

CONFEDERATED SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER 25th November 2016

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Dear Parents,

This is our penultimate newsletter of 2016! We have an exciting countdown to Christmas in school over the final three weeks; starting with Christmas lunch, Beamish visit or Snuggle Day, two Nativities, a Christmas Fair and Party Disco all of which lead up to a magical Candlelit Carol Service. Details of the various activities will be available separately and we do hope that many parents and other family members or friends will come along to join us whenever you are able.

We are trying our best to keep you all informed of events, and any unavoidable cancellations, so please bear with us if things don't always go as planned.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs McDonald



The Advent Wreath is a traditional devotion, involving an evergreen wreath with four candles attached and a central candle for Christmas. One candle is lit on each Sunday of Advent and prayers are said.

Candle	Theme
1 st (27 th Nov)	Hope
2 nd (4 th Dec)	Peace
3 rd (11 th Dec)	Joy
4 th (18 th Dec)	Love
5 th (25 th Dec)	Jesus

The Bilsdale Silver Band has generously continued to support the teaching of Brass to a group of children in our schools this year. Mr Walter puts a great deal of enthusiasm and effort into teaching the children and he requests that they practice regularly at home. The group has been rehearsing together and will also be supported by Dr Paul Harris a member of the Bilsdale Band for the next two weeks.

In recognition of the free tuition some children are receiving, we hope that they will take part in the Bilsdale Silver Band Christmas Concert, which takes place on **Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7.30pm in Chop Gate Village Hall**. For some this is their first 'public' performance, the children who are playing and/or singing need to be at the Hall for 6.30. Please wear school uniform (white shirt and black/grey trousers), bring your song sheet and most importantly your instrument! The children are playing during the first half and may leave at the interval as it is a school night. A member of school staff will be attending however parents are responsible for the supervision of their child.

Everyone is most welcome to attend this lovely Christmas event raising money for the Silver Band.

Academic Year 2016/17

- 5th December** - Last swimming before Christmas break
 - 6th December** - Christmas Concert Bilsdale Silver Band at Chop Gate Village Hall*
 - 9th December** - Confederated Christmas Lunch at Carlton*
 - 12th December** - Christmas at Beamish*
 - 12th December** - Snuggle Day in Little Owls*
 - 12th - 23rd December** - Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Cross Church, Swainby donations to support charities
 - 13th December** - Flu vaccinations catch-up at Carlton
 - 14th December** - Carlton Nativity 2pm (we will confirm shortly if this is in school or St Botolph's Church)
 - 15th December** Bilsdale Nativity 2pm Chop Gate Village Hall
 - 15th December** - PFA Christmas Fair & Party Disco at Chop Gate Village Hall*
 - 16th December** - Confederated Day with Candlelit Carol Service in St Botolph's Church, Carlton at 2.30 followed by coffee in Carlton Village Hall everyone warmly welcome*
 - 19th - 30th December** - Christmas Holidays
 - 2nd January 2017** - Bank Holiday
 - 3rd January** - Staff training day
 - 4th January** - School reopens for Spring Term
 - 9th January** - Swimming and After School Clubs will restart this week, unless we have to notify any changes
 - 20th January** - Parent Workshop (Reading) 3.20 at Carlton
 - 20th - 24th February** - Half Term
 - 10th - 21st April** - Easter holidays
 - 24th April** - Staff training day
 - 25th April** - School reopens for Summer Term
 - 1st May** - May Day Bank Holiday
 - 4th May** - School Photographer at Carlton
 - 29th - 2nd June** - Half term
 - 21st July** - Last day of term
 - 24th & 25th July** - Staff training days
- *Information to follow separately**

Please remember there are **no afterschool clubs** in either school during the last week of term. We politely request that parents collect their children promptly at 3.20 so members of staff can prepare school for the following days' activities. Thank you.

Little Owls Preschool

If you are interested in a place for one of your children our sessions are as follows:

9.00am - 12.00 noon - Monday to Friday funded Pre-School

12.00 - 1.00pm Lunch Club which will cost £2.10 for 2-course lunch & £4.00 child care

1.00pm - 3.15pm - Tuesday to Thursday additional paid Childcare

All sessions are only available during school term time and not on Training Days.

Little Owls are enjoying their Cornerstones topic. When the older children go to Beamish we are holding a Snuggle Day. We will send invitations to all the children who may wear pyjamas and slippers to school and have hot chocolate, enjoy lots of stories and have great winter fun.

Our Christmas Party Day will be finalised shortly.

Mrs Hudson

Breakfast Club

There is a breakfast club available at Carlton School starting at 8.00am every day of the week. Each session costs £3.00 – please contact the school for further information or to make a booking.

Class 1

Where has the time gone? Children in Class 1 have been so busy with their learning since September that Christmas will soon be upon us! Since half term we have already been on a nature walk and made kites for the windy days! In the next few weeks we will be making weather charts and having a balloon flying competition which parents will be invited to – watch this space! Please remember active learn homework is given out every week to be completed by the following Monday. Thank you.

Mr Pickard

Bilsdale

The KS2 children are investigating and exploring the new Cornerstones topic 'Potions' and have enjoyed a variety of science investigations. They have made balloons inflate, chocolate, wax and ice hearts and found out about solids, liquids and gases. They are looking forward to making bath bombs and ice cream before the end of term. The KS1 children are very busy finding out about the weather and the seasons and have even had a snowy day. They have written poems, made zigzag books and thought about how to write instructions. Both classes are looking forward to the start of Advent next week and are very excited to be working on the annual nativity play.

Mrs Grundmann & Mrs Allison

Information Workshops for Parents.

We were pleased to see more parents able to attend the last parent workshop on spelling, which we hope you found useful. Following on from this, a booklet to support your children will be coming home soon. Our next workshop will again be led by Mrs Kilgallon with a focus on reading - Friday 20th January 3.20pm.

Sport The inter school sport events have come to an end for the Autumn term. Children have had a fantastic time representing the school in a range of sporting events including: cross-country, football and multiskills. I am very proud of how the children have represented the confederation in these events.

Congratulations to Adam Garbutt who represented the schools at the Thirsk Area Cross Country Finals recently, thank you to Adam's parents for taking him. Well done everyone.

Class 2

The children are greatly enjoying our 'Potions' topic, especially the linked work in English. 'Romeo and Juliet' has inspired our playwriting as children have created alternative endings.

Reading accounts of surgery without anaesthetic led to some emotive letter writing - the children learnt a great deal from Mr Franke who came in and shared his experience of working as an anaesthetist. Many thanks Mr Franke for giving us your time.

Miss Jeffries

Reception

The children have been working really hard to progress their reading skills recently and will now have regular reading books to enjoy at home. We have lots of exciting activities planned to look forward to relating to our current topic 'Where does snow go?'

Miss Sullivan

As Christmas approaches we are 'casting' and rehearsing our Christmas nativities at both schools. If your child has a speaking part, please will you support them with practice at home in learning their lines, they will have their script to help you.

We are currently sorting through our costumes and may need to request your help with some items please check your child's planner regularly for messages. Thank you.



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