

NEWSLETTER

POLLINGTON-BALNE CE PRIMARY

AUTUMN/ NOVEMBER 2011

Volunteer Day



We will be exploring the issue of 'volunteering' on Monday 28th November. Children will be asked by their teachers to carry out a volunteering task, for homework, during that week. We ask for your support with this, and record their activity, so they can receive their certificate on Friday 9th December.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

I have considered your feedback regarding the school photos, and have therefore arranged for 'Tempest' to come into school and take individual photos on Monday 28th November. Children will bring their proof home on the same day, and parents will need to send in their orders by the end of next week. I appreciate that many of you may already have ordered photos, and apologise for any upset or inconvenience, however, I do appreciate that many parents who did not order photos would still like one from this year, and would like the opportunity to be able to give these as gifts for Christmas. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Children in Need - Friday 18th November

Thank you for supporting this annual charity event, and for helping us raise a grand total of £100! AS well as the children having a thoroughly enjoyable day, they showed their empathy for those children in the U.K. who are less fortunate than themselves!



SAFEGURADING

Please can I remind parents that we do not allow children to wait by themselves at the parents' car park, at the end of the school day. We will ask them to return into school, and parents will then need to collect them from the front entrance.

Some families are regularly making last minute changes to their child's hometime arrangements. This can be very confusing for children, and difficult for staff to keep track of. Understandably, this is sometimes unavoidable, but we would like to request that you try and maintain consistent arrangements to prevent potential safeguarding problems. Thank you!

Doors Open

To allow children the opportunity to settle more quickly into their school day, pupils will be allowed into their classrooms from 8:50. There will still be outdoor supervision for those wanting to play outside until the bell rings at 9:00.

PANTOMIME TRIP

We will be upholding the Pollington tradition of kick-starting next year with a Pantomime trip. This will take place on Thursday 5th January (first day back after the Christmas holiday). As we are still awaiting the cost of the coaches, you will receive a letter next week with more details about the cost of the trip.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS		
CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3
Tuesday 13th December 9:30 Nativity		
Tuesday 13th December HSA Disco	Tuesday 13th December HSA Disco	Tuesday 13th December HSA Disco
Wednesday 14th December 2:00 Nativity		
Wednesday 14th December 2:30 Christmas Craft Fayre All Family Members Welcome	Wednesday 14th December 2:30 Christmas Craft Fayre All Family Members Welcome	Wednesday 14th December 2:30 Christmas Craft Fayre All Family Members Welcome
Thursday 15th December Victorian Christmas Children to come to school in pyjamas	Thursday 15th December Victorian Christmas Children to come to school in pyjamas	Thursday 15th December Victorian Christmas Children to come to school in pyjamas
Tuesday 20th December 2:15 Mulled wine and mince pies in school hall 2:45 Carol Service in Church	Tuesday 20th December 2:15 Mulled wine and mince pies in school hall 2:45 Carol Service in Church	Tuesday 20th December 2:15 Mulled wine and mince pies in school hall 2:45 Carol Service in Church
Tuesday 20th December School Christmas dinner	Tuesday 20th December School Christmas dinner	Tuesday 20th December School Christmas dinner
Thursday 5th January Children back to school Pantomime Trip	Thursday 5th January Children back to school Pantomime Trip	Thursday 5th January Children back to school Pantomime Trip

Prayer of the Week

by Class 3

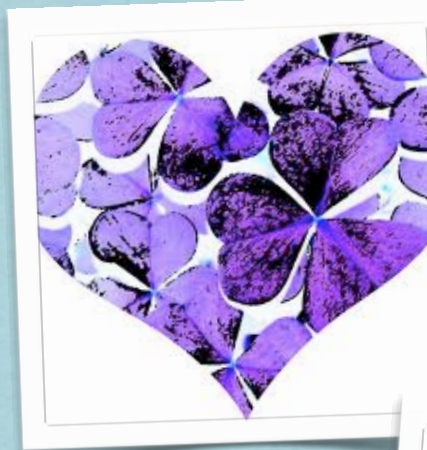
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Dear God

Thank you for our lives and families. Thank you for the scientists and people who work to make people better. Sorry for the wars and the fighting. Please help Lydia and her family, and people with cancer, get better.

Amen

HOPE BALL



Please put Saturday 10th March into your diaries. We will be holding a black tie charity event, to raise money to help make Lydia's dreams come true, during the evening, which will also include an auction, and a variety of other activities.

More details will follow in the new year, when tickets will also become available for purchase. In the meantime, if you know of anybody, or any organisation who might be interested in making a donation of an item to be auctioned, or a financial donation, please see Mrs McNeill.



MATHS SETS

You will undoubtedly be aware that we have been 'setting' for maths for the last few months, to allow children to be grouped with those working at a similar level of ability. This worked extremely well while we had 4 classes, and therefore 4 sets. However, as we have only 3 classes this year, the spread of ability in each 'set' is still quite broad, and there is therefore little benefit to be gained by 'setting'. After lengthy discussions, staff feel that children will benefit more from not having to move from class to class, and the flexibility that not having to do maths all at the same time, will provide. I have therefore decided that, while we have 3 classes, we will no longer set for maths. This will come into effect from 5th December. However, I would like to reassure parents that teachers are fully aware of where each individual child is expected to be in terms of their levels of attainment and progress, and we will continue to have high expectations, and ensure that each child fulfills their potential!