



### A fortnightly note from your headteacher...

A very busy fortnight with everyone getting in the Christmas spirit!

The last Christmas card school post was on Wednesday, which children will receive next Monday. Once again we would like to thank The Standeven family at Newburgh Christmas Trees for donating our beautiful Christmas tree this year. Sessay Songbirds choir have performed a trio of Christmas carols and songs which we have recorded for our Christingle service next week.



Most certainly one of my highlights this week was watching Byland class thoroughly enjoy performing 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel' on Wednesday at the village hall. We certainly have some confident young actors and actresses and we were very proud of all the Byland children. The whole school will enjoy watching it together on Zoom next Wednesday and all Byland Class parents will receive their very own special DVD copy next week.



Fountains have been busy experimenting in science - testing materials to see if they are waterproof and reflective. They have also been putting their sewing skills to good use and produced some fabulous Christmas cards.



Bolton have also had a really exciting couple of weeks. They have designed and made some excellent felt broaches with hand stitching for detail in DT. They have been really inspired in their English biography writing, by having guest Peter Wright in as part of Forest Schools who they interviewed and found out lots of Peter's memories about growing up near Thirsk just like us! Julian Norton also did a virtual visit and told us all about his life as a vet in Yorkshire.



Rievaulx have been busy sewing samplers in DT. They looked at Victorian examples and then designed their own and adapted their designs to include Christmas images. Mrs Gargett a keen seamstress modelled and taught the children how to do cross stitch. Rievaulx are very much looking forward to their Victorian day in school next week to end their fabulous Victorian topic based on their class book 'Gaslight'.



Today is Christmas Jumper Day, thank you to FOSS, Friends of Sessay School for organising our 'Design A Christmas Jumper Competition', which raised £101.50!

Year group winners are – Isabel, Olivia, Emily S, Arthur, Katie, Alban and Edie. Please see their fabulous jumper designs displayed in the playground.

In celebration assembly this afternoon we will be drawing our Christmas Hamper Raffle. The hampers are absolutely fabulous! We have raised an amazing £425! Thanks again for all your donations and support. Please can our lucky winners either pick them up today or arrange a time with Mrs Waite next week.

### Fortnight Awards

<p><b>Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Bennison.</b>  <i>Squirrel Award</i> – Paisley and Jack Mason.  <i>Headteacher's sticker</i> – Farrah and Oliver.  <i>Mathlete</i> – Jacob and Harriet.  <i>Handwriter of the week</i> – Henry and William.</p>	<p><b>Fountains, Mrs Sowray.</b>  <i>Squirrel Award</i> – Eliza and Joshua.  <i>Headteacher's sticker</i> – Olivia and Aletta.  <i>Mathlete</i> – Emily and Lola.  <i>Handwriter of the week</i> – Max and Eliza.</p>
<p><b>Bolton, Miss Southward.</b>  <i>Squirrel Award</i> – Faith and Roman.  <i>Headteacher's sticker</i> – Alex. Aida Rae and Abby.  <i>Mathlete</i> – Rosie and Esme.  <i>Handwriter of the week</i> – Adele and Katie.</p>	<p><b>Rievaulx, Mrs Watson and Ms Gauder.</b>  <i>Squirrel Award</i> – Maddie and William.  <i>Headteacher's sticker</i> – Hannah and Ella.  <i>Mathlete</i> – Elsie and Luca.  <i>Handwriter of the week</i> – Tate and Emily.</p>

Christingle Service next Friday.

Everyone is warmly invited to our annual end of term Christingle service led by Fountains Class

Sessay Christingle Zoom – 11am

Topic: Sessay Christingle Service

Time: Dec 18, 2020 11:00 AM London

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89938691668?pwd=eVExb24xcxkCbDBaNUE5WWZSTHpDQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 3869 1668

Passcode: 438944

Next term I will continue to host my Friday Celebration Zoom Assembly. This is an opportunity for all our classes / children in school, alongside you the parents/carers at home, to still be able to all come together at the end of the week to celebrate individual and group achievements. As always everyone is warmly invited.

