



Crookhill Community Primary School  
Hexham Old Road  
Ryton  
NE40 3ES

**Head Teacher:**  
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1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

## FRIDAY LETTER

Dear parents and carers,

### **Parent Consultation Evenings**

Thank you to everyone who came along to school this week, it was wonderful to see so many of you. If you missed your appointment for whatever reason, please speak to your class teacher or contact the school office to make other arrangements.

### **Bike It**

Year 4 had a wonderful morning on 2 wheels yesterday. The Bike It Team brought bicycles and helmets for all pupils and they practised cycling and manoeuvring around the hall. Even the pupils with no experience of cycling impressed the team, and they can't wait to see how they progress when they get the bikes out into the school yard next time. Well done Year 4!

### **Festivals of Light**

There are many festivals of light across various cultures in the world and the lighting of lamps or lanterns is a significant part of the celebrations. Today, each class has been discovering a different festival and its origins. Reception children and Year 1 looked at Advent and the Christmas story and Year 1 made some very festive wreaths. Year 5 looked at the 5-day festival of Diwali and Years 3 and 4 concentrated on Christingle, named after the little decorated oranges, symbolising the world and holding a burning candle. Year 2 looked at the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah and made menorah, the nine branched candelabrum. Year 6 have been learning about the Chinese Lantern Festival, which signals the end of the new year celebrations. A traditional part of the celebration is to write riddles and hang them from lanterns for others to try and solve so Year 6 had a go at this fun activity. They made paper lanterns which they hung up in class for others to guess their riddles.

### **Christmas Dates**

Fri 8th Dec- Christmas Fayre – 2.30-4.30pm (Parents to collect children at 2.15pm)

Tue 12th Dec- Christmas Dinner Day

Mon 18th Dec- Reception/Key Stage One Nativity 1.45pm

Tue 19th Dec- Reception/Key Stage One Nativity 11am

Tue 19th Dec- KS1 Christmas Party afternoon

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Wed 20th Dec- Key Stage Two Carol Service at Holy Cross Church 10am

Wed 20th Dec- KS2 Christmas Party afternoon

Thu 21st Dec- Christmas Music Workshop

Fri 22nd Dec- Winter Jumper Day for Save the Children

Break up for the end of term holidays - Return to school on Monday 8th January 2024

### Christmas Fayre

It is our Christmas Fayre on Friday 8th December with doors opening at the earlier time of 2.30pm. Santa Claus will be in his grotto and there will be lots of stalls including tombola, raffle, face painting, crafts and cakes. Parents are asked to collect their children at **2.15pm**, in the usual way and then come around to the main entrance for the fayre. Please let school know if you would like a stall of your own for a small contribution.

### Car Parking

Can we ask once again that parents park with consideration for local residents whilst on the school run. Please be courteous to our neighbours and show respect at all times. No one should be parking on the chevrons outside of school, only use the bays available in the car park and never reverse out on the road. Please avoid parking across someone's drive and remember that you can use the car park at the Runhead, or the Castle and walk to school.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Tree Lighting Festival in Ryton yesterday. Despite the freezing temperatures, dodgy sound system and Santa Claus getting stuck in traffic, there was an excellent Crookhill turnout and the children sang and behaved beautifully as always.

Enjoy your weekend whatever you're doing, stay cosy, and we will see you all on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Miss K McCormack  
Head Teacher

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