies are also useful to have in school to keep on their pegs.



Thank you



Class Fund

Thank you for your voluntary 50p contributions to our class fund.

This helps to fund cooking activities, playdough ingredients, craft activities, and any extra treats. Please could you send this in an envelope labelled with 'class 1 fund'.

Thank you very much for your support.

How YOU can help!

Many parents ask what they can do at home to help reinforce the learning that takes place in school. The impact of reinforcing the skills developed in school at home is huge. The following list is just a small selection of ideas. As the children in Class 1 are young, we recommend keeping 'homework' sessions short, around 10 mins for Reception and 20 mins for Year 1. This means the children are able to concentrate well and have more enthusiasm and enjoyment for the tasks.

- Sharing school reading books (please can you record when you have read with your child in their reading record, thanks)
- Encouraging your child to dress and undress independently (this will help them when they have to get changed for PE)
- Talk with your child about current topics or learning.
- Support children in writing their full name.
- Help your child to complete any homework set for them.

Many Thanks for your continued support

The Class One Team