



# Ponteland Community Middle School

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## Newsletter 6 – December 2018

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

Dear Parents

We are so excited about Christmas and looking forward too, to the end of term. Friday is a £1 non uniform, Christmas jumper day which is always a lovely sight. In order for each child to leave early at 1.15 on Friday their parent must sign the permission section in their diary. We cannot release children unless we have your written permission. Thank you.

We congratulate the performers for a wonderful Celebration of Christmas and extend huge thanks to Ms Fairweather, Mr Marshall, Miss Calcutt, Mrs Cafferty, Miss Thurrell, Mrs Garner, Mrs James and the HLTA/TA team of pop up party decorators for a very entertaining and special service. We shall have some photographs and footage on Facebook.

We say a very fond farewell to precious colleagues at the end of this week. Helen Smith, much loved HLTA, Friends Treasurer and EVC co-coordinator retires; Kate Robson our Thrive Mental Health First Aider and HLTA who moves to special school Talbot House; Mrs Calcutt who moves to Cleaswell Hill special school; Mrs Summers who moves to part time at Whickham School; and Miss Percival who moves to Norham High. We wish our friends well and know we shall keep in touch. These staff have made huge contributions to PCMS and with their help over the last few weeks we have arranged for Emma Moscrop, Ruth Langstaff and Charlotte Embleton to join the SEND/HLTA team; and Mr Storey, Mr Stephenson and Mrs Olbrecht to pick up KS3 English and Art teaching commitments. Mrs Nixon will lead the KS3 English department from January. We are up to full teaching capacity for our return on Monday 7 January 2019.

Thank you to the children who supported the Royal British Legion poppy appeal and raised £235.09 to help RBL continue their vital welfare and benevolent work.

We have a vacancy for a Parent Trustee and say a huge thank you to Giles Eyre Tanner for his time, wisdom and energy as Trustee. The closing date is Tuesday 15 January. The papers were sent out as Parentmail, 10.24am on Tuesday 18 December; and is also on the website [ [www.ponteland.academy](http://www.ponteland.academy) ].

Starting Thursday 20 December we are consulting formally on two things for the school's future. We are interested in hearing your views on PCMS becoming a primary school and also in changing the number of children we would have in each year group i.e. from 150 to perhaps 60 or 90 children in each year group. Consultation papers are available on the website, hard copy in school and through Parentmail. There are two closing dates as each question attracts different consultation times – one is four weeks and the other six weeks. The stakeholder meeting is Monday 14 January and we look forward to meeting with you then, if not before.

We are very sad to hear of the passing of former Governor, Mrs Irene Brumwell. We have many precious memories of Irene. She appointed so many staff; she attended so many meetings, celebrations and festivities; she is part of our legacy.

As we close for the Christmas holidays, on behalf of all the teachers, HLTA/TA team, clerical, cleaners, catering and caretaking teams we wish you all a very happy holiday full of joy, laughter, happy times with your friends and families.

Kind Regards

Caroline Pryer

Attendance percentages to date for each class– Target for school is 98%  
Percentages taken 14 December 2018

Total	5JH	5MG	5MB	5CW	6KS	6OT	6LC	6DB	6VR
95.6	95.2	96	95.2	99.1	97.5	96.3	100	97	96.5
7MP	7TB	7MW	7EP	7BN	8BF	8DR	8NM	8PC	8CC
93.3	95	96	89	90.3	99.4	96.1	95.5	95.8	94.5

## Sports News

### Dodgeball

After a years training since their defeat against St Cuthbert's, our Dodgeball team managed to revenge with a 7-2 win at St Cuthbert's last Wednesday. Phenomenal performance by every member of both teams.



### Indoor athletics

Congratulations to the schools indoor athletics teams who competed in the Castle Morpeth area competition on Thursday. All pupils performed really well as part of a team. The Year 8 girls, Year 8 boys and Year 5/6 girls and boys all came out winners. The Year 7 girls were second and the Year 7 boys third.

### Volleyball

Well done to the Year 8 Volleyball teams who competed in the School games last week. The teams won 13 out of 16 games with the boys finishing runners up and the girls winners and progressing to the finals.

### Indoor Cricket

Congratulations to the u13 boys indoor cricket team who, after winning the area round, played in the County finals on Thursday and finished with a bronze medal.

### Rugby

Well done to the girls in Yr7/8 who participated in the contact Rugby tournament at Kingston park. The girls only conceded 1 try in 4 games! Winning 4 out 4 competitive fixtures.

Mr Bodley has been so impressed with the Year 8 rugby this year. He has seen many new faces at training which is exciting for the school. The team played 5 games in the County final, winning, drawing 1 and losing 2. Mr Bodley was especially impressed with the teamwork and determination of the lads. A special thank you to Mr Errington for his expertise in Rugby and providing a great opportunity with Ponteland Rugby Club where some of the Year 8 are now playing for.



## Music Alliance Concert at Sage

The Learning Alliance Concert on Monday was a huge success. Our schools contribution helped to make the event a success. We would like to thank Ms Fairweather for her support in preparing pupils for the day. The wind band and Orchestra sounded amazing and your pupils enjoyed the event and would like to be involved in this event in the future.



## KS2 Writing Competition

We celebrate the following winners in the KS2 Writing Competition. There were 53 KS2 independent entries overall which was fantastic. The children will hear of their success in Friday's Yellow Slip assembly where they will each receive a book: Chloe McCaldin Y5, 6VR-Freya Thompson, 6VR- Alea Ollerenshaw-Stewart, 6KS Anna Davey and 6DBSophia Murray.

## History Shields

Mr Bodley has been very impressed once again for the quality and creativity of the History Shields which have been created for the Battle of Hastings re-enactment during the lessons. The opportunity for the pupils to act out the battle has certainly helped in their end of term topic assessment.



## Uniform reminder

### Extreme Haircuts

One or two boys have had their hair cut too short recently. Please ensure that when your child goes to the barbers, they do not have their hair cut below a grade 2, as we state in page 13/14 of Pupil diaries.

**Non uniform tomorrow** in return for a £1 contribution for Friends of PCMS.

