



Dates for your diary

Reception, Year 1 & 2
Holy Sepulchre Visit
12 December

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Holy Sepulchre Visit
16 December

Christmas Lunch &
Christmas Jumper Day
17 December

Tyne Theatre Panto
17 December

Xmas Party Day
Upper Site
19 December

Xmas Party Day
Lower Site
20 December

Christmas Holidays
Break up normal time
on Friday 20 December
and return to school
Tuesday 7 January

Remembrance Parade



The Royal British Legion held a Remembrance Day Service and Parade on Sunday 10 November. The parade made its way to the Ashington Memorial Garden where wreaths were laid. The event was attended by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, the Civic Head of Ashington, County and Town Councillors, as well as staff and pupils from Bothal Primary School. A fitting tribute to the armed forces past and present.

Christmas Performances

Reception: 16 December - 9.30am
- 2.30pm

Year 1 & 2: 18 December - 9.30am
- 2.30pm
19 December - 9.30am

Year 3 & 4: 10 December - 2pm
11 December - 10am
12 December - 10am

Year 5 & 6: 10 December - 10am
11 December - 2pm
12 December - 2pm

There is no charge for Christmas performance tickets but they must be shown at the door on the day of the performance as entry cannot be gained without them.

Tickets are restricted to two per family initially. Any remaining tickets will be on general release from **8am on Friday 6 December** on a first come first served basis.

Vindolanda Visit by Year 3

Year 3 visited Vindolanda as part of their topic learning about the Romans. They enjoyed visiting the Roman Army Museum where they learnt more about Roman life and the impact the Romans had on Britain through a 3D film, holographic teacher and exploration of the Roman museum. During

their visit, they explored Vindolanda Roman Fort and received an archaeological talk which was delivered inside the remains of a Roman building. The children had a great day investigating the site, thinking like an archaeologist as well as finding out more about the Romans.



Space Programme

Some of our Year 6 pupils took part in the Northumberland Space Programme; seven days of science, history and music workshops at Woodhorn Museum, Newcastle University and The Sill at Northumberland National Park.

Pupils explored the history of Northumberland, from the 'Big Bang' to the present day. This also included learning about space, galaxies and planets, as well as the history of Ashington and the geology of Northumberland.

The project trip to The Sill gave pupils a hands on experience of the great outdoors, utilising the building's purpose built 'living' roof, and taking a closer look into the park's special 'Protected Dark Sky' status.

At Newcastle University, the group visited the 'School of Maths and Statistics' and took part in activities, investigations and experiments with astrophysicists based in the department.

The workshops and trips culminated in a space themed performance piece at the end of the project, aided by acclaimed composer Andy Ingamells. This very special project was funded by the 'Hand Of' charity.

Christmas Light Competition

Congratulations to the three Bothal Primary School winners of the Ashington Christmas Lighting Feature Competition. They are Grace and Dylan in Year 4 and Isla in Year 2. Each of the winners received a £25 Amazon gift voucher and were invited to the Christmas Light Switch-on held on Thursday 28 November. Their designs are displayed near the Christmas tree in the centre of the street.

Twitter: @BothalPrimary
Facebook: @bothalprimaryschool

E-Safety

This Christmas there will be even more children using digital devices such as tablets, laptops and mobile phones than ever before. Despite the happiness and entertainment they can bring, they can also pose a number of dangers too. We recommend the following:

Security

Help your children to set up their accounts on their new devices and ensure their settings are set to private. Take the time before Christmas Day to read the manual and get to grips with security and privacy options. We advise that you set up a 'two-factor authentication' process when logging into an online service. Some toys and devices are fitted with web cameras – you can turn the remote viewing option off in the device's settings. In addition to this, remove any default location tracking and GPS settings on new devices.

Setting up parental controls

We advise that you set up parental controls for young and vulnerable children to help prevent them from viewing content or engaging in activities that they shouldn't be. Additionally, take interest in your child's online activities. Play with them on their devices and encourage open conversation to help build that trust and confidence that will mean your child can confide in you if they ever feel uncomfortable, troubled, worried or unsafe.

Check age restrictions

Games and apps have age restrictions. It's important that you make yourself aware of these age restrictions and WHY they have these restrictions and make the decision whether it is appropriate for your child.

Advice and guidance provided by www.nationalonlinesafety.com

For guidance on Pegi ratings <https://parentinfo.org/article/pegi-games-ratings-explained>

Merry Christmas

As the festive period approaches we look forward to seeing many of you at all of the planned activities over the next three weeks, in what will be a busy and fun time for all pupils and their families.



November's Attendance

Target attendance **above 96%**

Current entire school attendance **94.3%**

Class 6AB	93.6%
Class 6LM	90.7%
Class 6RA	96.0%
Class 5AH	93.2%
Class 5LS	92.4%
Class 5BB	91.3%
Class 4DM	93.1%
Class 4MM	88.9%
Class 4HK	91.4%
Class 3KJ	91.8%
Class 3HW	91.7%
Class 3CG	94.8%
Class 2CB	94.0%
Class 2LJ	95.5%
Class 2CM	94.7%
Class 1RS	93.8%
Class 1ZH	95.5%
Class 1AP	94.6%
Class RAS	83.1%
Class RBM	90.5%
Class RCK	89.7%

Thank You

On behalf of Children in Need we would like to thank everyone



who donated money to help support the many projects in place throughout the UK. The total raised by staff and pupils at Bothal Primary School was £388.63.