



# North Mundham Primary School

The Heron Newsletter



Welcome to our weekly newsletter

Autumn 13

9th December 2022

In this newsletter, find out about:

- **Mrs Gordon's message and school news**
- **Reminders and Notices**
- **Upcoming events**

## A Message from Mrs Gordon



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we the children in Year R, 1 and 2 have performed their nativity performances. Years 1 and 2's 'Wriggly Nativity' was really fantastic with everyone singing along enthusiastically, saying the lines they had learnt loud and clear for everyone to hear and acting their parts. Year R were also fantastic in their version of the story. Despite having had lots of children away, they wowed us all. It

was very magical and always makes me very proud to be a headteacher when I see how their confidence has grown and how they have all worked together. A big thanks to all the staff involved as well- well done everyone!

Due to the Year 1 performance, Year 6 had an opportunity to go down to The Fuzzies for forest school on Wednesday with Mrs Orchard. Despite the freezing temperatures, they really enjoyed their outside learning experience and are looking forward to more.

On Monday Mr Tran took two cricket teams to tournaments at Bognor Regis. In the morning the girls played really well and won overall and the boys didn't lose a match either. Once more our North Mundham teams showed excellent sportsmanship and team spirit.

On Wednesday Mrs Palin took year 3 and 4 boys' football team to a tournament. They played very well as a team and were very supportive of each other and the other teams.

This week we have had a lot of staff absence as well as pupil absence. It is the time of year for a multitude of bugs to be doing the rounds. Thank-you to those of you who have communicated with us about your child's absence. We are also aware of course of the rise nationally in cases of scarlet fever and Group A strep. We have no confirmed cases in school and remain vigilant for any symptoms. I have attached a letter with this newsletter with information from West Sussex about this. We are maintaining handwashing in school and encouraging good hand and respiratory hygiene for the children at all times as we know that this is how to stop the bugs spreading. I am sure that you will support us with this.

And finally, this week, Year R, 1 and 2 have had a visit from Rainbow Theatre today who performed a version of 'Aladdin' with some of the children taking part. It was great fun and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Best wishes,

Zoe Gordon, Headteacher

Aladdin comes to North Mundham





Year 3 and 4 boys' football tournament



Year 3 show their resilience n Forest School









Year R Nativity Performance







KS1 'Wriggly Nativity'







Year 5 and 6- Football tournament





## Reminders and Notices



### Reminders

#### **Notices**

##### **Cold Weather**

It has turned very cold this week and is set to continue, please can you make sure that your child wears a coat to school everyday and may need hat and gloves as well. They will need to wear a coat outside so please help us to encourage them to wear it.

##### **Christmas Lunch 14th December**

Children can wear their Christmas jumper on this day (or similar) with their uniform. Children in Year 1 and 3 will still have Forest School so need to have appropriate clothing for that. PE will also happen as usual. Children will eat their lunch with their friends in class. parents can provide a Christmas themed packed lunch for those children who aren't having a hot lunch on that day. The PTA have provided crackers and a small chocolate (or alternative) treat for each child on that day.

### **KS2 Discos**

These are on Tuesday 13th December. Year 3 and 4 can bring a change of clothes and disco will be from 3.20-4.10 (pick up outside hall). Years 5 and 6 4.30- 5.20 (entry and exit via hall door on playground).

### **Church service Thursday 15th December 9.30am**

We will be walking to St Stephens Church on Thursday 15th December. at **9.30am**. Parents are welcome to join us. Please contact the school office if you intend to come. In addition, if you are DBS checked and able, please let us know if you can walk with the children to the church. In addition, we will have a practice walk to the church on Wednesday 14th at 9.00. If any DBS checked parents are available to walk with their child's class, then contact the office.

### **Child Absence**

If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office before 9am on each day of illness. Please inform us of the nature of the illness (e.g. high temperature, cough, vomiting, upset tummy etc). This will help us to track the nature of illnesses and allow us to identify and patterns of illness or outbreaks that we may need to inform other parents about.

### **Post Box**

Don't forget to use the postbox for posting your Christmas cards. Deliveries will be daily until the end of term.

