

NEWSLETTER

Furness Vale Primary School

Friends Proudly Working Together to Achieve Our Best

I can't believe I've been here a year already; time certainly does fly. It's been an incredibly busy year. Many events have run the same as last year, such as the Easter Egg Race and some things are new, e.g. the Golden Mile. Whatever we do, our ultimate aim is to provide the children with an excellent education in an environment where they are safe and happy. Look out for more changes next year. In the meantime, thank you for all the support you've given this year to the children, staff and myself and I wish every one of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Our next priority...

Our main priority next term is reading. There is an undeniable link between children who read regularly and success in reading. Children of every age are expected to read at home every day. Reading practice is essential if children are to become competent and accomplished readers. To support reading, we'll be having reading challenges next term – we want to encourage children to read every day. Make sure you sign your child's reading diary – we'll be looking through them when we return. We'll also be handing out awards for the most improved reader in each year group at the end of the half term. If you have any spare time and would like to listen to children read in school, just let us know. It's World Book Day on March 1st and we're already making plans for a fun day where we celebrate reading!

January

8th Return to school
9th KS2 Parent's SATs Meeting 3:30
10th Playground leader training – Y5
15th Little Learners After School Club
16th Tuesday – SATs Club
18th Thursday – no SATs Club
20th Paper Caper
22nd Little Learners After School Club
23rd Tuesday – SATs Club
25th Thursday – no SATs Club
26th Afternoon Tea – parents welcome
29th Little Learners After School Club

February

1st Astronomy Evening - NMHS
5th Little Learners After School Club
12th Little Learners After School Club
12th Whole School Learning about time
16th Open Afternoon – games, puzzles and activities on time.
16th Close for half term
26th School re-opens
26th Little Learners After School Club

March

1st World Book Day
3rd Paper Caper
5th Little Learners After School Club
12th Little Learners After School Club
13th Governors Sub-Committee Meetings
20th Full Governing Board Meeting
21st Year 5 Bonding Day (New Mills)
22nd Thursday – School closes
23rd Inset Day – School Closed

April

9th School re-opens

Dates for 2018

NURSERY Information?

We now have 2 new banners to display. Massive thanks to Toni Kania for arranging the production of these – it's very much appreciated. 1 poster will be displayed outside school; the other will be on the roundabout at Tesco.

If you know anyone who is about to turn 3 or who is starting school next September, please ask them to get in touch with us so we can show them round.

A qualified teacher and an expert team of teaching assistants run our Nursery.

Please share this information

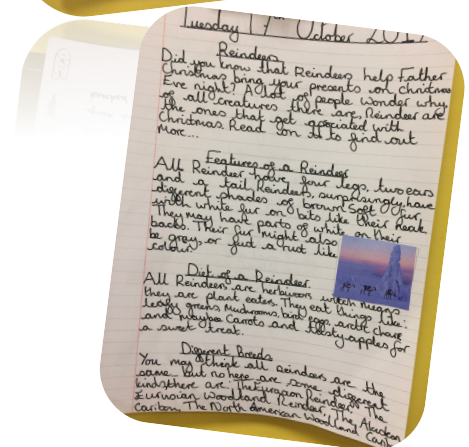
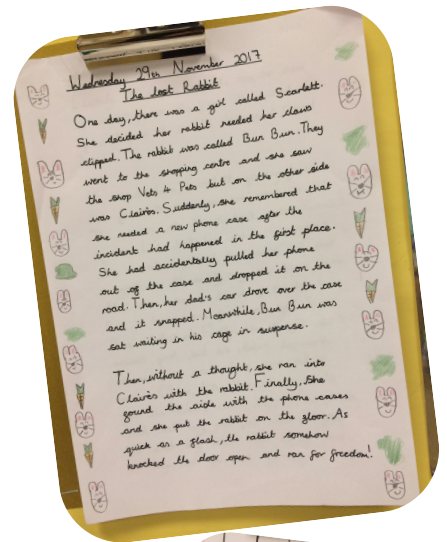


Talk for Writing

Talk for writing is a different way of teaching writing. It starts with the children learning a model text – they do actually learn it word for word and they use pictures and actions to help them remember it.

They then investigate the features of the text before writing their own versions in a similar style. The whole process takes about 2 to 3 weeks. Before they start each style of writing (newspaper, story, etc.) they write a Cold Task and at the end they write a Hot Task – these should show progress and demonstrate how much the children have developed their writing skills during that time. Sometimes we'll start with a whole school theme – this is called the Hook for Learning. The final piece of writing will be written up and displayed in the classrooms on the Best Writing Walls.

To Share our learning we'd like to invite you all to come and have Afternoon Tea with us on Friday 26th January 2018. You'll be able to see your child's work and have some tea, sandwiches and cakes with your children. We'll send out more details nearer the time.



