

## Happy Friday!

This week in assembly, the countdown to Christmas really started! The **Book of the Week** was the **Home Alone Illustrated Story** which you can see by following this [link](#). At its heart, **Home Alone** is a story about the value of family and not taking one another for granted. Kevin certainly exhibits some of our core values - especially **resilience** (though I am not sure how **respectful** he is - especially in the films!). A reminder that, on the last day of term (**Friday 19th December**), parents/carers are welcome to collect their children at the slightly earlier time of **13:30** if they wish. Also, **Out of School Club** will be open but only until **16:15**. I hope you all enjoy the weekend. Mr Routledge



## Yamaha Music

Our pupils enjoyed two **fantastic musical experiences** this week with **Yamaha Music School**. Mrs Cragg, Mrs Wharton and a group of **Year 6** children visited the school to **watch guitar and bass performances**, while **Year 5** spent a wonderful morning at **Christ Church in North Shields** listening to an impressive **percussion concert**. In both cases, the children were a credit to the school - listening **respectfully**, showing excellent **manners** and (hopefully!) finding inspiration to take up a **musical instrument** themselves.



## Tiny Tasters

Our **Tiny Tasters** cooking workshops this term were a **huge success**! A big thank you to all the families who joined us during the **three sessions** we held. The children showed excellent **culinary** skills - from careful **chopping** and confident **mixing** to exploring **new** and **exciting** flavours. It was fantastic to see so many young chefs eager to **taste**, **experiment** and **learn**. We hope that **Lyndsay's passion** and **expertise** in the kitchen have inspired an interest in **healthy eating** and **cookery**. Please keep an eye out for the next set of **Tiny Tasters** sessions in the **new year**!



## School Uniform

A reminder that our **school uniform**, including for PE, is a **royal blue jumper** or **hooded top**. I have recently noticed some children in school wearing a **black jumper**. I appreciate that it can be a challenging time of year financially so if you're struggling for uniform, the **Hope Centre** at **Manor Walks** keeps a supply of **pre-loved uniform** in **good condition**. You can also always contact school and we will support you wherever we can.



## TTRS

Well done, **Year Four**. We have given our first times **tables medals** for supersonic speed **recall** of facts. **Mrs Mort** fired multiplication questions and the responses were **instant**. The **progress** this year has been **fantastic**. The class as a whole has improved from an **average score** of **11 out of 25** in September to around **17 out of 25** this week. The aim is that



by the end of **Year Four**, children can answer **25 out of 25** mixed multiplication questions correctly. Please ensure that your child is the only person who accesses any of the games on TTRS as it can skew the data that we are provided with. Keep your **eyes peeled** for more superstars in the coming weeks.

## Christmas Fayres/Coffee Afternoon

It was lovely to see so many of you come along to our **Christmas Fayres** this week. It was fantastic to share some **festive cheer** together - especially as we break up for the festive period in just **two weeks**! Your **support** and **enthusiasm** help make these events feel really **special**. A particular thank you goes to **Miss Wilkinson** for her **hard work** and **dedication** to our school's **fundraising initiatives** and to all parents/carers for your **generous contributions**. In total, you helped us to raise **£1280.96** for school funds which is a brilliant achievement. We are truly grateful for your continued support.

## Christmas Dates

We have lots to look forward to **next week**. Here is a reminder of the key dates. Unfortunately, the planned **Holly and Ivy** performance has been cancelled but we have lined something else up to look forward to! We will be serving **biscuits** and **soft drinks** at the performances. There will be a **donation box** on the counter should you wish to contribute.

Monday 8th December 2:15 - 3:00pm - **Early Years** and **Key Stage One** Performance

Tuesday 9th December 09:15 - 10:00am - **Early Years** and **Key Stage One** Performance

Wednesday 10th December - **Christmas Jumper Day** and **Christmas Dinner** (Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes)

Thursday 11th December 09:15 - 10:00am - **Key Stage Two** Performance

Friday 12th December 2:15 - 3:00pm - **Key Stage Two** Performance

## Sporting Success

I was very pleased to hear about Joey's recent **sporting success**. He brought in a collection of **medals** as well as a trophy that he'd won for being the '**Trainer of the Week**' for one of the **two football teams** he represents outside of school. It is brilliant to recognise the value of **hard work** and **commitment** displayed by Joey - practice makes perfect. Keep up the good work!



## Online Safety

We'd like to remind all **parents/carers** of the importance of supporting children with **safe** and **responsible** online use. If you allow your child to use apps such as **WhatsApp**, please ensure their activity is appropriately monitored, as these platforms are **designed** for **older users** and can expose children to **unsuitable content** or **interactions**. Likewise, if your child engages in online gaming, we encourage you to be aware of **who** they are **playing with** and to regularly check **privacy** and **safety** settings. A reminder that children in Years Four, Five and Six who bring a mobile phone to school **must** hand their phones in to a member of staff at the start of the day.

## Attendance

Very well done to **Year One** for recording the **highest overall attendance** last week.

While we have still had some cases of the **nasty winter bugs** we have seen

recently in school, they seem to have started to calm down thankfully. With **two**

**weeks** to go, please do everything you can to ensure that children are **in school, on**

**time, every day**. There are lots of lovely things to look forward to and we don't want anyone to miss out!



**Reception** - 91.62%   **Year One** - 96.46%   **Year Two** - 91.18%   **Year Three** - 92.02%  
**Year Four** - 94.21%   **Year Five** - 94.43%   **Year Six** - 90.67%

## On the Menu Next Week . . .

| Week Three              | MONDAY  | TUESDAY                                       | WEDNESDAY                        | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  |
|-------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Main Course             | Meatballs/Veggie<br>Meatballs in Tomato Sauce | Chicken/Veggie Roast and<br>Yorkshire Pudding | Enchilada Wraps                  | Sausage/Veggie Sausage<br>and Yorkshire Pudding | Pepperoni Pizza/<br>Cheese Pizza                      |
|                         | Fish Goujons                                  | Tuna and Sweetcorn Pasta                      | Salmon Fingers                   | Pizza* Wrap                                     | Breaded Fish Portion                                  |
|                         | Sandwich<br>(Choice of Fillings)              | Jacket Potato<br>(Choice of Fillings)         | Sandwich<br>(Choice of Fillings) | Jacket Potato<br>(Choice of Fillings)           | Sandwich<br>(Choice of Fillings)                      |
| Potatoes/Pasta/<br>Rice | Pasta<br>Garlic Bread<br>Smiley Faces         | Roast Potatoes                                | Fluffy Rice                      | Creamed Potatoes<br>Crusty Bread                | Roast Potatoes or Crusty<br>Bread                     |
| Vegetables              | Seasonal Vegetables                           | Seasonal Vegetables                           | Seasonal Vegetables              | Seasonal Vegetables                             | Seasonal Vegetables                                   |
| Salad Bar               | Seasonal Salad                                | Seasonal Salad                                | Seasonal Salad                   | Seasonal Salad                                  | Seasonal Salad  |
| Desserts                | Vanilla Ice Cream<br>(With a choice of Fruit) | Carmel Cake                                   | Cheese, Biscuits and<br>Grapes   | Chocolate Brownie and a<br>Cup of Milk          | School Pudding of the Day<br>(With a choice of Fruit) |