



Richard Coates CE School

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(please visit our new website as above)

Headteacher: Mrs Heather M. Cape

27 November 2017

Dear Ash Parents

As the first term is drawing towards the end, I would just like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support during our first term as a primary school. The staff and I feel truly privileged to start our journey with such a wonderful group of youngsters (and of course their supportive and positive parents!). Over the course of the term we have had a number of visitors into school, including officers from the Local Authority, Directors from the Diocese and other head teachers. All have been amazed at how well the children have settled and are particularly complimentary about the attitudes and behaviour of the classes.

Christmas Happenings and Dates for Your Diaries

There are many events taking place over the last few weeks:

- Wednesday 6th December 2.30 p.m. - Christingle Service at St Mary's Church (parents welcome)
- Thursday 7th December – Children's Flu vaccinations in school
- Tuesday 12th December – Willow and Ash Class Christmas Show, "Baubles"
- Thursday 14th December 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Carol Service at St Mary's led by Key Stage 3 pupils (all welcome)
- Friday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day (£1.00 donation for Children in Need)
- Wednesday 20th December 11.30 - 1.30 p.m. Lower School Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 21st December – Cinderella at Whitley Bay Playhouse

I look forward to welcoming you at our various Christmas events.

Ponteland Multi- Academy Trust (MAT) Update

Richard Coates, along with Ponteland Primary, Darras Hall Primary, Heddon St Andrew's School, Belsay Primary and Ponteland High School were all granted academy orders earlier this month. This is good news and means that the MAT has been given permission from the Secretary of State to begin the necessary work needed for the conversion to take place.

Safety on Thornhill Road

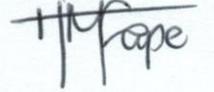
Can I please remind parents of the importance of putting children's safety first as they drop off and collect from school. Thornhill Road does get congested with traffic at the start and end of the school day - please think about the safety of children when you park. There is no vehicular access to the school site during these times – please park with consideration for local residents.

Christmas Holidays

- Friday 22nd December – **School closes at 1.30 p.m. for Christmas** (Shine Club will be operating from 1.30 p.m. Please book directly with Mrs Hally on 07526170668)
- Monday 8th January – Teacher Training Day (Shine Club open all day)
- Tuesday 9th January - Start of the Spring Term

Wishing you all the very best over the festive season.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Cape', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Mrs Heather Cape
Headteacher