Parent's, Teacher's, Friend's Association

PTFA News

The new iPads are now in school – thank you everyone!

The Meet and Greet Santa and discos were very popular and the children had a really good time. Father Christmas took time out of his busy schedule and to kindly give all the children a present and have a photo taken with them –

Thank You Father Christmas!

Paper Caper Dates for next year:

20th Jan, 3rd March, 12th May, 7th July, 15th Sept, 10th Nov

Next term, we'll be raising money for books and shelving. It would be amazing if the children could have access to even more great literature and we'd like to get them a wider range of Guide Reading books.

World Book Day is March 1st – we have booked an author to come and spend time with the children.

Staffing

Mrs Portman has had her gorgeous baby boy and would have been to return to the school around July. However, in the meantime, the Special Needs department in Derbyshire has employed her. Whilst she will be sadly missed at Furness Vale, this is an excellent opportunity for her, and we wish her every success. Good luck, Mrs Portman!

Mrs Cole is returning in January after having her baby girl in March. We look forward to welcoming her back on board. She'll be working part time, 4 mornings a week, with the year 5s. Mrs Guy will have the year 6s during these times so they receive extra support as they prepare for their SATs.

What's New?

Boxing for Fitness

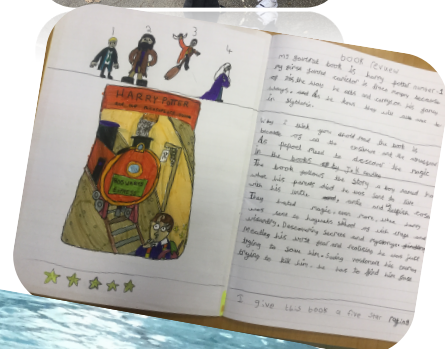
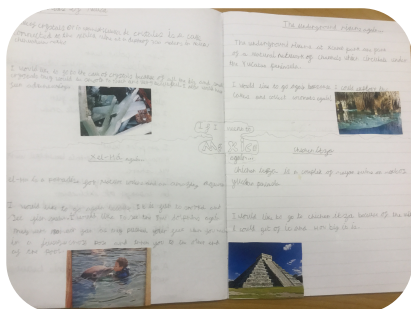
This was another huge success with the children. They were very excited about the boxing and wholeheartedly took part. Scott put music on during the lesson so they couldn't hear the noise from the road and get distracted – genius! We can have boxing as an after school club but haven't been able to book him in during school time.



Brain Builder Home Learning

We have seen some amazing homework and had positive feedback from parents, too. Children have spent quality time learning with their parents and they've created some incredible pieces of work.

The pictures just give a few examples of what we've seen this term.



Swimming Gala

We were very brave and did our own swimming gala at Buxton Swimming Baths. The children were fantastic – they gave it everything they had and really supported one another. We'll be doing another one at Easter and might even invite another school so we have even more competition.



Messy Monsters

Starting on Friday 12th January, we'll be running a Messy Monsters Group. It will be open to mums and care givers of pre-school age children. Come and join us on a Friday afternoon at 1:30 for a mix of messy play, music and movement, storytelling, arts, crafts and more... Join us in a warm, welcoming environment where children can experience a range of messy fun and where you can make friends and chat with others. Our price is £1.50 per family and includes a snack and juice for the children and refreshments for the adults. You're all welcome!



Rugby lessons

Our prices are as follows:

Breakfast Club:

From 7:45 to 8:45 = £2.75

From 8am to 8:45 = £2.25

After School Club:

Up to 4pm = £2.75

Up to 4:30pm = £3.75

Up to 5pm = £4.75

Up to 5:30pm = £6.25

Both clubs are very well organised.

They offer a range of activities including: games, construction, colouring, drawing and toys. Outdoor play is sometimes available – weather permitting. All staff have DBS checks and are also part of the school team.

Nathan and his team from RuggerEds have been teaching the children how to play tag rugby for the last 6 weeks. They've learnt loads of new skills and had a fab time!

Breakfast and After School

Breakfast Club: Cereal, juice and milk are always on offer and crumpets or toast (with jam) are offered twice a week. There are many quiet activities to join in along with games, construction and toys.

After School Club: Snacks and drinks always offered with a wide range of activities to do. The children also go outdoors – weather permitting.

We ask for a minimum of 24 hours notice to ensure we have adequate staff for our ratios. Please let Tracey or Mrs Daniels know ASAP if your child no longer requires a space.



Stockley Farm

The children had the most amazing day at Stockley Farm.

They fed the animals, met Father Christmas, had loads of activities to do and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



All the staff and children would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!