**Celebration Assembly invite for Spring 1 Half Term**

Topic: SESSAY Friday Celebration Assembly

Time: Jan 8, 2021 02:30 PM London

Every week on Fri, until Feb 19, 2021, 7 occurrence(s)

Jan 8, 2021 02:30 PM

Jan 15, 2021 02:30 PM

Jan 22, 2021 02:30 PM

Jan 29, 2021 02:30 PM

Feb 5, 2021 02:30 PM

Feb 12, 2021 02:30 PM

Feb 19, 2021 02:30 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZYqce6vqT0qG9C65-3j38Kf7bJRW\\_sPTxJQ/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGqqT0tHdOTsBiDRpwQB4\\_oKO3wtiFfjfp-ykqoUCoAOijwYeBoAKVAA-jk](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZYqce6vqT0qG9C65-3j38Kf7bJRW_sPTxJQ/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGqqT0tHdOTsBiDRpwQB4_oKO3wtiFfjfp-ykqoUCoAOijwYeBoAKVAA-jk)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82767776014?pwd=TmVJVWx5M2tpREZjRUIKcGJlbXJFZz09>

Meeting ID: 827 6777 6014

Passcode: 758382

As you know this half term we have been creating a 'Welcome to Sessay School' presentation to show off our fabulous school and give prospective new children and parents a virtual tour. It is now live on our school website. Do take a look and I'm sure you'll feel as proud as I do to be a part of our whole school community

General communication, we feel is more important now than ever and must be understood by all, as face to face contact is obviously limited.

Please don't hesitate to contact class teachers, our senior teacher Mrs Tyrka or myself through Class DoJo, Class email, office email or telephone. You can catch us in person, socially distanced at drop off or pick up if urgent and appropriate. You can request a telephone or zoom appointment through the school office if necessary. As our monthly Governor Surgery is not able to happen at present, our Parent Governor is also available by email (Louisa Carolan, Year 2 and Year 4 parent, [CofG@sessay.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:CofG@sessay.n-yorks.sch.uk)). As always we are here to support all our children and families, please don't hesitate to get in contact if we can be of any further individual support.

As said in my last newsletter we warmly welcome Lucy Willshaw to the Husthwaite and Sessay CE Primary Federation. She is our new Church Youth and Children's worker and is now leading our Monday collective worship. Lucy will also be joining us at our Christingle service. Please see a message from Lucy at the end of our newsletter.

As you may already know on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December schools were advised by The Department for Education that 'Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching this term in which schools are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced'.

PLEASE NOTE WE ARE BREAKING UP ON FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AS PLANNED.

In the first 6 days of the Christmas Holiday, if your child develops symptoms and then tests positive, you must inform school by email asap. Emails will be checked between 9 and 10am from 19-24 December. Close contact children and staff would then be notified by email to self-isolate. If you are in self isolation on our return to school Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 please phone to inform us on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Have a fantastic weekend and as this is my final newsletter this term we wish all our children and families a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2021.

*Diary Dates*

15 December	Christmas School Dinner (Please note: pasta and jacket potato not available on this day)
17 December	<i>Pantomime and Christmas parties in class bubbles (children can come in party clothes/non-uniform)</i>

18 December	Christingle Zoom Service 11am School closes for Christmas at 2.30/2.45pm
5 January	School opens for Spring Term 2021

*A note from Lucy ...*

*Hello. My name is Lucy Willshaw and this autumn I began a new job as a youth and children's worker for a cluster of local churches, including the Byland Group of Churches. I am really looking forward to getting to know you all at Husthwaite and Sessay schools. It is very frustrating that I am unable to come into school to meet you in person at the moment, and I fear it may be a while before I can. In the meantime, though, we can enjoy Zoom collective worship sessions together and find other ways to work together.*