



7 December 2018

Dear Parents

**Up and Coming Events ; Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Film Night - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>  
Nursery Production & Christmas Lunch - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Year 1 Production**

### **HMI Visit**

On Monday our school will be visited by an HMI Inspector. She will be visiting classrooms and looking at children's work.

### **Questionnaires**

Thank you to all the parents/carers who have returned their form. We received 150. Your views are important and I do value your opinion.

The questionnaires were very, very positive. Thank you. It is a privilege to work at Front Street and I am proud to belong to the school.

Negative comments were about communication. If anyone has problems with the internet there is always a paper copy of the newsletter available from the office. Just let us know and we can have one ready for you.

Dojo is not a personal message service. Unfortunately staff are unable to respond to 30 parent messages each evening.

The main concerns were about children with additional needs. This is linked with the funding letter which was sent last week. School budgets are being squeezed which ultimately will mean a reduction in staffing and reduction in support for children who need extra support and help. Waiting times for Children & Young People's Service is over 15 weeks and reductions in other external agencies that help our children are being affected which in turn affects our support in school.

To help: **Please, please, please sign the petition.** If you haven't done so already please sign the online petition at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>

## Results of questionnaires

### Other comments

Excellent teachers

Our son is "buzzing "about school

Impressed with ease of contact with teacher

Children happy

Enthusiasm levels are high

Staff approachable, friendly and helpful

Great school

Wonderful school

Dojo communicator is great

This school looks after kids very well

Support is excellent

My child loves Front Street and is proud to be a pupil there

Newsletter every Friday a great communication

My child loves school

As parents could not be happier

My child feels safe

I continue to be amazed by the standard of work

High expectations

My child is making better progress since joining

Always well informed

Well supported

Excellent school

Pleased with standards

Constant updates

Teachers have time to listen

I like the fact headteacher is on the yard every morning

Strongly recommend the school

Impressed with progress

Teachers are fantastic

Our child's needs and progress are met through hard work and support

School does not tolerate bullying

School does not tolerate bad behaviour

School does try it utmost to assist with extra needs of children

SENCO and Family Support worker are very good

I would like to be informed more often

Homework slightly excessive

No response to dojo messages

Children who need support don't always receive it and this can disrupt the learning of other children

Need more after school clubs

I would like to be updated every day about my child's learning

Would like more communication about day to day content of the day

The school does not keep me informed.

Would like verbal communication at the end of everyday

## Primary School Applications

Just a reminder that Primary school (Reception place) applications are required by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at [www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

### Oh Christmas Tree...

Christmas is definitely on the way once everyone's Christmas trees go up! Next week, Spoons Methodist Church are holding a Christmas tree festival, with trees provided and decorated by local groups. Front Street's Arts Ambassadors and Nursery children have created decorations for the tree we are contributing, so look out for it when you are there.

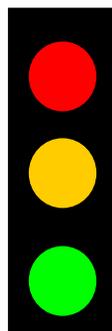
If you visit St Mary's Church, you'll see a tree decorated by year 5 children, with decorations on the theme of the carol, 'It Was On A Starry Night'. If you look closely, you'll be able to spot Christmas prayers and wishes written by the children. Father Barry really liked our stars and thanked us for making them.



### Attendance

Congratulations to 6W who had top attendance this week.

Well Done to 1S, 2M, 2S, 3ON, 3P, 5G who were all in the green section of our traffic lights.



Red - Danger Zone - **Below 90%**

Amber - At Risk Zone - **91% - 96%**

Green - Safety Zone - **97% - 100%**

Class 1G	91%	Class 4H	98.3%
Class 1S	99.3%	Class 4K	95.9%
Class 2M	97%	Class 5G	98.3%
Class 2S	97.7%	Class 5H	95.4%
Class 3ON	97.7%	Class 6L	94%
Class 3P	98%	Class 6W	99.7%

## Musicians

Please can all musicians bring their instruments in next Wednesday so they are in school for assembly on Friday 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Year 1

Children in 1G can bring their pyjamas in on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> as a reward from the DoJo champion. They will come into school in their school uniform on the morning and get changed into their pyjamas in the afternoon. Children can go home in their PJ's or go to film night.

## Year 4

The Great Bread Bake off is happening in Year 4 next week! To cover our DT food objectives on food preparation, health and hygiene, the children will be designing a hot sandwich. For this activity, school will be providing the basic ingredients such as cucumber, carrots, cheese, onion, tomatoes, breads, spread and ham. They will be learning how to peel, chop, grate, squeeze, slice and cut. If your child designs a sandwich with more ambitious ingredients, they will need to bring in their own fillings in a named container for Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

If your child has any allergies, please let your child's class teacher know as they will be tasting their own and others.



## Friends of Front Street

**Christmas Fair** - Thank you for all your support with this. The children had a great time and it was a huge success. We will look at how this event may run next year and welcome your feedback. We will let you know how much money was raised for our fantastic school as soon as we know. A huge thank you to all the parents and grandparents who helped out - without this support we are not able to run these events.

**Christmas Raffle** - **The last date for tickets to be in school is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December.** If you have any spare tickets at home that are unwanted please return to school. Winners will be notified on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. The winners list will also be published with the newsletter.

**Christmas Plays** - Remember there will be a raffle, guess the weight of the cake and a tuck shop running on the day of your child's Christmas performance. This is Nursery up to Year 6.

**Film Night** - This is on Tuesday. Children should bring their pyjamas and onesies into school with them on the Tuesday and will be able to get changed before the film starts. Children need to be collected at 5:45pm from the school hall. We will have the children in year groups to dismiss them safely. Please be patient with this as our main priority

is the safety of all of the children. If you have offered to help at this event please come to the hall at end of the school day.

**If you have any concerns or queries do not hesitate to contact me.**

Just to remind you this is a Safeguarding School and we have a duty to pass on any concerns to Children's Services.

Our staff are also trained in Team Teach techniques in order to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

Yours sincerely

HJ Gladstone

Headteacher

## RE Ambassadors

Here at Front Street, we have a team of children who work together to make sure RE is as good as it can be.

We are:

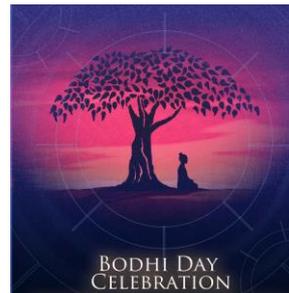
Michaela and Brodie from Year 2

Isabel and Olly H from Year 3

Penny and Ollie D from Year 4

Abigail and Eamon from Year 5

Rebecca and Chris from Year 6



We think that RE is really important, because it helps us understand the world and other people better. We also think it's really interesting!

This week the Buddhist religion has a special festival. **Chris** and **Brodie** want to tell you more...

### **Bodhi Day**

Bodhi Day is a celebration for Buddha followers. It began with an Indian prince, who was scared of death and illness. He didn't know how people could cope with such things. He started sitting under a fig tree (sometimes called a Bodhi tree) and thought hard, and eventually came to understand it. This is called enlightenment. So the prince started Buddhism and was called Buddha.

Other people wanted to be a Buddhist too. So the prince taught them how. And from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, Buddhism and Buddha's enlightenment are celebrated by Buddhists. They have lights and statues in their house and eat milk and rice. They think about the things they have learned from the Buddha.

*"Happy Bodhi Day!" by Chris and Brodie.*