



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO 2020!

After a very busy run-up to Christmas, it has been nice to have a calmer start to the year. However, as always at Rothbury First, there is something going on!

This term we welcome new children to our school: Ivy and Eric. We hope that you and your families really enjoy your time with us at Rothbury First. We also warmly welcome Mrs Marsden to our school staff team. Mrs Marsden joins us as a Teaching Assistant.



A couple of weeks ago, we had a great night at the Bingo - it was good to see so many of you able to join us! And last week the children welcomed the author, Alan Windram, to school and had an amazing workshop with him and his team.

Last week, we were able to thank local representatives of the Masonic Lodge for their very kind donations which have enabled us to buy 60 waterproof jacket and trouser sets together with 5 balance bikes. These have been much welcomed!

We are just waiting for the final inspection and signage of the traverse wall before we can fully commission it. We are so very grateful to the Friends of Rothbury First School for their part in arranging the amazing donation from the Co-Op. This, together with donations from the Simonside Fair, Alnwick Castle and the Rothbury FireFighters, have enabled us to install the wall, as well as purchase climbing equipment for the Early Years, and additional equipment for the field.



VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL: We have had such a wonderful response to our Reading Army for the older children in school, that we now would like to extend this to support our younger readers in school as well. If you are able to spare an hour on an afternoon to hear some of our readers in Reception or Year 1, we would love to hear from you! Please speak to any of the staff, or drop into the School Office to find out more.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS: After the half-term break, the following after-school clubs are running:

Monday - Taekwondo - provided by William McElhone

Thursday - Trident Soccer - provided by Ryan Jobson.

If you wish to find out more about any club, please call in to the School Office,

SPORT/OUTDOOR LEARNING: After the half-term break, on Wednesday afternoons, Mr Grimes will be leading PE with our Elephant class; Gorilla Class is going swimming and Penguin class is taking part in Forest School. All children from Reception to Year 4 are also taking part in YogaBugs on a Friday afternoon.

MUSIC: Before Christmas, we were invited to take part in a number of community events where our Year 4 children were invited to sing carols for the Over 60s Christmas Party at the Jubilee Hall, and for the residents of the RAFA. We have children in school taking private group lessons in violin, guitar, keyboard and the pocket trumpet. Our Year 3 and Year 4 children are all learning to play the pocket trumpet as part of their music curriculum. If you would like to find out more about music in school, please call into the School Office. We might even do something with those recorders that found their way into people's homes...

Social Media Links: For all the latest updates in school follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/rothburyfirst/> or on Twitter @rothburyfirst.



Upcoming Friends of Rothbury First School PTA events:

**Annual General Meeting in school on Wednesday 5th February 2020
from 3.30pm to 4.30pm**

Everyone is welcome. Please come along.

Email: rothburyfirstschoolpta2017@yahoo.com

Facebook: Friends of RF School (PTA)



DATES FOR THE DIARY:

January:		
Tues 28 Jan	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Rev Ann from Rothbury All Saints
Wed 29 Jan	all	Parent Consultations
Fri 31 Jan	1,2,3,4	NSPCC 'PANTS' workshops - Mr Grimes and Mrs Walton
February:		
Tues 4 Feb	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Rev Ed from Rothbury URC
Thurs 6 Feb	Governors	Spring Full Governing Body Meeting
Tues 11 Feb	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Kirstine Davis from the Mustard Tree Trust
Wed 12 Feb to Fri 14 Feb	Y4	Residential trip to Robinwood, Barhaugh Hall (with Mrs Mathewson and Mr Grimes)
Mon 17 Feb to Fri 21 Feb: SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF TERM		
Mon 24 Feb: SCHOOL OPENS AT 08.50		
Tues 25 Feb	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Rev Ed from Rothbury URC
March:		
Mon 2 Mar	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Women's World Day of Prayer
Thurs 5 Mar	N,R,1,2,3,4	World Book Day Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book. Don't forget to bring the book with you!
Fri 6 Mar	all	FRFS Second-hand book sale & cake sale
Tues 10 Mar	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Aileen & Elaine from Rothbury URC
Fri 13 Mar	N,R,1,2,3,4	Sport Relief Children are invited to come to school dressed in sports clothing and to bring a donation for Sports Relief.
Tues 17 Mar	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Rev Ann from Rothbury All Saints
Wed 18 Mar	all	FRFS Mothers' Day Gift Sale
Tues 24 Mar	R,1,2,3,4	Visitor Assembly: Rev Ed from Rothbury URC
Tues 31 Mar	4	Year 4s will be taking part in the Morpeth Partnership 'One Big Performance' during the day in Morpeth
Fri 3 Apr	N,R	Early Years Easter Egg Competition
Mon 6 Apr to Fri 17 Apr: SCHOOL CLOSED FOR EASTER BREAK		
Mon 20 Apr SCHOOL OPENS AT 08.50		

Term dates for 2019-2020 are available on the Northumberland County Council website:
<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Holidays.aspx#schooltermdates>

Friday 26 June 2020



SNOW CLOSURE

We will make every effort to keep the school open in bad weather conditions, however all of our teachers live outside Rothbury therefore we will be at the mercy of the road conditions into the village and the advice given to school about access.

Our school closure policy is on the website under the 'Our School' tab, and shows where school closures will be published. If bad conditions are forecast and we have to close early, please make sure that we have up-to-date contact numbers for you.

In the event of any closure, either for the whole day or parts of the day, we will use ParentMail and text as our prime means of contacting you. Closure will also be published on the school website and on the Northumberland County Council website.

