

Aclet Close Nursery School, Aclet Close, Bishop Auckland,

Co.Durham DL14 6PX

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JANUARY 2019



Happy New Year and welcome to our January newsletter...

We hope you have all had a lovely time! This half term will be another busy one with lots of experiences and opportunities for the children over the next 6 weeks before half term.

A last reminder for families of children who will be starting Primary School in September 2019 - applications to admissions close on 15th January.

A direct link is available on our Nursery Face Book page; you can scan the QR code below to be taken directly to it.



We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Lucas, Jack, Harrison and Junior who will be celebrating their birthdays this month. Have a lovely time celebrating ☺

More new friends are joining us this month... a very warm welcome to John-Thomas, Harrison and James who are coming to our Nursery. We hope you will all be very happy here at Aclet Close Nursery - exciting times ahead!

Lisa Jenkins Head Teacher

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Working with partners in the local community/charity work

We had a very busy month for trips, visits and charity work in December including:

- ~ Swimming sessions at **Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre** - the children continue to make fantastic progress. (Sessions will restart on Wednesday 23rd January)
- ~ 4 visits from the staff at **The Auckland Project** to help the children learn about the mining history in this locality. We have collected evidence of the children's learning which we hope will help us to secure an Arts Award. (See our mention in their newsletter on the other side of this newsletter!)
- ~ A trip to **Beamish Museum** to see Santa last month - it wasn't the best of weather but we hope you enjoyed the experience as much as we did!
- ~ Our Nativity was held at **Woodhouse Close Church** - as usual, we had lots of support from our families and we are very grateful to **Cre8tive Graphics in Peel Street, Bishop Auckland**, who provided the tea, coffee and mince pies afterwards. Our photograph was in the **Northern Echo** newspaper over the Christmas break - we have a copy in the Nursery office if any of you would like to have a look.
- ~ A trip to **Hullaballoo Children's Theatre** in Darlington (and a ride on the train to get there and back) for some of our older children to see the production of 'Luna'. They really did us proud with their behaviour and beautiful manners... several members of the public commented.
- ~ A Christmas party held at **Spennymoor Leisure Centre**. This was the first time we have tried this venue. It was another adventure travelling on the big bus, the children loved all the space in the big hall to play with and they had lots of food in their picnic boxes.
- ~ Receiving a certificate from **Butterwick Hospice** for raising £28 through the sales of their soft toys.
- ~ Working with Pam and David Pott from **Bishop Auckland Town Team** to decorate the shop window of 'Nip and Tuck' in **Fore Bondgate**, Bishop Auckland with The Grumpy Shepherd story as part of their Advent Windows. The children were really good at listening to the story and singing some Christmas songs at the official opening.

School Fund...

On behalf of staff and children, I would like to say a very big '**thank you**' for your voluntary donations. You have paid for the children's healthy daily snacks and School Fund and also subsidised our trip to see Santa at Beamish Museum and the Christmas Party coach/hall hire/party food. We also bought refreshments for our Christmas stay and play sessions and the children's Christmas gifts.

Sales from the Christmas card photographs boosted school fund a little but it is now somewhat depleted! If you haven't donated for a while or are one of our newer families, in the main Nursery entrance there is a Mickey Mouse money box and black folder to tick your off your child's name when you have made your £1 donation. Thank you in advance.

Lisa Jenkins Head Teacher

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From the Auckland Project Schools
Newsletter, Winter 2018

Heritage Schools and Arts Award in Early Years

Throughout November, we have been working with Aclet Close Nursery School on a joint Arts Award and Heritage Schools project. The children have enjoyed finding out about Woodhouse Close Colliery and exploring their mining heritage. We investigated coal, creating pictures with charcoal and lighting a fire in the nursery garden to toast marshmallows; we also learned about the important role played by pit ponies.

The culmination of this work will be a display of the children's artwork at No. 42 in Bishop Auckland, in early 2019, inspired by a Tom McGuinness painting.

Your child's safety is very important to us...

Please avoid driving down the approach to the school as this puts other children and parents at risk and also be mindful of our neighbours. Thank you for your continuing support.

School uniform...

is optional and available from Cre8tive (12 Peel Street, Bishop Auckland. Tel: 664097). You can call in the shop at your own convenience throughout the year. Business cards are available from the office. Our school colours are red or navy blue.

GOVERNOR NEWS...

Governors and staff are delighted to welcome Miss Stamp, Nursery Practitioner, to the Aclet Close Nursery School team.

Thank you for giving her such a warm welcome.

During the Spring term Governors will be continuing their monitoring roles, looking at how Early Years Pupil Premium funding is being spent and completing the School's Financial Value Standard as well as reviewing how we support our children with Special Educational Needs including reviewing our 'Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs' Policy.

Can you help?

We would really value some parent/carers input when reviewing our 'Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs' policy and guidelines. Please speak to Mrs Jenkins if you would like to get involved.

Dates for your diary

- Monday 14th January: Toddler group restarts (12.45pm - 2.15pm, £1 per child over 1 year old)
- Tuesday 15th January: Deadline for applications for children starting Primary School in September 2019. (see info on front page of this newsletter)
- Friday 18th January: (morning only) Phototronics in school - please let us know if you would like your child's photograph taken
- Wednesday 23rd January: Swimming lessons restart
- Friday 15th February: School breaks up for half term
- Monday 25th February: School reopens after half term
- Friday 5th April: School breaks up for Easter break
- Tuesday 23rd April: School reopens after Easter