



Windermere Primary School

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NEWSLETTER 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to tell you that we raised a tremendous **£248** for Children In Need and **£375** for ShelterBox. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by those two organisations and the people they benefit.

Attendance

As the season of sneezes and sniffles is almost upon us, I should remind you that your child needs to bring tissues with them into school. Most illnesses do not require time off from school.

As a guideline:

- Coughs and colds – send them to school with a hankie
- 'Don't feel like it' – send them to school
- 'I don't feel well/my tummy hurts' (without temperature or other symptoms) – send them to school
- Headlice – send them to school once treated
- Sickness and diarrhoea - **stay at home for 48 hours (2 days)**

Remember that whilst 90% attendance sounds good, it is the same as nearly 4 weeks off school each year!

Annual attendance of 95% sounds great, BUT it is the same as a term off your child's primary school education.

Rest assured, if we think your child is not well enough to be at school, we will contact you. Often children, who appear to be at death's door before school, brighten up considerably once here and by playtime stage a miraculous recovery.

If your child is absent from school, the school must be contacted by 9.30am on the first day of absence. Then when they return to school they must bring a note explaining their absence in writing.



Parent Consultations

Next week we will be holding parent consultation meetings after school. You will receive your appointment by Friday this week. If you are unable to attend, please let the class teacher know so that it can be rearranged. Meeting with your child's teacher, gives your child a very clear message that you value their education and gives you an opportunity to understand their achievements and concerns.

Playground Upgrade

We have upgraded the KS1 playground by removing the old bark chippings from beneath the apparatus and installing rubberised mulch. We have also installed a play lodge and soft surfacing, hopefully reducing the number of puddles in the playground. All that remains is for us to train the children to access the play areas via the paths rather than the muddy grass.

On a similar note, for health and safety reasons children and their siblings should not be playing on the equipment after school.

Open Mornings

We have held our prospective parents' open mornings. The Year 6 children showed parents around and were complimented on their good manners, enthusiasm and confidence. Initial feedback indicates that people beyond our own school community are also beginning to recognise the wonders of Windermere.

Christmas Fair

A reminder that the Christmas Fair will be held on **Saturday 7th December** between 2pm and 4pm. Helpers are very welcome – there will be a meeting on Friday, 22nd November at 2.30pm to finalise arrangements, so if you are able to help out at the fair please let the PTA know.

VISTA

Vista is an organisation with which we work closely. They offer support services for children and their families. Accompanying this newsletter is a copy of their newsletter for your information.

Lunch Boxes

It is important that our children develop healthy lifestyles from an early age. For this reason we ask that you provide your child with a healthy and balanced packed lunch if that is their lunch option. We do not allow sweets (this includes Twix and other chocolate bars even if they do have a biscuity bit inside) and fizzy drinks at all. Please encourage your children to eat a range of foods, not just crisps and yoghurt.

Diary Dates

The parental attendance for Year 6's assembly was rather disappointing, so in case any of you have lost your copy of the school calendar (available on the website), we are sending home a list of the key dates for this term.

Mrs D Raftery
Headteacher

Diary Dates for Autumn 2013

Thursday 21st November	9.05 am	Year 5 Sharing Assembly
Friday 22nd November	9.05 am	Year 4 Sharing Assembly
Tuesday 26 th November	3.40 pm – 6.00 pm	Parents Consultation Evening
Thursday 28 th November	9.05 am	Year 3 Sharing Assembly
Thursday 28 th November	6.00 pm – 8.30 pm	Parents Consultation Evening
Friday 29 th November	9.05 am	Year 2 Sharing Assembly Non-uniform day (Christmas Fair gifts)
Wednesday 4 th December	9.05 am	Year 1 Sharing Assembly
Friday 6 th December	9.05 am	Year R Sharing Assembly
Saturday 7 th December	2pm – 4pm	Christmas Fair
Monday 16 th December	1.45 pm	Afternoon performance of Christmas Play
Tuesday 17 th December		Christmas Dinner for the pupils
Wednesday 18 th December	6.30 pm	Evening performance of Christmas Play
Friday 20 th December	9.05 am 2.00 pm	Certificate Assembly School finishes for Christmas break
Tuesday 7 th January 2014		School re-opens to pupils