

**Mowbray Primary School**  
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**Northumberland**  
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**Mr Andrew Miller**  
**Headteacher**

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AM/LH

6 November 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to school after half term. I am pleased to say that it has been a settled week with the children working hard in classes.

#### Parent's Evenings

I would like to thank everyone that attended parent's evenings before the half term break. I know from talking to many of you that these provided useful information on your child's attainment and progress.

If you didn't manage to attend parent's evenings and wish to still see your child's teacher, please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment.

In addition, if you have any suggestions on how we can improve your parent's evening experience, please do not hesitate to contact me with your suggestions.

#### Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child has been running for several weeks now and boxes are beginning to arrive in school. As a reminder, if you are still planning on creating a box, the deadline is growing closer. Completed boxes need to be in school for Friday 20 November.

#### Children in Need

As you are no doubt aware, Children in Need is next Friday (13 November). Once again we will be supporting this worthwhile charity. The theme this year is "Be a Hero" so we are inviting children to come to school next Friday dressed as their hero. Alternatively, they may just come in non-uniform or, as in previous years, they could come in something spotty.

A donation of £1 per family is suggested, with all money going to Children in Need.

We will also be holding a Pudsey Bear colouring competition. Children will receive an outline of Pudsey for them to colour/decorate as they wish. Entries should be brought to school on Children in Need day.

#### Car Parking

Over the past few weeks I have received several complaints about car parking: particularly close to the Sycamore Centre, Sherbourne Villas and Sherbourne Park. In some cases, access to property has been blocked and in one case a Fire Engine was blocked due to parked cars at home time.

I appreciate that car parking is an issue. However, please be aware of your surroundings when parking. I will continue to work with the County Council to explore solutions to the car parking.

In addition, I have been notified by the Council that they are introducing a Parking Enforcement Vehicle. The vehicle will monitor parking outside schools via camera. Vehicles parked in contravention to regulations may be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice. More information on the vehicle is available on their website [www.parking.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.parking.northumberland.gov.uk) or via email [parkingservices@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:parkingservices@northumberland.gov.uk)

I have also posted the briefing notice we received onto our website.

#### School Website

The redesign of the school website is almost complete – with most information now live on it. School policies and procedures, newsletters, curriculum and standards information are all available there. In response to the parental questionnaire last half term, a school Twitter feed will soon be available to increase communication channels from school to home.

#### Money

If sending money into school (eg lunches, donations for visits etc) please ensure it is in a sealed envelope with the child's name, class, amount of money and purpose (eg dinner money) clearly written on the outside.

If you are dropping money off at the office, we now have a set of 'quick drop' lockers in the foyer area so that you do not need to queue to hand money or permission slips etc in at the hatch.

**Please find attached diary dates for the rest of the school year. Any additions or amendments we will endeavour to notify parents as soon as possible.**

#### Thank you

I would like to thank everyone for their co-operation over the first half term. There have been several changes to procedures and systems in school, in particular relating to safeguarding protocols. These changes, I realise, have impacted on some families' daily routines and I appreciate that this may have caused some difficulties. I assure everyone, that all decisions made have the children and their wellbeing at the centre of them.

If you have concerns though I would urge you to consider how those concerns are expressed. School will always listen to concerns and seek to address them. If you are initially unhappy with a response, please request an appointment to speak to myself or Mrs Atkinson our School Business Manager. What will not be tolerated is abusive, threatening or violent behaviour towards staff or any other person. Everyone has the right to feel safe either working at, visiting or attending Mowbray Primary School.

Anyone being abusive, threatening or violent will be asked to leave the site and further action may be taken.

**Mr A Miller  
Headteacher**

**Please note for KS2 starting at 4.30pm - PLEASE ENTER AND PICK UP AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE AT THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL FOR THE MONSTERS BALL**