

# Byerley Park Primary School Newsletter

## Issue 6

16<sup>th</sup> December 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

I cannot believe that this is the last newsletter of the year and the last newsletter of my first year as Head Teacher at Byerley Park. I had hoped that the year would end in more settled times than it started but it does not appear that this will be the case. Thank you so much for your support of the school over the past year. I am immensely proud of the children and staff at school. We are navigating extremely challenging times and the community has pulled together to support each other throughout. Hopefully we will return in the New Year to a more settled period. If this is not the case, rest assured that we will continue to do everything we can to support the pupils at school and aim to make it as normal as we can for them.

Have a very merry Christmas and I wish you all the very best for the New Year.

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Pattison

### PTA Christmas Card Competition

The Christmas card competition run by the PTA attracted over 40 entries. Revd. Daniel Hudson has judged the competition. He said he was really impressed with the standard of entries and it was really hard to choose the winners. He wanted to say a massive well done to all the entrants.

The winners are:

	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>
Reception Class	Ella	Emily P
Year 1	William	Alex
Year 2	Grace F	Lilly
Year 3	Regan	Elijah
Year 4	Bella T	Ava
Year 5	Harmony	Hannah
Year 6	Chloe	Holly B

Thank you to all children who entered. All Christmas cards will be hand delivered to care homes in Newton Aycliffe.

We have sent photographs of the KS1 Nativity to the Northern Echo for them to include in their special Christmas nativity supplement. They haven't told us when this supplement will be published, but we are hopeful that our pictures will be selected to be included.

### Children in Need 2021



We raised £224.50 for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

## Parking

Following a number of complaints from frustrated residents living on Staintondale, **PLEASE** can I ask that you are mindful of your driving practices and are considerate to other road users and pedestrians when dropping off and picking up children from school.

There is more room for parking further up Staintondale or on Meadowfield Way that would not involve parking across dropped kerbs, blocking residents in or cause severe congestion at the junction with Greenfield Way. Please **DO NOT** use the school car park entrance to drop off children and turn around. This causes obstructions and is dangerous to pedestrians trying to cross the road and travelling motorists. Pupils do not have to be dropped off right in front of the school gates!

Please also note, the School Car Park is for **STAFF**, not for parents.

Thank you for reading this notice.

## Internet Safety - Parental Controls



Many children will be getting new electronic toys and gadgets over Christmas. It is important to help them use them safely.

The best way of protecting children is to play alongside them and help them learn safely, but setting up Parental Controls on new devices will provide additional safety. This website provides guidance on how to set this up on a wide range of devices:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/controls/interactive-guide/>

The website also has lots of very useful leaflets and advice for parents, including online safety tips for parents of children aged 0-5, 6-10, 11-14 and 14+.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/esafety-leaflets-resources/>

The disruption and difficulty of the last two years has impacted our children's resilience and emotional wellbeing. This is something that we are focusing on together. Place2Be is a charity whose resources we use to support our children and they have now produced a set for parents and carers with advice and suggestions on ways to help with problems such as difficulty sleeping, anxiety and managing social media to name a few. You can access the resources here:

[https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/?utm\\_source=Sprint1&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=parenting-smart](https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/?utm_source=Sprint1&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=parenting-smart)

We hope that you find them useful.

## Reading Corner



### **Play I Spy**

Play 'I Spy' games

Can you find words beginning with.....?

Can you find a picture of a .....

How many ..... can you see?

**School closes at 3.30pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. We re-open to children on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**