### **Hunston Warm Space**

Hunston parish council and other members of the local community are opening up a 'Warm Space' from next Monday 14th November. This will be at Hunston Community club and will give anyone in the local community a warm safe space to come to. It gives people the chance to meet up with others, have a cuppa and is a free welcoming space to come to in these challenging economic times. See the poster below for more details. If you or anyone you know is interested and would like more details, please ask at the school office.

Thank-you for your support in all these matters.



**'LIGHT-UP HUNSTON'**  
*Advent Winter Windowland Trail*  
**FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER FROM 6.30PM**

Festive lights and snowy scenes, sparkly stars and Christmas elves...use your creativity and imagination to decorate a festive window in your home for all to see. Together we can create a magical Winter Windowland by 'Lighting-Up Hunston'.

Then on **Friday 16th December**, children and their families can go out on a lovely evening winter walk (following on from the 'Carols By The Christmas Tree' event @6pm), viewing all the impressive displays on show.

1. Pick-up a trail map from Hunston Village Stores or at the at Carols By The Christmas Tree' event
2. Find ALL 24 letters on our special advent windows around the village to solve the anagram (to be one of our special 24 advent windows, please contact Hunston Village Stores).
3. Present the correct anogram at Hunston Community Club to receive your special end-of-trail treat!

For those of you who would not like to take part in the trail, the Hunston Community Club will be **open from 6.30pm** to help kick start the festive period with some mince pies and mulled wine!

Open from 14 November

Monday 10am-4pm | Wednesday 10am-4pm | Friday 10am-3pm



The Hunston Community Club will be opening its doors this winter to provide a warm space and a warm welcome to all residents of Hunston and North Mundham.



We hope that this will help with heating bills and provide a comfortable space and an opportunity to meet others.

Light refreshments will be available.

An initiative by Hunston Parish Council, Community Club and St Leodegar's Church

[Information Letter A IncreasedIncidenceOfScarletFever-LetterToParents 08122022](#)



Tel: 0344 225 3861

Email: [SE.AcuteResponse@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:SE.AcuteResponse@ukhsa.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/ukhsa](http://www.gov.uk/ukhsa)

8th December 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

## Re: Increase in scarlet fever

We are writing to inform you of a recent national increase in notifications of scarlet fever to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), above seasonal expected levels. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the signs, symptoms and the actions to be taken if you think that you or your child might have scarlet fever.

## Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A Streptococcus (GAS). It is not usually serious, but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and be pale around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a bright red 'strawberry' tongue.

If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics if prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work until at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.

Contacts of scarlet fever cases (including siblings or household members) who are well and do not have symptoms do not require antibiotics and can attend school/work. They should seek treatment if they develop symptoms.

## Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat. In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive group A strep (iGAS). Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection.

As a parent, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

## Stop the spread

During periods of high numbers of scarlet fever, there may also be an increase in outbreaks in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings. We work in conjunction with these settings and you may receive further advice from the setting in the event of an outbreak. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should stay off nursery / school / work until **24 hours** after the start of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection.

Yours sincerely

South East Region Health Protection Team

UK Health Security Agency

## Resources and links

[NHS – Scarlet Fever](#)

[Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment](#)

[Hand hygiene resources for schools](#)

## Dates for the diary



13th December KS2 disco- 3.10-4.10 (years 3 and 4), 4.30-5.20 (years 5 and 6)

13th December - Year 5/6 Boys' B team football

14th December- Christmas lunch

15th December church service 9.30

15th December - choir to sing at North Mundham village hall 1pm

16th December- final day of term

3rd January- 1st day back after Christmas

16-20 January- Eco council plastic- free lunchbox week.

16-20th - Cheer up January week (more details to follow)

20th January- Promise Day

10th February- break up for half term

20th February-INSET

21st February- first day back after half term

31st March- break up for Easter

17th April- first day back after Easter

Please note that more dates will be added in future newsletters.

**INSET Days 2022-2023**

(All INSET days are either at the beginning or end of a school holiday, we ask that you take advantage of these for family holidays or long weekends and DO NOT book holidays in term time.)

20th February 2023

26th May 2023

## Contact Us



If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us:

[head@northmundham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@northmundham.w-sussex.sch.uk)

[office@northmundham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@northmundham.w-sussex.sch.uk)

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[website](#)

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<https://www.facebook.com/NorthMundhamSchool>