

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024



Dear Parents,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your good wishes and thanks to us all. I know the staff really appreciate your kind words. I would also like to thank the staff who have had a very busy term and worked hard to ensure Christmas is a magical time at Northburn. It has been a term of *lasts* for me and so very poignant.

There has been some fantastic work going on at school. Upper Key Stage 2 visited the Discovery Museum last week. Workshops involved studying artefacts from WW2 and working out what they could tell us about life during the war. Maths skills were also put to the test as children had to plan a week's worth of meals based on the rations available. There were definitely some interesting combinations! The science maze was an excellent way to explore different concepts and lots was learned at the 'Newcastle Through Time' exhibition.

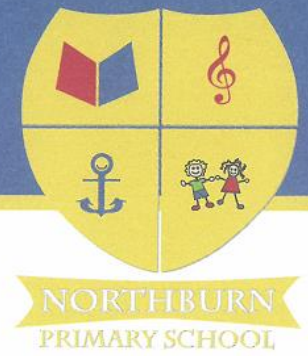
Year 6 has a fantastic residential experience at Robinwood. I was able to spend a day with them and was very impressed by all the children. They demonstrated bravery, worked well in teams and were excellent ambassadors for Northburn. We were all very proud of them.

I was able to go with the children in KS1 to Beamish. I met Santa and was able to confirm that all the children had been fantastic. I know that they all had fun on their Christmas Crafts Day.

A highlight has always been the Reception Nativity and the Nursery Carols. Sadly, due to a family bereavement, I was unable to be there on their big day. I was thrilled that they put on

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a performance on my return. I am always amazed at how confident they are and the number of lines and song lyrics they can remember. They were simply fantastic super-stars.

It was lovely to see our school community come together for our annual Carol Service. The children were not put off by technical difficulties: reading and singing beautifully. The adults need a bit more practise! We have already booked the church for next year.

Well done to all our rockstars in Class 6 who performed exceptionally well at their Rocksteady music event. Class 7 had an amazing time at Airbox Bounce. It was quite exhausting. Both Class 6 and 7 have enjoyed lots of Christmas activities. Thank you to the children in Class 6 who have made me hot chocolate- they are quite the experts!

We have had great sporting success this term. In November, our KS2 basketball teams entered the annual Newcastle Eagles, 'Thunder in the Valley' tournament. On a tense evening, Northburn Jordan and Northburn Bird faced off against six other teams from the Cramlington and Seaton Valley School Sports Partnership. Both teams performed fantastically in front of a sold-out Newcastle Eagles arena. All children demonstrated our core values of ambition, resilience and respect as they advanced through the rounds. After a magnificent performance by both teams, the Northburn Birds and Northburn Jordan managed to progress to the final! The all Northburn final was played at half-time in front of 2800 Newcastle Eagles fans. After a 1-1 draw, Northburn Birds managed to win a sudden death shoot-off and were victorious. The prestigious trophy has been retained by Northburn for a second year.

This year our girls' football team has played one round of games in the Cramlington and Seaton Valley School Sports Partnership 7-a-side league. All girls have shown fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship during their games. Mr Aird was especially pleased with the attitude of the older girls in the team; they helped and supported the girls new to the game

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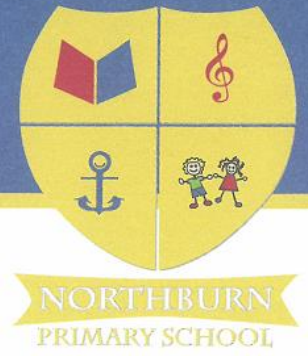
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Headteacher: Mrs Clare Scott



to settle in. The team has managed to finish the year in the top half of the table. We look forward to playing more games next year.

Over the holidays, the area outside Class 7 will be having work done to improve the drainage problem.

Thank you to the P.T.A. for their dedication in supporting the school. The Christmas Raffle was a huge success and raised an incredible £1169.00 At final count, the obstacle course raised £1300.00 and the Halloween disco £253.38. This has helped us pay towards the ever-increasing cost of trips and the re-siting of our bicycle and scooter sheds as well as helping Santa out with Christmas treats and presents. Thank you also for providing refreshments at the church, our assemblies, Nativity and parties and for providing Christmas craft activities for the children.

Northburn Primary raised £542.89.for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

I'm very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Beattie. She has secured a job at a special school and is very much looking forward to a new challenge. I know she will be excellent in the role and wish her all the best.

Well done to all the children in **Red House** who won the House cup for the autumn term.

You can also receive news updates by following us on Twitter [@NorthburnSchool](https://twitter.com/NorthburnSchool) If you wish to follow us, please email your Twitter name so that we are able to recognise you and accept you. Email: [admin@northburn.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northburn.northumberland.sch.uk)

Alternatively, visit our website: <http://www.northburn.northumberland.sch.uk/web>

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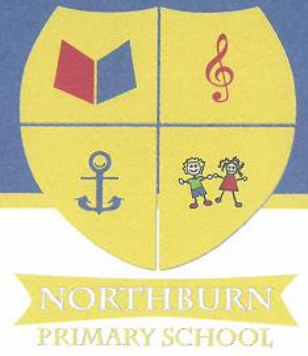
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**Reminder: School closes at the usual time today (Friday 20th December).**

I hope that you all have a very happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year,

*Clare Scott*

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