



Ponteland Community Middle School

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Newsletter 5 – December 2017

'We take our vision from John 10:10 'that they have life and have it abundantly'

Dear Parents, Guardians, Grandparents and Families

Our last newsletter of 2017 and we are very excited about our last week of school and the forthcoming Christmas holidays!

We have our Yellow Slip assemblies for KS3 and KS2 children on Wednesday and Friday respectively. And in between on Thursday 21 December at 9.15am we have our Christmas concert to which parents and Trustees are invited. It will last approximately an hour and it promises to be an excellent event. We know the choir, ensemble, actors and musicians have practised lots and are looking forward to sharing the Christmas spirit with us all.

On Friday we have a £1 non-uniform day [bring out your Christmas jumpers!] and we close at 1.15pm. Children must have their diary signed by you giving them permission to leave school early. If not? They will stay with me until 3.30pm!!!

A huge THANK YOU to each child for contributing to their class' Changing Lives Reverse Advent Calendar. We have sent 21 boxes crammed with festive goodies for families living in the North East and we are proud to do this as together we can change lives and make a difference.

We had the most fantastic time at the Peter Pan Panto this week and huge thank you to you for parking safely and Bell's buses for taking us and bringing us back. It was like a military exercise and I am sure any regiment would have been proud of us. Certainly we have received lots of positive comments from the Theatre Royal and members of the community. We have booked tickets for next year already!



And to finally wish you and your delightful families a very Happy Christmas and a jolly New Year. Staff have a teacher training day on Monday 8 January and children return to school on Tuesday 9th January 2018!!

With kind regards
Caroline

Dr Caroline Pryer

Attendance percentages to date for each class– Target for school is 98%
Percentages taken 08.12.2017

5JH	5MG	5LC	5MB	5CW	6RP	6BN	6KS	6OT	6CE
97.8	97	97.9	98.5	97.4	97.1	98.1	95.4	95.9	97.6
7MP	7ABe	7CC	7TB	7CJ	8BF	8DR	8NM	8AP	8PC
98	97.7	97.2	97.3	97.5	96.9	94.8	96.8	96.1	96.4

'An outstanding school where pupils thrive'
Ofsted 2008 & 2013



Dates for your diary

Thursday 21 December—Christmas Concert—9.15 am
Friday 22 December—Non uniform for a £1 donation
School closes 1.15 pm

Sports News

Year 6 Boys Rugby

Congratulations to the Year 6 boys' rugby team who played their first ever school contact game on Wednesday. Against 3 teams from Kings, Mowden Hall and Bede Academy, the boys more than held their own, winning all three games, scoring 22 tries and conceding only 2 overall. Every pupil who played scored at least once. Can we also thank all pupils who have been coming to rugby training this year in all weathers to help push the standard up even further.

KS3 Volleyball

Congratulations to the KS3 volleyball teams who progressed to the finals of the School Games on Thursday to represent Castle Morpeth. Out of 20 games across 4 teams we won 18, drew 1 and lost one by one point. Both A teams won the girls' and boys' competitions.

U13 Cricket team

Well done to the boys' U13 Cricket team, who represented the area at the County indoor finals on Friday. The team played really well, making it all the way to the final. The Final was an incredible game, with PCMS losing with 2 balls to go to a very strong team from Hexham. The team were a pleasure to take.

Girls' Football

After some stand out performances for the girls' football team this year and impressive performances in her PE lessons, Sophia Mayers was chosen to represent PCMS in the Year 7 boys' football team. We played Excelsior, a school from the West End of Newcastle, and even though the result did not go our way it was a really close game. Mr Shields from Excelsior emailed Mr Bodley stating:

"The young girl you had playing was fantastic as well. Some of my lads commented before the game saying 'they couldn't believe there was a girl playing': Then by full time they were totally humbled. It was great to see them experience something like that and be able to change their opinions and stereotypes. We do a lot of work and that type of thing through the football team and it was nice to see a real life scenario unfold for them."

This was fantastic to hear that our school and individuals can make a positive impact on other schools and change these stereotypes which occur in sport. Sophia played superbly and was voted Player of the Match by the team. Mr Bodley has arranged a rematch with Excelsior and hopefully we can get a positive result. The rumours have starting to circulate whether Sophia will be chosen for the rematch.

Cross Country event

On Monday 60 children went to Ovingham to compete in the local XC events. As a school we performed excellently with fantastic team performances in all races. Standout efforts saw Abi Leiper win her race (beating Year 9 children!), Zara Naughton and Cameron Gardener winning Year 7 races, then Poppy Old and Sam Allison went on to win the KS2 races. Around 20 KS3 runners also qualified for the county championships! Amazing efforts!

Badminton

Great success for a few Ponteland Academy students in the Northumberland County u13 badminton tournament held last weekend. Lucy Dodd in 6RP won the girls singles, girls doubles and mixed doubles. James Hewson and Luke Donnelly won the boys doubles and James was runner up in the boys singles. A great achievement by all.



Book donations

A big thank you to everybody who donated books to Year 5. We have received a great variety of fiction and non-fiction books and it has been lovely to see the children sharing their enthusiasm for titles as different as "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" and the "Adventures of Captain Underpants". Further donations are very welcome, as reading widely is essential for children's success in English.

Peace Poster Finalists



1st Prize Suzannah Shanks –8PC



2nd Sophie King 8DR



4th Mercan Senabaklavaki
7JW



3rd Gabriella Turnbull 8DR