

Dent CE Primary School



Fortnightly Newsletter

Friday 5th November
2021 Autumn Week 8

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope that you had a lovely half-term break with your children at home. We have enjoyed getting back into a school routine over the last couple of days. There are lots of exciting new topics starting and the children have come straight back in with good attitudes for learning.

As we head towards Christmas we are hoping to have as normal a term as possible, with all the usual Christmas activities on the horizon. One important piece of news is that for our Christmas Performance this year we are going to pre-record our performances as we did last year, however we will host a live premiere screening of the performances in school in December, Covid cases allowing! We feel this approach gives us flexibility around Covid and also allows more vulnerable members of our community to join us virtually. Class 2 will start to have songs and scripts coming home to practise this week—please do make sure they learn them!

I have decided to plan on sending out a newsletter fortnightly rather than weekly, so look out for the next one in a couple of weeks, with further details of events throughout the term.

Very best wishes to you all,

Mr Prescott

End of School Day Routines

Please could I ask parents to collect children from **inside** the playground each day after school. Dragon Croft is surprisingly busy with traffic, and is a narrow road where children need to be careful.

Could I also ask parents not to allow children to climb on the railings or steps outside the front of school at club collection time, to ensure pupil safety.

Class 1 Staff News

I am really pleased to share the news that Mrs Umpleby is able to stay with us full-time until the end of the academic year. This means that the current staffing arrangements across school can continue until a permanent headteacher appointment, which gives the children stability and continuity. Mrs Umpleby has been working hard at implementing changes to the Early Years Framework and we are pleased to have her for a full year to do this and to carry on her great work.

Our apprentice TA, Mia wanted to share her thanks after her first half-term in school:

"My first term at the school has been lovely, all the children have been welcoming and helpful. The children have made me feel like I belong to the school, and they are all such wonderful individuals. I want to say a big thank you to the staff and children for making my first term at Dent Primary school the best it could be, and I am so glad I am getting to be a part of such a great school."

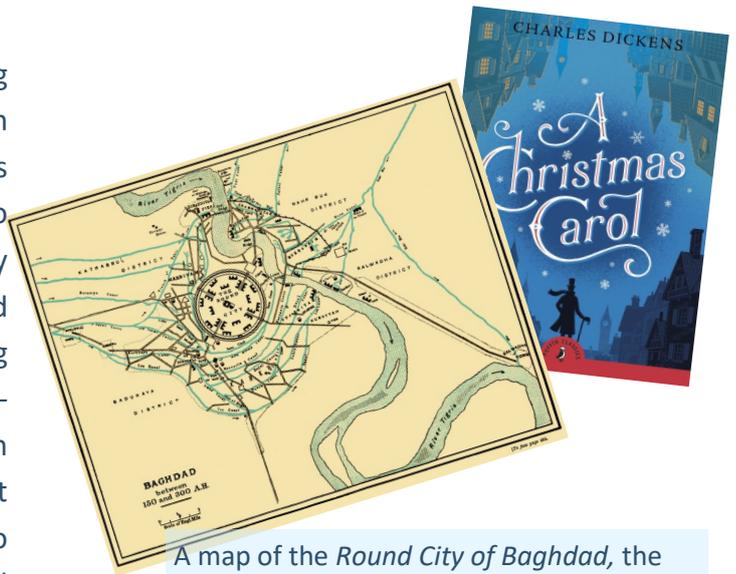
Mia

Pupil Photos

Thank you to all those of you who have put your orders in for pupil photos. If you ordered digital images, you should have these by the end of this weekend, and if you ordered printed copies you will hopefully have these next week. If you haven't ordered but wish to, then please send your order in ASAP. Thank you!

Curriculum & Learning

Class 2: This half-term in Class 2 we are reading Charles Dickens' story *A Christmas Carol*, which is going to be our Christmas Performance. This will be our main literacy text, but we will also be doing plenty of writing based on our history topic, *Early Islamic Civilisation* & some related stories from other cultures. Last year during lockdown the children learned about the *Anglo-Saxons*, so this is a fabulous way to build on that knowledge by contrasting a different civilisation at the same period. It also links to and builds on our knowledge of Islam in RE, and our learning about middle-eastern culture in last half-term's text, *The Breadwinner*.



A map of the *Round City of Baghdad*, the fascinating centre of our history topic.

Class 1: This half-term in Class 1 we are starting with the classic story *We're going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen. The children are already enjoying making their own versions of the story, and the idea of going hunting for things is great for introducing our history topic of *Explorers*. It is also going to get us ready for recording our very exciting Christmas Nativity performance...



We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Michael Rosen • Helen Oxenbury

Values: Wisdom

Our *Collective Worship* focus value last half term was *Justice*, and we felt it was a great half-term of discussion and reflection which helped us to think about what it meant for us in practice.

This half-term's focus value is *Wisdom*, and we can't wait to explore what that means for us in our lives in school and out.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 5th November 4:30-7:30 —Friends of Dent Fish Chip Fundraiser—Memorial Hall

Thursday 9th December, 6:30pm - Live Premiere of Christmas Performances in the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 15th December—Class 2 Visit to Theatre by the Lake

Tuesday 14th December—School Christmas Dinner and Carol Singing

Friday 17th December—Christmas Service and End of Term

Wednesday 5th January—Start of Spring Term

Fish & Chips Night

Friends of Dent are holding a fish and chips night in the Memorial Hall **tonight**. FoD do a fantastic amount of work to raise money, which makes a real difference to the activities and opportunities we are able to provide in school.

Please do support the event if you can.

PCC Coffee Morning Posters

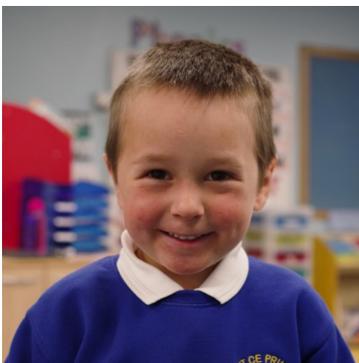
The Parish Church Council have asked if the children would like to help design posters for their community coffee mornings. We think this a lovely idea and we'll be offering a prize for the best one. If you'd like to participate, the next poster needs to be for 'A Christmas Coffee Morning in the church on the 1st December'.

Please bring in any entries to Mr. Prescott by 12th November

Weekly Awards

Through our weekly awards we try to promote our vision, *Joyful & Equipped to Succeed & Serve*, as we celebrate our values and the work of pupils who are working hard to develop the skills and attitudes that will help them to succeed. This weeks awards go to...

Writer of the Week



For excellent work on independently writing and using phonics to spell words well.

Values Champion



For showing great *Wisdom* in developing her own learning skills and communicating well with others who can help.

Maths Hero



For fantastically hard work on her number skills. Well done!