

# NEWSLETTER

## Furness Vale Primary School

*Friends Proudly Working Together to Achieve Our Best*

Christmas is almost upon us again, it's always an exceptionally busy time of year. This year, we have a huge Christmas tree – it looks fabulous! The decorations and lights you donated have been very gratefully received.

Next term, we are, hopefully, introducing a new curriculum. It should be very exciting for the children. We will still teach maths and English separately some of the time, but the children will have Top Secret Missions to complete alongside their other learning. Our training day is on February 14<sup>th</sup>, so we'll give you more details after that.

Along with this newsletter, is the online safety leaflet '12 Days of Online Safety', from Traci Good. Traci lived in Furness Vale for many years and is the font of all knowledge when it comes to online safety.

We had two areas in school that were full of 'stuff', all different kinds of stuff!! These spaces have both been cleared out and are now teaching spaces for the children. We are also in the process of clearing the hall – it is a game of Tetris – you have to move one item before the rest can be moved, and we're almost at the stage of having all the shelving cleared and books relocated.

The next step is to buy a new stage (slightly higher and definitely wider), an additional set of lights (so the two sets can be positioned from either side away from the children's eyes), a sound/music system and roving speakers. The children and staff work incredibly hard to put productions and assemblies together and we're incredibly proud of what they do, so let's make it better for everyone. In the new year, we'll send out more information and get started with fund raising.

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Dates for 2020

#### January

6 <sup>th</sup>	School reopens
6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs club starts – every Monday
6 <sup>th</sup>	Little Learners after school club – every Monday
7 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 swimming starts – every Tuesday
10 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 White Hall
10 <sup>th</sup>	Parents in Classes C and D Open afternoon at 2:30pm.
14 <sup>th</sup>	High Peak Kids Council meeting
16 <sup>th</sup>	Reception vision testing
17 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 White Hall
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Classes A and C Fire Safety Talk
31 <sup>st</sup>	Y3/4 White Hall

#### February

14 <sup>th</sup>	School closed Inset Day
17 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term
24 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens
25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 debate at St Luke's in Glossop
28 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 White Hall

#### March

3 <sup>rd</sup>	High Peak Kids Council meeting
4 <sup>th</sup>	Governors sub-committee meetings
6 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 White Hall
6 <sup>th</sup>	Class D assembly
13 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 White Hall
20 <sup>th</sup>	Class C assembly
26 <sup>th</sup>	Y3/4 Show – 2pm and 6pm

#### April

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Finish for Easter
20 <sup>th</sup>	School reopens

## Governors

We are very fortunate that 3 parents have stepped forward to be governors. Caroline Mole and Sam Atkins have already joined us, and another parent will potentially be joining us in January. The governors are the backbone of the school and work very hard on our behalf. It's a privilege to work with such dedicated volunteers.



## Drumming

Class B have been doing Djembe drumming this term. They did their showcase last week and were fantastic. In January, they'll start learning the samba drums – another activity that gives rhythm and pulse to the school. The children love participating and, for many, it's something to really look forward to. The benefits of drumming are huge. In short, it helps to: reduce tension anxiety and stress; boost the immune system and release negative feelings, blockages and emotional trauma.

Sophie Sully teaches string instruments on Friday afternoon, if you'd like your child to learn to play a string instrument please let us know and we'll put you in touch with her.

## Sport

Marc from Synergy is having a short break from us and will be back in the summer to do more fitness. He's been amazing and I know the children have enjoyed the sessions he's done. In January, Becki will be joining us. She is a professional singer and dancer and she's going to be teaching dance to classes B and D on Thursdays. Becki will be doing a lunch time activity on Thursdays and we'll let the children know what it is during the first week back. Mr Best will still be in on Fridays and he'll be teaching classes A and C. He will continue to do the lacrosse after school club for Y2 and KS2 – just ask Mrs Daniels if you're interested in playing after school on Fridays. Little Learners will still be in on Mondays working with classes C and D – the after-school club will run as always, each Monday.

## STEM at White Hall

So far, we have completed two of the three days – on the first day the White Hall staff came to school for the day and the children did exciting activities relating directly to science, technology, engineering and maths. The day culminated with children experimenting with rockets and rocket launchers outside. The second day was at White Hall. It started with a gingerbread orienteering challenge (including plenty of maths) and finished with a timed experiment on the zip wire. **The PTFA has contributed £750 towards the cost of the 3 days, their fundraising and your willingness to contribute means the children are getting extra activities to do – thank you to**



## Events

8 of our older children took part in a football competition arranged by Stockport County. They played their little hearts out and managed to score some goals – we might not have won the competition, but they showed great team spirit and impressive individual skills. At a quick stop for refreshments on the way back, the children's excellent behaviour was commented on by members of the public – well done, to all participants!

The choir and handbells group have been very active visiting Lyme Hall and an old people's home in Marple. They also showed their talent at the Christmas tree light switch on outside the Soldier Dick and they'll be playing tonight at Tesco, please come along and support us.

**Your hard work and talent really shine when you play – well done, everyone.**







Breakfast and after-school clubs are run daily with extended school provision from 7:45am to 5:30pm. Breakfast Club starts at 7:45. The children have cereals, toast and drinks and a range of activities to do. After-school club also has snacks and drinks and has different creative activities to make part in – making ornaments, jewellery, pizzas, dens, etc. If you would like to book a place, simply call the school or let Mrs Daniels know.

Staffing – Tracey Regan and Tracy Jennings run the Breakfast Club together whilst Toni Kania and Kayleigh Gill run the After-School club on different evenings. **PLEASE NOTE THE SMALL CHANGE IN PRICES, THEY WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> 2020.**

Price from September 3<sup>rd</sup> will be:

Breakfast Club:	7:45 onwards	£3:20
	8:00 onwards	£2:70
After-school club:	3:20 to 4:00	£3.20
	3:20 to 4:30	£4.20
	3:20 to 5:00	£5:20
	3:20 to 5:30	£6:90

## Breakfast and After School Clubs